

The State of LGBTQphobia in Israel 2024 report

The Aguda - The Association for
LGBTQ Equality in Israel



The Aguda

The Association for LGBTQ in Israel
האגודה למען הלהט"ב בישראל
جمعية لمجتمع الميم في إسرائيل

Sponsored by:



In partnership with
Canada

Written in collaboration with:



Message from the Chair and CEO

This year, as we mark the 50th anniversary of The Association for LGBTQ Equality in Israel, and amidst an especially complex period, we present this 2024 State of LGBTQphobia Report.

Looking back on the history of the LGBTQ community in Israel reveals a long journey of struggle for recognition, equality and rights. This year, we chose to incorporate historical press clippings into the report, highlighting that many of the phenomena we continue to face today- discrimination in public services, physical and verbal violence, and violations of basic rights, have been present in Israel for decades. These archival materials illustrate just how far we still are from achieving full equality, and how deeply rooted today's challenges are in the past.

2024 has presented us with unprecedented challenges; The State of Israel continues to grapple with the aftermath of a brutal war, and a complex reality of an ongoing war, hostages and casualties across all sectors of society, including the LGBTQ community. In this reality, we are witnessing a troubling trend of incitement against LGBTQ people by senior government officials, together with active efforts by organizations seeking to undermine LGBTQ rights, cut designated budgets, and erode hard-won progress.

The data presented in this report indicates that while there have been significant achievements in certain areas, in other areas there has been regression and even deterioration- in public discourse, in official policy, and in the lives of LGBTQ people in Israel.

The Aguda - The Association for LGBTQ Equality in Israel works to eradicate discrimination, incitement, and violence against the LGBTQ community in Israel, collaborating with all relevant parties in civil society, the judiciary authorities and public institutions. We will continue to advance full equal rights to all LGBTQ community members in Israel, to secure their personal safety, and to strengthen the community's resilience during these challenging times.

We extend our gratitude to The Aguda's team, volunteers, our partners in the public sector and civil society, and all those who are committed to the principles of equality, freedom and dignity for every person in Israel.

Fifty years of civil activism and the belief in human rights have taught us this: progress is possible, but not guaranteed. The responsibility to ensure a future that is equal, safe, and respectful for all members of the LGBTQ community rests with each and every one of us: the government, the citizens, the public, and the LGBTQ community organizations working daily to protect what we've achieved and envision a better future for our children. We carry this sense of responsibility and mission every day with pride, determination, and hope.



Yael Sinai-Biblash
CEO



Hila Pe'er
Chairwomen

Introduction to the Report

The Nir Katz Reporting Center has been operating since 2012 with the aim of monitoring, documenting, and responding to incidents of LGBTQphobic violence and discrimination against the LGBTQ community. The Reporting Center is the main platform for reporting cases of harm, violence, discrimination, and exclusion of members of the LGBTQ community in the State of Israel. The center was established several years after the Bar-Noar shooting, murders that still remain unsolved, in response to the lack of data, monitoring, and adequate treatment of LGBTQphobic incidents in Israeli society.

Accordingly, the report's goal is to provide reliable information about the scope of LGBTQphobic incidents reported to the center, support individual and strategic responses, as well as inform the public and policymakers in aim to shape policy that reduces such incidents. This is the 12th edition of the State of LGBTQphobia Report and presents the status of LGBTQphobia throughout 2024, as reported to the Reporting Center. The data presented in this document is based on reports received by The Aguda's Reporting Center between January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. The statistical processing of the Reporting Center's data was carried out in collaboration with the Israeli Institute for Gender and LGBTQ Studies.

As in previous years, the Reporting Center's data presents the overview as reported to the center, and not necessarily as occurs in society. Therefore, we understand we won't always succeed in reaching and documenting all incidents and attacks towards the LGBTQ community of that year, as high percentages of the attacks are not reported at all. In the 2023 report, we distinguished between the months before the war, and wartime months, noting a significant decline in reports from October to December compared to the same months in the previous year. This trend continued throughout 2024. The year of the "Iron Swords" war was a year of intensified combat, a year of decline in the mental, economic, and social well-being of most of the population in Israel, including the LGBTQ community.

At the same time, we witnessed a disturbing escalation in the nature of the LGBTQphobic attacks. First, red lines were crossed this year in terms of cruelty and brutality of the attacks on community members. Physical assaults involving cold weapons (knives, pepper spray, stones, clubs etc.), distinct attempted murders, and severe threats motivated by LGBTQphobia. Whether the incidents occurred spontaneously (e.g., random street encounters) or with calculated pre-planning (e.g., victim identification via dating apps, impersonation, ambushing and violent attacks), these illustrate the increase in the gravity of cases reported to the Reporting Center this year.

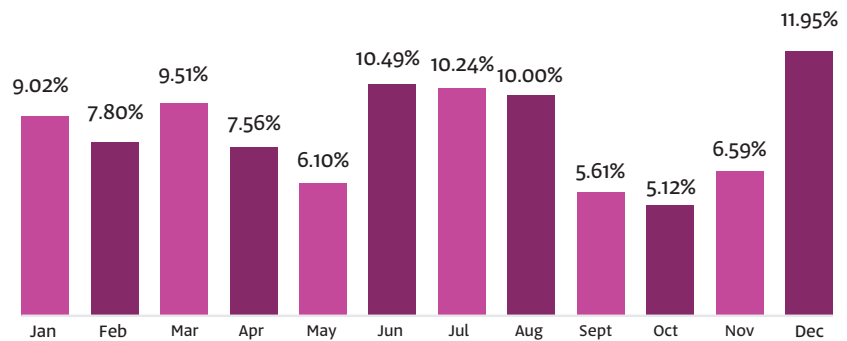
Additionally, there has been another element of sophistication of LGBTQphobia: an escalation in hate speech and incitement against the LGBTQ community stemming from Israeli media outlets, public officials, anti-LGBTQ organizations, formal institutions, and unrestrained commentary in social media and online articles. Fueling the hatred by these influential voices at the top filters downward into society, fostering radicalized attitudes toward the LGBTQ community and legitimizing attacking the community, even among those who already held negative positions or influenced by disinformation and fabricated facts.

In this report are also included some incidents from 2025 (such as attacks via dating apps and local and global events reflecting the intensifying attitudes identified in 2024), to highlight trends that began in 2024 and continued into 2025 with increased severity.

Key Data from the 2024 LGBTQphobia Report

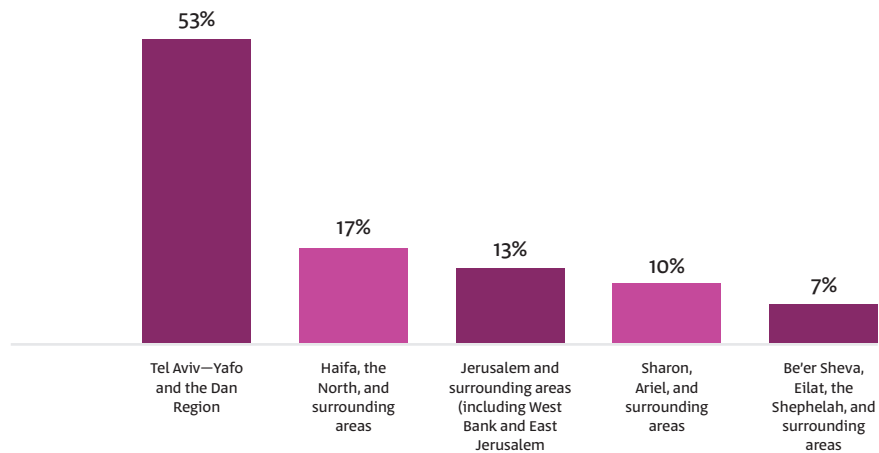
Monthly Reporting Rates to the LGBTQphobia Reporting Center

Reports by Month



LGBTQphobic Incidents by Geographic Area¹

LGBTQphobic Incidents by Geographic Area

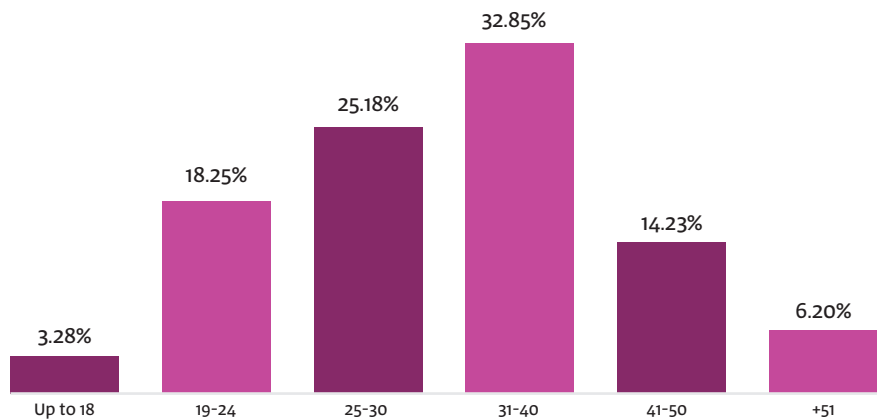


Once again this year, over half of the reports originated from the Tel Aviv—Jaffa and Gush Dan region (53%), followed by Haifa and the North region (17%), Jerusalem and surrounding areas (13%), the Sharon region (10%), and Be'er Sheva and the South (7%). Compared to 2023, an increase is evident in reports from the Tel Aviv—Jaffa and Gush Dan area, which accounted for 45% of the total last year. Additionally, the Sharon region experiences a slight increase, rising from 7% in 2023. It is clearly evident that the central regions in Israel (Tel Aviv—Jaffa, Gush Dan to the Sharon), despite being perceived as a safer and welcoming space to LGBTQ, are regions where the LGBTQ community are under more attacks than other regions in the country. This may also reflect underreporting in peripheral areas, where services for the LGBTQ community are limited and public awareness of available resources is low.

¹ Does not include reports of harm that occurred in an unspecified location, such as verbal or communication-based incidents on social networks. Several documented cases are therefore listed without a specific location.

LGBTQphobic Incidents by Age

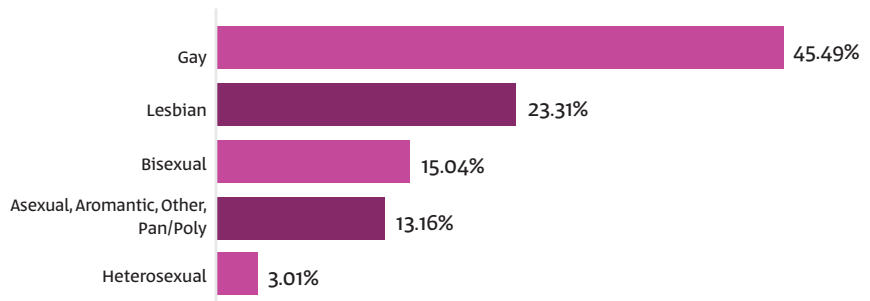
Incidents by Age



76% of all reports this year came from individuals aged 19- 40, consistent with the exact same percentage from 2023. An additional identical figure is the age group of 51, which constitutes 6% of the reporting in both 2023 and 2024. As aforesaid, the consistent figures across two years indicate a core demographic that continues to experience higher levels of harm. Despite identical data in the past two years, it's worth noting that there has been a notable increase in both incidents and reports from the 51+ age group in 2023 and 2024, which comprised only 2% of reports in 2022. This may also suggest additional underreporting, due to lower digital literacy amongst this age group, suggesting the rate of incidents is even higher than reported to the Reporting Center. It's important to note that LGBTQ youth under 18 have community-specific reporting and support mechanisms designated for that age group, and therefore, the low percentage of reporting to the Reporting Center does not reflect the true scope of LGBTQphobic harm they face.

LGBTQphobic Incidents by Sexual Orientation

LGBTQphobic Incidents by Sexual Orientation



In 2024, gay men reported more LGBTQphobic incidents (45%), compared to lesbians (23%). Additionally, reports from bisexual individuals rose slightly to 15% of the total reports, up from 11% in 2023. An additional increase is evident amongst asexual, aromantic, pansexual, polyamorous individuals, and those who did not identify with any of the provided categories, noting 13% of the total report this year, in comparison to 2023 where there were only 6%. Meaning double the rate of reporting from 2023. This may be linked to the public discourse in 2024, which targeted types of attractions, orientations and identities that don't align with heteronormative perceptions. During the past year, many LGBTQ community members participating in pro-Palestinian protests around the world were recorded. These records sparked a public debate, in Israel and in the world, and as part of it some voices attempted to claim that the LGBTQ community and diverse identities are inherently anti-Israel. These generalizations stirred-up alienation and led to a sharp rise in hate speech and violence against the community, as established in data from the Reporting Center.

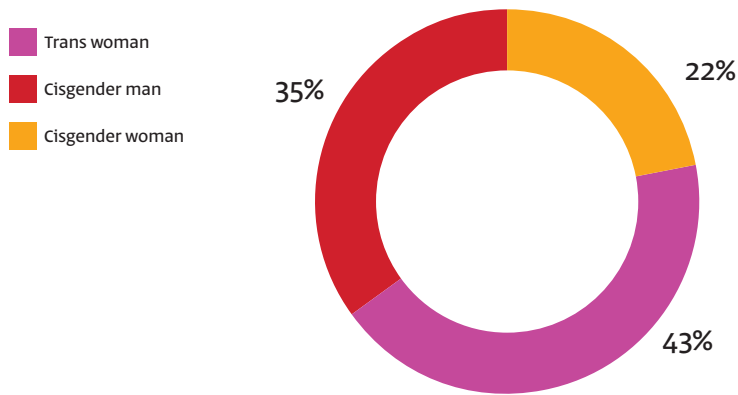
TEL AVIV HOTEL REFUSES TO HOST HOMOSEXUAL GUEST

Yedioth Ahronoth | Wednesday, January 3, 1996

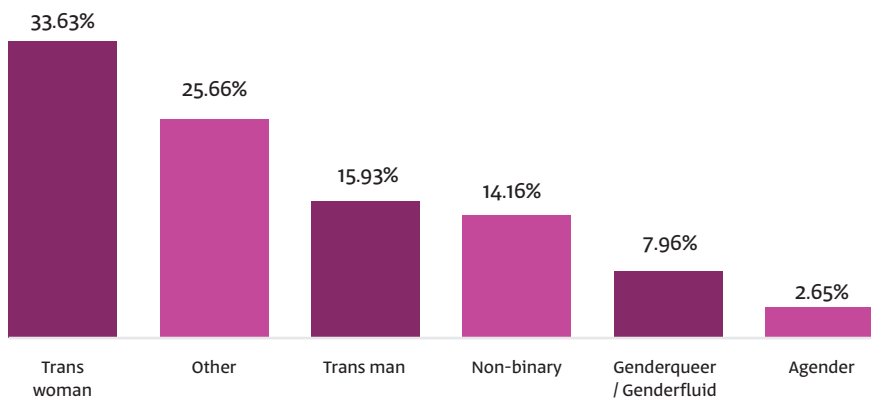
LGBTQphobic Incidents by Gender Identity

See the dedicated in-depth chapter for a full analysis of violence against individuals on the gender-diverse spectrum later in the report

Incidents by Gender Identity



Gender identities of individuals reporting transphobic violence



Individuals on the transgender spectrum remain disproportionately targeted for both LGBTQphobic and transphobic violence compared to cisgender individuals. This is especially alarming given the disproportionately high percentage compared to their representation in the overall population and the LGBTQ community. While the trans community makes 15% of the LGBTQ community, yet accounts for 43% of all reports. They are followed by cisgender men, while reports from cisgender women saw a marked increase. In 2024 cisgender women reported 22% of the reports, while in 2023 it was 13%.

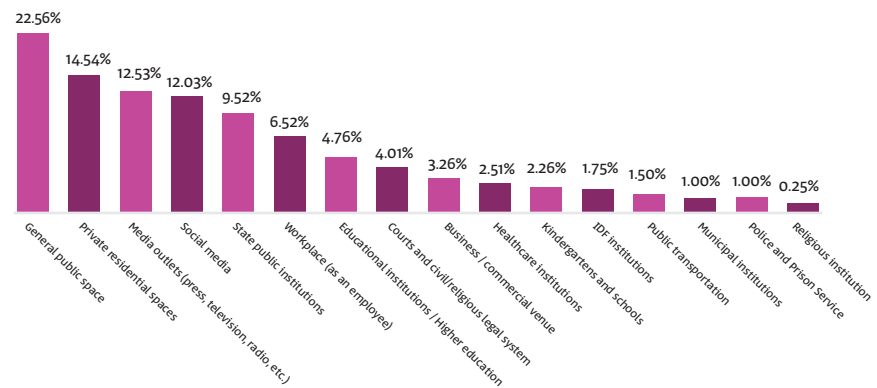
Primary Spaces of Harm in 2024

See a detailed discussion of the media and social media as spheres of harm later in the report.

Mainstream media and social media networks accounted for 25% of all LGBTQphobic incidents reported this year (see more in the chapter: Violence Online).

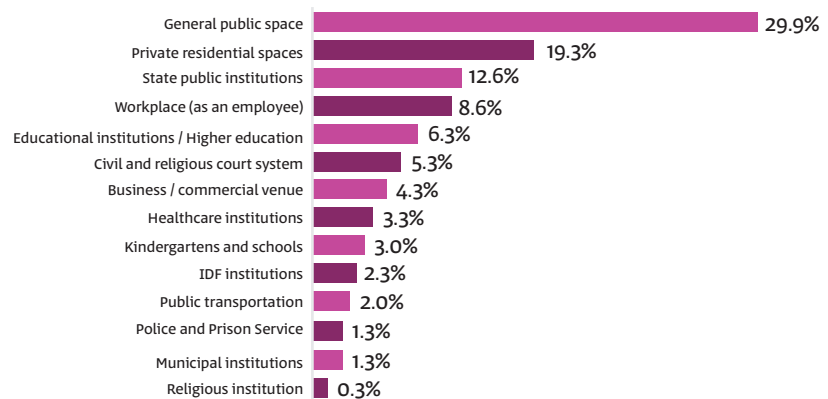


Location of Incident

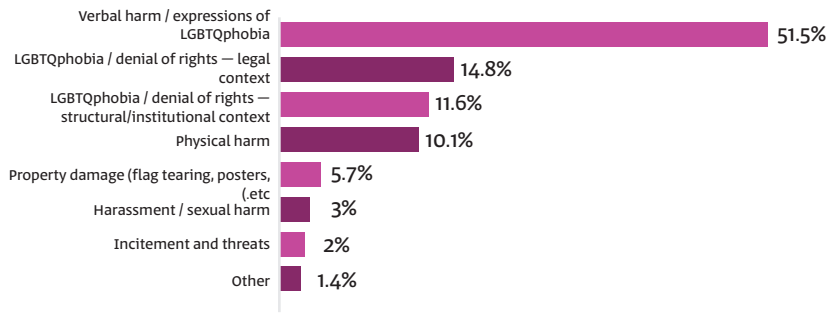


Excluding these two categories reveals a disturbing reality, most reported LGBTQphobic incidents in 2024 occurred in public spaces such as streets, leisure and entertainment venues, parks, and public transportation (32%). These are everyday environments for most people, whether it's commuting, walking, socializing or driving. This year, as in 2023 (40% of incidents), confirmed that public spaces remain a primary arena for violence and harassment against the community, with a third of the incidents in 2024 occurring in public spaces.

Location of Incident (excluding social networks and media)



Topic of Incident Report

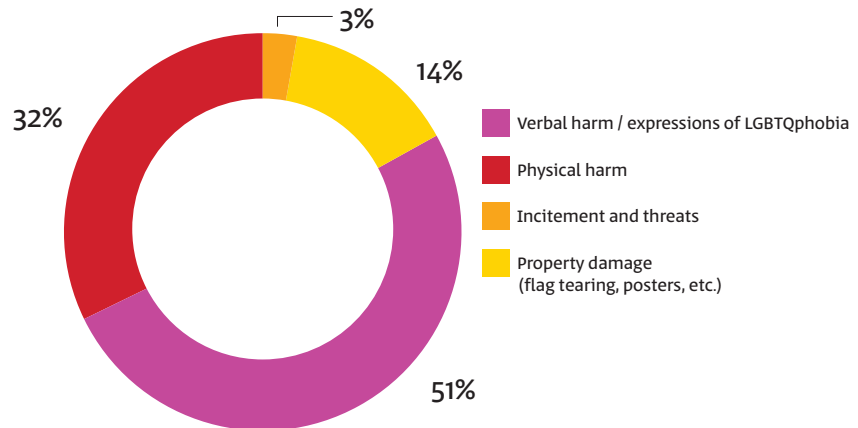


The LGBTQ community faced both verbal assaults (51.5%) and physical violence (10.1%) in spaces where they should enjoy the same freedom of movement and expression as all citizens in the country.

Another alarming rise in incidents was recorded within the private, domestic sphere. This year 19.3% of total incidents were of the private sphere, compared to 15.9% last year. This may be related to the national reality in 2024, which forced many people to evacuate from their homes to unsafe environments, or remain in close quarters due to security threats. Such conditions can create a highly stressful environment in the family space, especially for those with strained family dynamics regarding their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Continuing the attacks in public spaces, the majority were recorded as verbal abuse (51%), with physical assaults accounting for 32%. Property damage, including public vandalism of LGBTQ flags or posters, accounted for 14%.

Types of Harm in Public Spaces



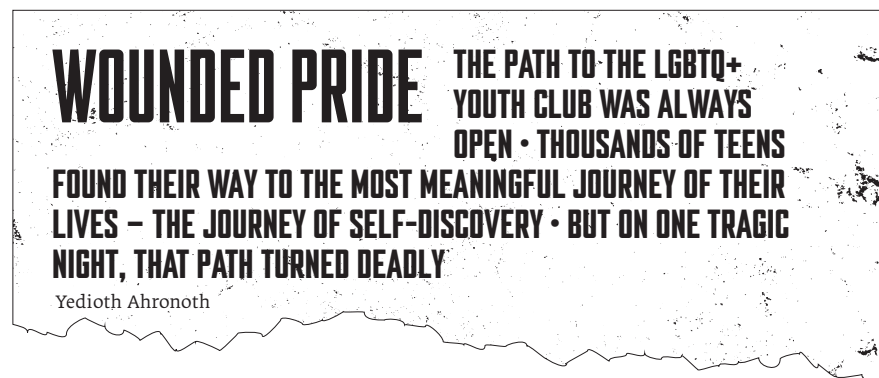
Escalation of Targeted Violence Against the LGBTQ Community

In the past year, we witnessed the start of a troubling and dangerous trend that expanded into 2025: coordinated attacks against men using dating apps to meet other men. In 2024 alone, the Reporting Center recorded six severe violent attacks (and a total of 15 cases including early 2025) that resulted in serious physical and emotional harm to the casualties. These attacks began in the last quarter of 2024, reports on these attacks continue consistently till the release of the current report. In fact, the number of incidents in the first quarter of 2025 already doubled the total number from all of 2024, suggesting a highly alarming rise in attacks. Additionally, there are incidents reported with no mention of the dates the attacks occurred, suggesting the rise might be even higher than the data known today.

The attackers method of operation was calculated and premeditated, and included creating fake dating profiles, engaging victims in online chats, setting up meeting locations, ambushing the victim, and eventually- launching a brutal, life-threatening attack, often while yelling LGBTQphobic slurs.

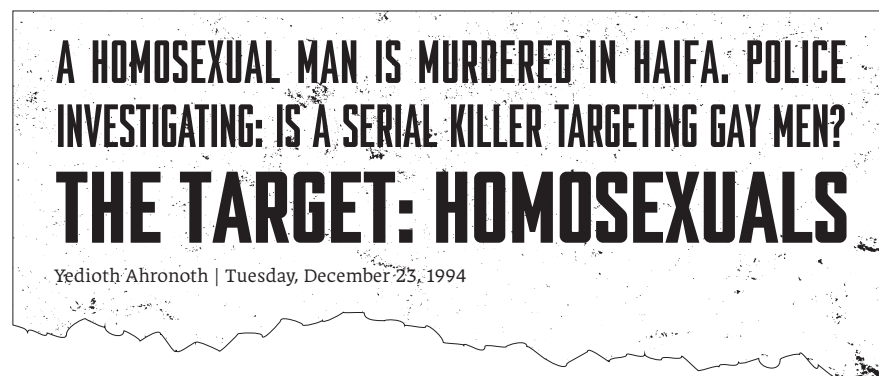
Targeted victims solely for being gay men and members of the LGBTQ community. We at the Reporting Center and The Aguda maintained regular contact with the authorized authorities in the Israeli Police, sharing all available data we have in hopes of the police comprehending the attackers, curbing the phenomenon by removing perpetrators from the streets and delivering justice to victims. However, at the time of writing this report, and despite police statements about arrests and indictments in several locations across the country, many of the victims state they did not receive any updates, or alternatively, they were informed that their cases were closed for various reasons.

The duty of the police, and consequently the state, to protect the LGBTQ community, is acute not only for creating public trust towards the state's institutions, but to create deterrence and prevent legitimation to harm the LGBTQ community with no interruption. This is clear also from the ongoing failure to solve the 2009 Bar-Noar murder investigation, which remains unresolved to date. It's been 15 years since the murders, however in light of these attacks the LGBTQ community members in Israel still cannot feel physically or personally safe in the public space.



WOUNDED PRIDE THE PATH TO THE LGBTQ+ YOUTH CLUB WAS ALWAYS OPEN • THOUSANDS OF TEENS FOUND THEIR WAY TO THE MOST MEANINGFUL JOURNEY OF THEIR LIVES – THE JOURNEY OF SELF-DISCOVERY • BUT ON ONE TRAGIC NIGHT, THAT PATH TURNED DEADLY

Yedioth Ahronoth



A HOMOSEXUAL MAN IS MURDERED IN HAIFA. POLICE INVESTIGATING: IS A SERIAL KILLER TARGETING GAY MEN?

THE TARGET: HOMOSEXUALS

Yedioth Ahronoth | Tuesday, December 23, 1994

The Impact of the War on the LGBTQ Community and the Motivation to Report Attacks

Since October 2023, there has been a dramatic decrease in the number of claims to the Reporting Center compared to previous years. It is highly likely that this decline does not reflect a reduction in incidents themselves, but rather a lack of capacity or ability among LGBTQ individuals to report to the center the harm they experienced. This assumption is supported by findings from studies conducted in 2024 by the Israeli Institute for Gender and LGBTQ Studies. These studies found, for example, that 57% of LGBTQ community members experienced LGBTQphobia in public spaces and on social media during 2024, one in three LGBTQ youth experienced LGBTQphobia at school, and one in two religious LGBTQ people experienced LGBTQphobia at home. Overall, the research found that individuals on the gender-diverse spectrum, young people, religious/traditional individuals, and those living outside of Israel's central region are exposed to LGBTQphobia more frequently.

Aside from the data of the studies, that indicate a breadth of the LGBTQphobia phenomenon in Israeli society, only 410 reports were submitted to the Reporting Center in 2024 (January to December), compared to 1,063 reports in 2023 (January to October).

It's important to note that while fewer reports were submitted, the severity of the incidents and intensity of hate in the reported cases stood out, particularly on social media, digital platforms and various communication platforms.

In the past year, the LGBTQ community in Israel faced a dual state of vigilance - first due to the national crisis affecting all citizens in the country, and second due to the decline in personal safety related to LGBTQ identity. In such a context, as with many other marginalized communities, during times of crisis, members of the community will often adopt survival-focused behavior, prioritizing basic functionality. The significant decrease in reports following October 7, 2023, suggests that LGBTQphobic discrimination and attacks may have been deprioritized by the victims themselves, and that the national security crisis absorbs most public and institutional attention.

The LGBTQ community in Israel being a minority group, experiences what is known as "minority stress". Minority stress includes heightened pressure towards minority groups on top of everyday life challenges they deal with as all individuals in society. Some of the causes for this stress are evident in the societal attitudes in different domains, such as legitimacy and recognition to non-heterosexual relationships and families, as well as maltreatment from immediate surroundings.

According to studies, LGBTQ individuals living in conflict and crisis zones experience double oppression due to their national, gender, and sexual identities. Times of war distinguishedly lead to increased aggression against the LGBTQ community, who are often scapegoated, with attempts to redirect public hostility towards minorities and not the state, at times as an intentional act by state or their proxies.

In August this year, Knesset Member and former Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister Governmental Office, Avi Maoz, accused the LGBTQ organizations of siding with Hamas during the October 7 massacre. The organization Chotam, which was present at parliamentary committees and is part of the so-called "Family Organizations Forum", compared the rainbow flag representing the LGBTQ community to the flags of Hamas supporters. These statements built on MK Yitzhak Pindrus statement made in 2023, where he claimed LGBTQ people were more dangerous than Hamas or Hezbollah. Together, such rhetoric contributes to a climate of hate that begins at the top, trickles down into society, and fuels negative attitudes towards the LGBTQ community in the streets, businesses, workplaces, and government offices. This environment legitimizes violence and discrimination across all levels.

In the war front, the past year included many upheavals and landmarks: an escalation on the northern front, the staggered release of hostages, many casualties and physical and mental injuries of citizens, mass mobilization of reservists, including LGBTQ individuals, coping with a partner serving in reserve duty, worsening mental health, and mounting national stress. These are just a few of the extreme situations the LGBTQ community faced alongside Israeli society

as a whole. In this context, it is likely that the decrease in reporting during the past year doesn't stem from reduced LGBTQphobia, but from reduced sense of urgency in reporting, or even legitimacy to report.

It is important to stress that minimizing the significance of LGBTQphobic incidents does not benefit the individual, and it can, in fact, worsen their condition. Suppressing these incidents and the mental distress experienced from them, may lead to emotional deterioration and even more complex psychological states. This is reflected as well in the data and nature of claims to the support line of The Association for LGBTQ Equality in Israel - 'There someone to talk to'. In 2024, 1,915 calls were received, close to the number of calls received in 2023 (1,800 calls), presenting an increase. This increase suggests that more people experienced prolonged stress and distress, requiring psychological and emergency assistance.

Global LGBTQphobic Discourse and Its impact on Israel

Another major influence on the discourse in Israel comes from worrisome LGBTQphobic trends witnessed worldwide. The main trends point at the spread of fake news, the rise of conservative and populist regimes, indicating coordinated efforts to roll back LGBTQ rights in numerous countries. Accordingly, in totalitarian regimes like Russia and Hungary, minorities, including LGBTQ people, are accused of undermining cohesion, national unity and supposedly operating against national consensus. In Russia, there is an inclination to blame the LGBTQ community for every political or state crisis. People on the transgender spectrum face particularly severe threats worldwide simply because of their identities.

In these regimes, another source of danger is the government's use of military and legal instruments to surveil, detain, harass, investigate, or forcibly "out" LGBTQ people. In recent years, Hungary has intensified its anti-LGBTQ policies, rapidly eroding equality and safety for the community. Consequently, in the past year LGBTQ content from public spaces has been banned, and in 2025 legislation was passed outlawing pride parades altogether. In the United States, the trans community is under unprecedented attack, such of which we haven't witnessed in the world in the past years. Transphobic rhetoric has spread across various spaces, in which the basic legitimacy of LGBTQ individuals, and specifically trans people, are being challenged. (See the dedicated chapter on the trans community for more.)



LGBTQphobia During Pride Month and Pride Events

Another element affecting the number of reported LGBTQphobic incidents connects to the fact that in the past year, due to the national security state, pride events didn't take place as usual. In previous years, there was a notable spike in reports during June, Pride Month. This is because the presence of the LGBTQ community in public spaces may trigger violent and extreme reactions from LGBTQphobic individuals. Pride events serve as a catalyst or excuse for expressions of violence and resistance to any visibility of LGBTQ identity. As such, in June 2022, a record of 17% of the year's total reports occurred during that

single month. In June 2023, the reports in June were even higher than the annual reports, with 21% of reporting of that year. In June 2024, only 10% of reports were submitted, similar to the monthly average across the rest of the year.

At first glance, this data may suggest that the solution to the issue of LGBTQphobia is waiving LGBTQ visibility in the public space, "coming-in" to the closet so to speak, but the decline in reporting isn't positive- it signals the fear of the community to be seen in public, create pride events, which in some cities are mainly lectures advocating for tolerance and dialogue.

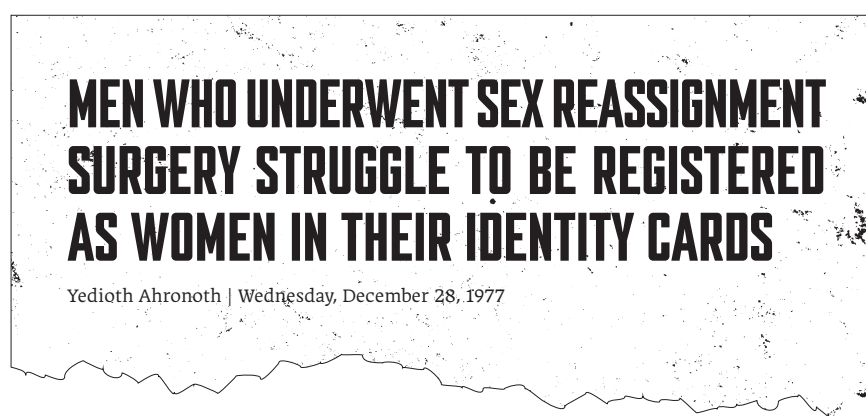
In addition to the above, in the past year a small number of events were held, shaped by the national grief and the call to bring the hostages back home. In Tel Aviv, for example, a rally was held to express solidarity with the national state, hostage families and focused on creating a sense of community, a small relief during this painful time.

In other cities where pride events took place, backlash was far more hostile, like in Mitzpe Ramon. As in every year, the organizers face hatred and violence from conservative and LGBTQphobic authorities and people in the city. Attempts to disrupt the march, harassment of attendees, posting homophobic signage, counter-protests that escalate into violence and threats are regular occurrences for the LGBTQ community in the city throughout the year and centered around the pride event. In 2024, for instance, the pride march organizers expressed solidarity with the hostages and hung posters calling for their return, just to discover the city banned all public signage, including those calling for the hostages' release, and then there were those that vandalized the signs.

The hatred targeting the LGBTQ community is just one step towards hatred to all that represents equality, tolerance, and acceptance, as seen in the tearing down of posters that were meant to represent a national consensus.

The Trans Community

This chapter was written in collaboration with The Gila project for Trans Empowerment



The transgender community in Israel is in a state of emergency and under escalating attack. This is not a coincidental phenomenon, but a result of a well-organized and well-funded anti-trans movement. This movement consists of three primary factions, each using different strategies and working together to shape public opinion in order to restrict the rights of trans people.

The three factions are: TERFs and bio-essentialists, far-right and conspiracy groups, and disinformation and conversion therapy groups.

The shared purposes of these three factions are cancelling legal recognition and rights for transgender individuals, banning gender-affirming medical care, institutionalizing anti-trans conversion practices, excluding trans people from public life and increasing societal hostility toward transgender people. These three factions collaborate together to achieve their shared purposes by producing and disseminating distorted content, often fabricated by the groups themselves. All three factions engage in mutual funding and strategic, political, and media coordination (see broader section on these factions), both internationally and within Israel.

In essence, these groups have built a unified, well-funded, and efficient hate-

driven front targeting an entire population based solely on its difference. The anti-trans movement in Israel uses populist rhetoric appealing to the public's soft spots by cynically using the wider population's sentiment to protect their children. The claims of the anti-trans organizations that the trans community harms children are baseless and disconnected from reality. These claims contradict substantial research and fuel hatred among many Israelis who are unfamiliar with trans people or the truth behind gender transition processes.

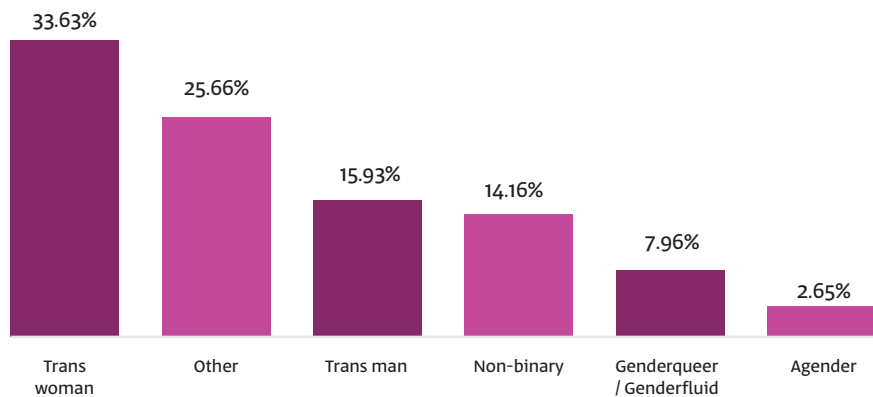
To counter this widespread disinformation, we bring reliable, research-based data.

- **2020** - A systematic review from 2022, summarizing 55 studies from 1991–2017, found: 93% of studies (51 out of 55) concluded that gender transition improves the overall well-being of transgender individuals. The regret rate after gender transitioning is extremely low, with studies showing the range of regret is between 0.3% to 3.8% (mostly under 1%), typically stemming from lack of social support or poor outcomes due to outdated surgical methods.
- **2020** - A study of 11,914 trans and nonbinary youth (ages 13–20) found that those who received hormones experienced less depression, suicidality and suicide attempts in comparison to those who desire hormones but do not receive them.
- **2020** - A study of 20,619 trans adults (ages 18–36) found that those who received puberty blockers as teens experienced less suicidality.
- **2022** - A survey of over 90,000 people on the trans spectrum indicates improvement in mental health and quality of life, with 98% reporting high satisfaction from their transition process.
- **2015** - A survey of 27,700 American trans people found that the percentage of people who detransitioned back to their birth assigned gender because they understood transitioning was not right for them is only 0.4%.
- **2018** - A comprehensive study of surgeons found a regret rate of only 0.3% following bottom surgery, much lower than regret rates for other surgeries, such as knee replacements (30%).

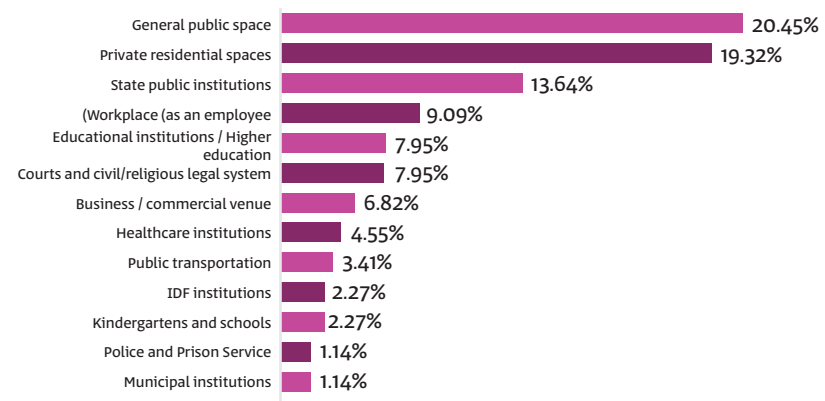
These studies demonstrate that detransition and regret rates are extremely low and do not justify denying care. Moreover, many trans individuals who detransition report that transitioning was a meaningful experience that helped clarify their identity, and they do not regret having gone through that process. In contrast, extensive research and lived experience demonstrate that denying access to gender-affirming care or forcing conversion therapy increases mental distress and suicidality. The cost of denying gender transitioning is immense.

The growing transphobic climate in Israel is taking a toll on the daily lives of trans individuals. 43% of all reports received by the Reporting Center came from people on the trans spectrum. From those, most victims are trans women, followed by nonbinary individuals and others with diverse gender identities. The primary spaces of harm are the public spaces, which is consistent with the understanding that hostility toward gender-diverse visibility is becoming normalized and accepted.

Gender identities of individuals reporting transphobic violence

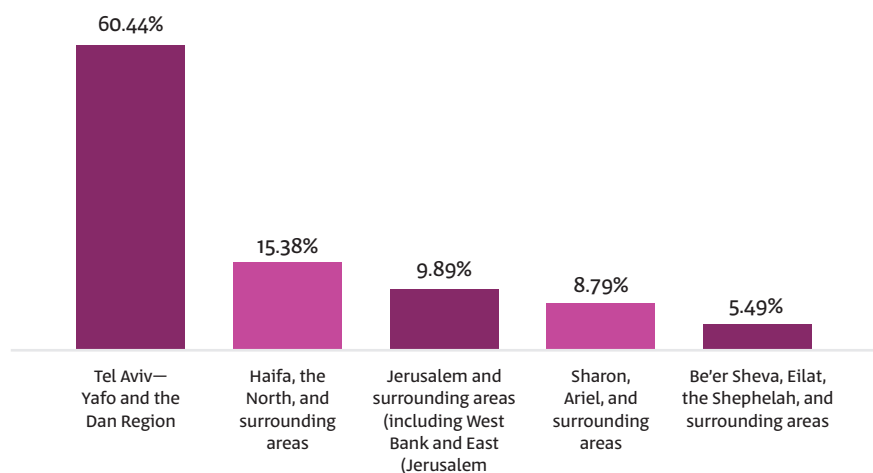


Location of Incident (excluding media and social networks), reported by individuals on the trans spectrum



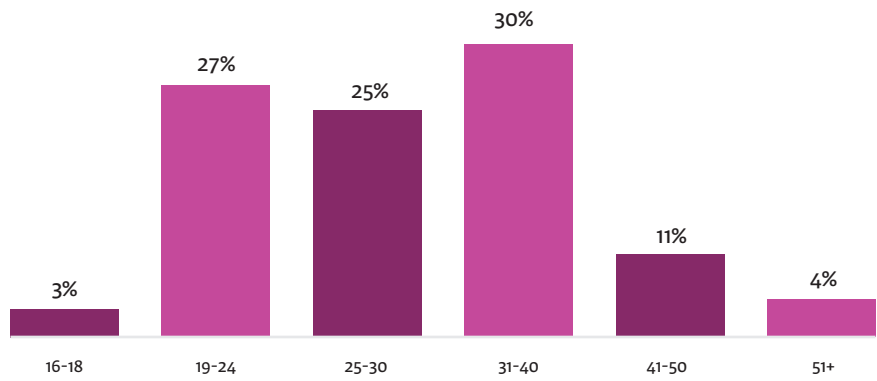
The majority of the trans population encounter LGBTQphobia in Tel-Aviv-Jaffa and Gush Dan region, it is possible that the greater trans visibility in these areas prompts heightened reactions, resulting in increased violence and discrimination.

Location of Incident — Reports by Individuals on the Trans Spectrum



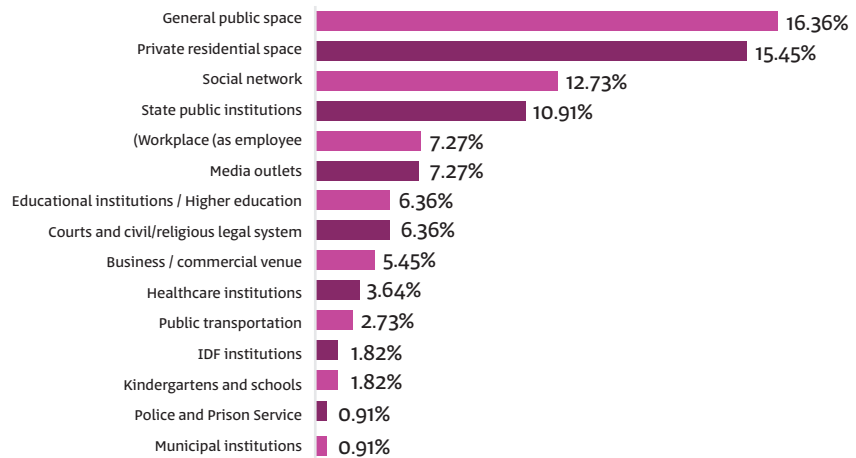
More than half of the trans individuals who reported incidents to the Reporting Center were between the ages of 19 and 30 (52%). 30% were ages 31- 40, .15% of reports were of an older demographic (over 41) and minors made up 3% of reports. However, this figure isn't representative of the actual rate of harm they endure, since the underreporting is portrayed by these figures as well, and since it is known that the attack rate of minors is much higher than reported to the Reporting Center.

Age of Individuals Reporting Transphobic Incidents



The spaces where individuals on the trans spectrum endure the most harm are the public and private spaces. This is an especially alarming figure, suggesting that many trans people are either unsafe in public spaces (e.g., streets, their neighborhood, public parks and more) or in their private homes. The erosion of safety in both of these fundamental spaces does not leave any safe havens for the trans community to live freely and without fearing her safety and life. Another significant sphere of harm is the digital space of social media and media platforms, which accounted for 20% of all reported cases.

Location of Incident — Reports by Individuals on the Trans Spectrum



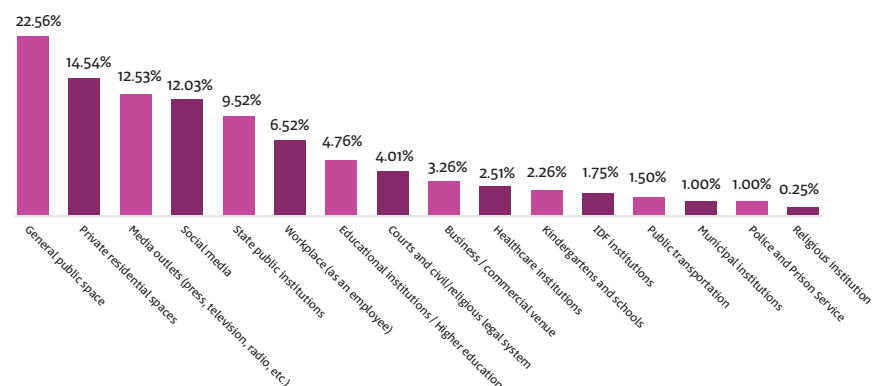
Online Violence

The year 2024 saw a radicalization and escalation of online hate speech targeting the LGBTQ community, with some messages turning threatening or harassing ("It's time to clean our country of perverts"), Justifications of murder (for instance, some of the comments in an article about the murders in Bar-Noar: "Whoever did this is a great man", "Better they never catch the killer, it's a waste of time he did a good job"). Accusations blaming the LGBTQ community for national disasters ("And then you wonder why these plagues come upon you, October 7, Hezbollah, Iran. No problem, Keep going"), these are just a few examples of the most severe LGBTQphobic and transphobic comments documented online. Another angle of the online abuse is coordinated campaigns led by anti-LGBTQ organizations to flood social media with negative comments on LGBTQ-supportive initiatives (see more in the chapter on anti-LGBTQ organizations) and to threaten the legitimacy of public figures who advocate for LGBTQ rights.

In May 2024, we began tracking LGBTQphobic comments (talkbacks) on mainstream news articles that were directly or indirectly related to LGBTQ topics. This was a separate effort from the work of the Online Advocacy Unit (Avirot.baReshet), which

monitors discussion threads, not individual comments. Since the tracking began, 2,076 LGBTQphobic comments were recorded. Simultaneously, the Reporting Center received 25% of its total annual reports from digital and media spaces.

Location of Incident



The Aguda's Online Advocacy Unit monitors LGBTQphobic content online, mainly on social media, engaging directly in threads, forums, and online spaces where harmful discourse against the community takes place. The goal of engaging is to provide the reader with factual, contextual information to counter false claims and help better understand the human impact of such speech on the LGBTQ people. In addition, the Online Advocacy Unit initiates private outreach to individuals online, to foster constructive conversations that avoid the confrontational nature of public threads, which often has been successful in dispelling harmful stereotypes.

From the data collected by Online Advocacy Unit in the past year, 1,170 posts containing LGBTQphobic comments, were addressed by the unit in an attempt to moderate the hate speech, averaging 100 posts per month. An annual review of the data reveals specific events where key spikes in hate speech occurred:

1. In May the first major spike was 137 LGBTQphobic threads, and in June 135 threads. Every year, Pride Month, June, is a time when hate speech increases significantly toward the LGBTQ community, which can be seen already in May when the community takes more space in public discourse.
2. 196 different LGBTQphobic threads in August and September - In August a disgraceful transphobic discourse began online triggered by the win of Olympic boxer Imane Khelif, which led to widespread transphobic calls to ban trans women from sports and harsh expressions towards trans women.
3. 131 LGBTQphobic threads in November and 138 in December - the last two months of the year were fueled with transphobic discourse against the trans community. In November, President Donald Trump was re-elected, instantly commencing in the following two months November- December anti-trans executive orders and directives, aggressively targeting the trans community. Many of the LGBTQphobic discourse online were around these occurrences.

In regards to online LGBTQphobia discourse, it important to mention that in 2024 the Meta announced it is no longer committed to a minority diversity and inclusion employment policy, additionally, it would allow content that targets people based on gender identity or sexual orientation; Calls to exclude LGBTQ people from public services or spaces; Claims equating LGBTQ identities with perversion or mental illness. These decisions normalize hate and prejudice towards every minority and marginalized groups, and particularly LGBTQ people, who are facing growing hate speech, violence and rights rollbacks worldwide. These policy changes have severe repercussions on the ability to combat disinformation and conspiracy theories online, and its impact on the members of the community, as a marginalized defamed group, can be devastating.

Media Coverage and Its Impact on LGBTQ Discourse in Israel

By the Spokesperson for the Aguda – The Association for LGBTQ Equality in Israel

As part of the annual report, the Reporting Center monitors not only direct incidents of harm to LGBTQ community members, but also the way in which the media, institutionalized and digital, influences public opinion and discourse on the LGBTQ community. This section is not based on quantitative research or methodical media analysis but aims to highlight troubling trends and pose critical questions about media responsibility in shaping societal discourse.

Despite the rise of independent media outlets on social platforms like Telegram channels, popular Instagram accounts, and even influencers sharing topical news, mainstream media remains a key player in shaping public opinion. In times when most news outlets maintain active social media accounts, the content they post has direct influence on comment threads and the nature of the discussion. Hostility in these spaces doesn't appear in a vacuum, it is fueled and sometimes even legitimized by biased, careless or offensive media framing.

In 2024, several media affairs occurred in which we witnessed an increase in LGBTQphobic discourse, and at times even open incitement against members of the community. The media coverage in August surrounding Olympic boxer Imane Khelif, whether in sports channels or international news reports on the subject, focused mainly on questions related to Khelif's body, with widespread discussions across all news outlets regarding her genitalia, the chromosomes in her body, and the decisions of the Olympic Committee on whether to allow her to compete in the Olympic Games. In the early stages of the coverage, unverified and unreliable information about the boxer was rapidly spread in a way that perpetuated and reinforced stereotypes portraying trans women as violent and aggressive, without factual basis or verification, all without even addressing or confirming the most basic question: whether Khelif is, in fact, a trans woman, which later turned out to be false.

This incident acted as a catalyst for transphobic discourse throughout the year, amplifying international narratives questioning the participation of trans individuals in sports. Instead of addressing the real challenges and struggles facing the trans community, it fueled a trend of incitement, particularly against trans women, and diverted public attention away from the rising wave of hostility and discrimination the LGBTQ community are facing.

In September, the Arabic-language public broadcaster "Makan," which operates under the Israeli Public Broadcasting Corporation, aired an interview with Saeed Badran on the program 'Between the Lines', during which he made extremely inflammatory statements against the LGBTQ community. Among other things, he referred to LGBTQ people as a "malignant disease," a "deviation," and "unnatural," and claimed that "there is a religious ruling that they should be killed." Following a complaint by The Aguda — The Association for LGBTQ Equality in Israel to the management of the Broadcasting Corporation, the Corporation removed the segment from the network, and it was decided that Badran would not be invited again for future interviews on the channel. However, it is important to highlight the legitimacy given to these statements during a live broadcast, perceived by the interviewer as a legitimate opinion for discussion rather than as remarks that should have prompted an immediate end to the interview and an on-air apology to viewers. This incident underscores the persistent gap and the existence of LGBTQphobic discourse within significant portions of Arab society in Israel. LGBTQ individuals from Arab communities in Israel face an impossible situation of double marginalization and oppression due to their identities. The Israeli Public Broadcasting Corporation, which by its very nature bears the public responsibility of ensuring equitable coverage, provides airtime and broadcasting infrastructure to populations that are often underrepresented in the Israeli public sphere. However, this does not mean it is permissible to turn a blind eye to what occurs within this space or to allow a platform for extreme and dangerous incitement against the LGBTQ community, rhetoric that amounts,

in effect, to encouraging violence.

In October, Channel 14 chose to omit Edi Levi, the partner of the late police officer Adir Kadush, who was a member of the LGBTQ community and was killed in the line of duty, from the mourning notice published by the police. While other media outlets mentioned Levi as an integral part of the circle of loss, in accordance with the official police statement. In a following broadcast, Channel 14's explained that the information about his fiancé was omitted because "from Hamas's perspective, there is no difference among the people of Israel... we are all their enemies." Although this approach was condemned by other news outlets, Channel 14 chose not to include mention of the fiancé in an article, thereby upholding this infuriating omission. This incident reflects a broader pattern discussed throughout the report, where in times of national crisis, there is often an attempt to erase or sideline LGBTQ identity in favor of a so-called "unified" national identity, one that views LGBTQ identity as "disruptive," a "distraction from what matters," or simply unworthy of recognition in moments of memory and commemoration. This reinforces a message of silencing and exclusion.

In addition, throughout the past year, news websites such as Channel 7 and Kipa consistently provided a broad platform to public figures known for holding anti-LGBTQ positions, including Member of Knesset Avi Maoz and Michael Puah, chairman of the "Choosing Family" organization. Opinion columns published on these platforms included messages that promoted discrimination, calls to infringe upon LGBTQ rights through legislation, and efforts to delegitimize the trans community. One opinion piece, titled "Stop the Plague," presented a range of conspiratorial claims asserting that state institutions, the courts, and schools are forcing citizens to question and undermine their personal gender identity. These claims echo classic incitement tactics historically used against minority groups, designed to instill fear and suggest that a covert operation is underway to take over and reshape the values of society and the individual, rather than acknowledging the basic demand for existing in dignity. When media outlets amplify such voices without mediation or providing relevant context, they are not being neutral. They are not only offering a stage to an external speaker, they are taking a stand and becoming complicit in the very system that enables the marginalization and harm of LGBTQ people.

In addition, throughout the past year, news websites such as Channel 7 and Kipa consistently provided a broad platform to public figures known for holding anti-LGBTQ positions, including Member of Knesset Avi Maoz and Michael Puah, chairman of the "Choosing Family" organization. Opinion columns published on these platforms included messages that promoted discrimination, calls to infringe upon LGBTQ rights through legislation, and efforts to delegitimize the trans community. One opinion piece, titled "Stop the Plague," presented a range of conspiratorial claims asserting that state institutions, the courts, and schools are forcing citizens to question and undermine their personal gender identity. These claims echo classic incitement tactics historically used against minority groups, designed to instill fear and suggest that a covert operation is underway to take over and reshape the values of society and the individual, rather than acknowledging the basic demand for existing in dignity. When media outlets amplify such voices without mediation or providing relevant context, they are not being neutral. They are not only offering a stage to an external speaker, they are taking a stand and becoming complicit in the very system that enables the marginalization and harm of LGBTQ people.

Another troubling trend this year has been intra-community transphobia, which has begun to surface even within media platforms that are affiliated with the community itself. For instance, the "Mako Pride" section, supposedly dedicated to covering topics and issues relevant to the LGBTQ community, has published headlines and articles whose tone and phrasing reflect a shift in narrative, particularly toward the trans community. Examples include the use of grotesque terminology to describe gender-affirming medical treatments, such as "organ removal" and "chemical castration", terms rooted in international anti-trans discourse that do not reflect medical reality or the position of the Israeli healthcare community. In one case, the abbreviation "LHB" was used, as part of an international campaign to erase the "T" (trans) from "LGBT". This term

has been appearing on U.S. federal government websites in reference to LGBTQ-related data, including information on rights, healthcare, and social services.

These articles also included instances of misgendering (deliberate use of incorrect pronouns) and deadnaming (using a person's former name prior to their gender transition), alongside featuring international news reports portraying trans women as having fraudulently obtained rights or access to resources, reports that later proved to be misleading or, at the very least, inaccurate, and were published without adequate fact-checking. In an article covering President Trump's inauguration declaration that "there are only two genders" and the executive orders he signed to roll back trans rights in the United States, a mocking tone was taken, rather than discussing the political, social, and legal implications of such standings. This was evident in the headline of an article about the executive orders: "I point the finger squarely at the entire woke movement". Instead of highlighting the dangers posed by Trump's orders, the headline shifted blame onto the very community being harmed. Reactions in the article that opposed Trump's statements were framed as "toxic and cynical," while mocking responses were presented alongside the number of social media likes they had received.

Despite the above, it is important to note that media outlets which frequently cover the LGBTQ community publish a wide range of content, in which errors or occasional editorial missteps may occur. However, when it comes to platforms that explicitly define themselves as dedicated to "Pride" or LGBTQ content, they bear a greater responsibility to ensure inclusive, balanced, and respectful discourse.

Around the world, we are witnessing a rollback of LGBTQ rights and a shift in the discourse surrounding the community. In this reality, apathetic, passive, or unaware journalism presents a real danger, as the media plays a key role in shaping public opinion. Choosing to avoid the topic and pushing it to the margins, even in times of political or policy upheaval, or alternatively, presenting gender identities as sensational or controversial topics, sends a signal of legitimacy to discriminatory discourse and helps embed it in the public consciousness.

In moments like these, media institutions must leverage their power to give voice to those who are underrepresented in the public conversation, to expose manipulations and misinformation, and to stand firmly for the principles of equality, dignity, and the rights of the LGBTQ community.

Anti-LGBTQ Organizations in Israel

Background

A decade ago, a number of religious right-wing organizations, primarily associated with the ultra-Orthodox nationalist faction within religious Zionism (Hatzionot Hadatit), began operating with the explicit purpose of opposing the LGBTQ community. These organizations claim they are working to strengthen the Jewish identity of the State of Israel and therefore must oppose the LGBTQ community, that's associated with liberal and democratic values, and to delegitimize any LGBTQ visibility in Israeli public life. The anti-LGBTQ organizations operate systematically, across multiple arenas and utilizing a range of means to serve the main purpose of undermining the legitimacy of LGBTQ presence in the public sphere, together with denying the community of their rights. Over the past two years, the intensity of their activity has significantly increased, succeeding, at the very least, in normalizing anti-LGBTQ sentiment in public discourse, while the liberal public, already fighting on other fronts, struggles to mount an effective and coordinated response to this trend. To portray positive branding, these organizations united to an organization's coalition named "Forum for Family Organizations". This cynical use of the family value, which holds deep cultural significance in Israeli society, isn't coincidental and is designed to obscure their true intentions- cloak their harmful actions in a positive tone.

For a decade, these organizations did not achieve many concrete political victories. However, since the swearing-in of the current government, their activities and goals have escalated, setting more ambitious goals than before.

In the past few months, it seems they perceive Donald Trump's victory in the US elections, as a sign of the final collapse of the progressive movement, drawing inspiration to amplify their operations in Israel

Arenas of Struggle

At the top of the anti-LGBTQ organizations' priorities are opposition to the transgender community and opposition to LGBTQ parenting. These priorities determine their primary arenas of activity: the education and healthcare systems. In both of these areas, most of the LGBTQ community's achievements were attained through extensive policy work within government ministries rather than through primary legislation (for example, issuing guidelines to provide safety and support for LGBTQ youth, or the Ministry of Health's directive banning "conversion therapy"). As such, these organizations view these areas as easier to influence and reverse progress. Although their actual successes so far have been limited, they should not be underestimated: their main accomplishment lies in normalizing anti-LGBTQ positions as a legitimate part of public discourse, particularly in education and healthcare, and in challenging the legitimacy of people on the trans spectrum.

Other arenas of struggle include the municipal arena and the security forces. In local authorities these organizations are fighting to eliminate any recognition of LGBTQ identities, relationships, and families, mainly by opposing Pride events, LGBTQ community services and activities, or any visible LGBTQ representation in official municipal publications and activities. Within the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), they oppose all LGBTQ visibility and efforts to promote tolerance toward LGBTQ individuals among soldiers; There is also notable resistance to any expression or acknowledgment, no matter how symbolic, of LGBTQ identity within government ministries.

Typical Patterns and Tactics

Anti-LGBTQ organizations can be characterized by several typical modes of operation across various arenas:

Using liberal rhetoric: Appealing to liberal values as justification of anti-LGBTQ activities, for example, invoking free parental choice in education of their children or the exclusion of trans women under the guise of supposed feminist concerns. While this strategy garners limited support, it sows confusion and doubt within the liberal camp, undermining its ability to organize and push back effectively. For instance, so-called "conversion therapy" organizations no longer use unequivocal language about their "treatments," but instead speak of the "right of the client to choose" their sexual orientation if they wish to change it. This kind of rhetoric, which complicates the identification of conversion therapy practitioners, contradicts the entire body of professional literature on the topic, as well as official recommendations by professional bodies, and presents a false choice to the client, one that does not actually exist.

Encouraging online harassment: Some of the family organizations employ a strategy of disseminating links to LGBTQ-related publications on social media or news sites, asking their followers to post hostile comments. The goal of this tactic is to distort public discourse by creating the illusion that opposition to the LGBTQ community is broader and more mainstream than it actually is. For example, when Ramat Gan Deputy Mayor Assaf Weiss announced a municipal initiative to establish a "Diverse Families Weekend" aimed at promoting tolerance and acceptance of LGBTQ and diverse families, anti-LGBTQ organizations circulated on their online platforms to attack Weiss and flood related posts with harsh opposition. Their small follower but committed base, filled social media platforms with hostile messages, such as this one published by one of the organizations: "Attorney Assaf Weiss, Deputy Mayor of Ramat Gan, explains how the city is brainwashing children in kindergartens to support agendas that dismantle the family. What's shocking is that in everything he says, he never answers the

question his daughter was asked: 'Why don't you have a mom?' It's not that Yuval doesn't have a mother, it's that Attorney Assaf paid the mother to disappear from Yuval's life and that's very sad."

Consumer Tactics: These include calls to boycott businesses that express support for the LGBTQ community or for equality in general, orchestrated public pressure campaigns targeting companies, public institutions, and elected officials, with a goal to intimidate, create a chilling effect, and turn support for the LGBTQ community into a "headache" for those entities. During Pride Month, a protest was launched against the National Insurance Institute after it changed its logo to incorporate Pride colors. A similar campaign targeted the Open University, where protestors went even further, claiming that the Pride flag is the same flag used by Hamas supporters in the U.S. Likewise, on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter), which echoes messaging similar to that of the family organizations, users called for a boycott of the Strauss Group after the company marketed its dairy snack "Gamadim" using a gender-inclusive font on the logo.

Appealing to National Values: This is a familiar tactic used by fascist movements around the world, linking the concept of the traditional family to patriotism and nationalism, framing any change to the institution of the family as a national security threat, presenting LGBTQ people as outsiders and foreign elements, tied to a progressive anti-Israel agenda. For instance, ahead of June 2024, these organizations acted to try to cancel the Jerusalem Pride March, claiming it harmed "the spirit of combat and Jewish pride", and sought to cancel a Pride party for the LGBTQ community in Jerusalem during Pride Month. Another example involves the content provided in the IDF: in November, the organizations pushed to cancel a play that was scheduled to be performed at one of the IDF headquarters, which presented themes of gender in various perspectives in an attempt to encourage creative and open thinking. Additionally, in early 2025, they appealed to the IDF Chief of Staff to eliminate the position of Gender Affairs Advisor, a role designed to support the integration of soldiers from diverse backgrounds, including soldiers from the LGBTQ community, into the military.

Highlighting Public Funding: Emphasizing public funding as the problematic element of policies that support or aid LGBTQ people, even though, in practice, their opposition is to any LGBTQ visibility, regardless of the funding source. For example, they criticized Clalit Health Services (Kupat Holim) for holding a professional conference on LGBTQ health, an event of significant value for those working in medical professions.

Focusing on Minors: Opposing children on the trans spectrum, LGBTQ families, and tolerance education, under the pretense of protecting minors and their rights. In July, a children's play in Hadera titled "Keshet's Wonderful Journey", centered on the theme of embracing difference, was targeted. Prior to the performance, one anti-LGBTQ organization sent out mass text messages that read: "Residents of Hadera and Givat Olga, take note. Protect your children. Today, in the afternoon, an LGBTQ play for ages 4 - 8 will take place at the Olga library. Its goal is to expose our children to disturbing and harmful content that confuses and blurs their gender identity. The public must know and beware. It is unacceptable that the Hadera municipality would take part in harming our children." Following this, at the entrance to the event several anti-LGBTQ activists distributed violent flyers against the play, and hostile individuals stormed the venue, hurled verbal abuse and threats at attendees, until police had to intervene and remove them from the premises.

The more these organizations sense their power and influence increasing, they become more willing to translate their ideology into concrete actions - on-the-ground actions that make public spaces less accessible and less safe for LGBTQ individuals. Among these actions are those mentioned previously, a campaign to cancel Pride events in Jerusalem by pressuring Mayor Moshe Leon; an attempt to cancel an LGBTQ party at the Tower of David Museum, which was blocked by a court order; and opposition to any recognition of Pride Month by public institutions.

In most cases, the organizations failed to achieve their goals, however, there were two notable exceptions: The first was the cancellation of a gender-themed

play for soldiers, following pressure on the relevant IDF unit by a Likud party activist and a journalist from Radio of the South (Radio Darom). The second was the violent disruption of a children's play at a library in Hadera, where activists physically stopped the event in front of the children themselves.

The willingness of these organizations to use force to shut down events promoting tolerance and acceptance, even in the presence of young children, along with their collaboration with political activists, from the ruling party, and journalists from mainstream media outlets, highlights the serious threat not only to LGBTQ visibility in public spaces, but to the personal safety of LGBTQ individuals in general.

In conclusion, despite their considerable political power, these organizations have yet to achieve significant policy or legislative changes, and they appear to struggle to gain broad public support beyond their natural base. As previously discussed, the information presented above regarding these organizations' activities reflects the rising global wave of transphobia, which has seeped into Israel through the importation of international messaging, adapted to fit Israeli public discourse. Hate speech against the trans community is translating into real-world violence against the community, as seen in the high percentage of incidents reported to the Reporting Center in comparison to the broader LGBTQ community (see further details in the "Trans Community" chapter). In addition, hate speech targeting the LGBTQ community as a whole is also manifesting on the ground, with violence becoming more severe and intense, breaching the bounds of the status quo. For instance, the ruthless violence against LGBTQ individuals who arranged meetings through dating platforms marks a disturbing shift, from 'spontaneous' attacks to cold, calculated, and premeditated crimes.



Nir Katz z"l

Nir Katz z"l was born on July 18, 1983, to his mother, Ayala, and his father, Rami Katz z"l, who was killed during reserve duty in the Tze'elim I disaster on July 17, 1990, when Nir was seven years old. He grew up in Giv'atayim and later in Modi'in, and enlisted in the army as a computer programmer in one of the Intelligence Corps' computer units. After his discharge, he began studying computer science at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya.

After coming out of the closet and while sharing his life with his partner, Thomas, Nir chose a path of giving and volunteering for the LGBTQ+ community, serving as a counselor in The Aguda's youth group — "Bar-Noar." Nir believed in the values of pride in one's identity, in helping others, and in strengthening the LGBTQ+ community.

On Saturday night, August 1, 2009, at 10:30 PM, a man dressed in black and wearing a black mask entered the LGBTQ+ center on Nachmani Street in Tel Aviv, where a Bar-Noar youth activity was taking place. The assailant, holding a drawn pistol, began shooting at those present. By the end of the evening, there were 10 wounded, dozens suffering from shock, and two fatalities — Liz Troubishi z"l and Nir Katz himself.

May their memory be a blessing.

Conclusion

The past year has been the most difficult Israel has experienced in many years. The war led to extreme, distressing situations, including the loss of life among hostages, soldiers, and numerous civilians, escalating security threats from various fronts, and the return of some hostages, and more. It is important to note that at the time of writing this report, the country is still in the midst of a bloody war, with 58 hostages still being held by Hamas in Gaza.

The LGBTQ community and Israeli society as a whole did everything in its power to survive an impossible reality and maintain as normal a routine as possible. However, we witnessed widespread harm to citizens' mental and social well-being, as well as to their sense of personal safety. Besides all that, the LGBTQ community was forced to face an intensification of LGBTQphobic attitudes, expressed by the media, decision-makers, social media platforms, and in actual physical assaults and attacks.

In the media sphere, the LGBTQ community experienced harm under the guise of LGBTQphobic discourse, whether through mainstream media outlets or, even worse, through media platforms that claim to represent and champion the LGBTQ community and its voice. This discourse has contributed to legitimizing spreading hatred across various spaces, and social media specifically. Reviewing the attack spaces, it is evident that media and social networks account for 25% of all reported incidents received by the Reporting Center.

The incitement of hateful rhetoric has translated on the ground into acts of violence and cruelty not seen in years against the LGBTQ community. While the war led to a decrease in the number of reports submitted, it was accompanied by an escalation in the severity of the attacks: Over the past year, we witnessed a rise in organized, extreme violence targeting LGBTQ people solely because of their identity. A closer look at the nature of the reported incidents shows that approximately 51% of individuals who reached out experienced verbal LGBTQphobic abuse, and about 10% experienced physical violence. However, when focusing specifically on public spaces, 32% of the reported incidents involved physical attacks, meaning one-third of those harmed in public spaces were physically assaulted.

Moreover, we are witnessing how global discourse is seeping into the Israeli conversation. The fact that in the world's most powerful country - the United States, the president holds an agenda openly hostile to the trans community, places it at the center of public debate and actively works to undermine its civil rights and personal safety, serves to incite and legitimize the actions of power players seeking to do the same. This rhetoric emboldens organizations operating in a coordinated manner against the LGBTQ community as a whole, and even more intensely against the trans community. Under the current government, we see these organizations attempting to expand their efforts into new arenas: creating a negative and threatening

public narrative, and pursuing policy and legislative changes. As reflected in this year's reports, although the trans community makes up only 15% of the broader LGBTQ community, it is disproportionately affected, accounting for 43% of reported LGBTQphobic incidents.

Despite the tireless work and achievements made over the past 50 years, LGBTQphobia has not abated. Sadly, it seems struggles we thought belonged to the past, first and foremost, the right to life and personal safety, are once again painfully relevant. The nature of attacks is becoming more extreme, with organized assaults against LGBTQ individuals involving severe violence and attempted murder.

The rhetoric and incitement we witnessed decades ago targeting the public visibility of gay men and lesbians has now shifted form, and is increasingly directed at the trans community and individuals across the gender-diverse spectrum. We are facing a reality where both LGBTQphobia in general and transphobia in particular are becoming more sophisticated. Though they may adopt more polished or seemingly intellectual language, these narratives cloak hatred, dehumanization, and incitement to harm under a false pretense of legitimacy.

Community Psycho-Social Support Services

The Trans Center

transcenter.org.il

WhatsApp: 052-6259751

Trans Social Workers support by Ma'avarim for the transgender and gender-diverse spectrum

Phone/ WhatsApp: 052-477-6707

Email: info@maavarim.org

The Trans House - Trans Women Israel

Support Line: 052-3005280

Rainbow Line - The Lionesses Alliance

Support for parents and professionals with
trans and gender-diverse children
leviot.org.il/הקשר-17/

Arabic Language Supportline Beit ElMeem

Phone: 077-5466359

WhatsApp: 054-8732110

Anonymous chat: beitelmeem.org.il

Havruta

Various support for LGBTQ individuals from
religious backgrounds

Support Line *2972 available Sun- Wed

20:00-22:00

havruta.org.il

For You (BeShvilech) - Bat Kol

Center for Religious Women Exploring
Sexuality and Gender

your-way.info

Israel AIDS Task Force

Open Supportline: 03-5613300

aidsisrael.org.il

Tehila

Support for parents and families of LGBTQ
individuals

Phone : 09-8855822

IGY

Israeli Gay Youth Organization

igy.org.il

Hoshen

LGBTQ Education and Advocacy

hoshen.org

Tel Aviv LGBTQ Center

Phone: 073-3844242

lgbtqcenter.org.il

Jerusalem Open House

Phone: 02-6250502

Be'er Sheva Pride House

pridehouse@eretzir.org.il

House of the Communities (Beit HaKehilot) Haifa

Phone: 04-6657667

Emergency Shelters

The Pink Roof (HaGag HaVarod)

Emergency housing in Tel Aviv for LGBTQ youth (ages 18- 25) in immediate need of shelter.
Phone: 03-3798341

Beit Lina

Emergency shelter for trans women at risk (sex work, drug use, homelessness), age 18+.
Phone: 052-4837191

Beit Dror

Emergency shelter in Tel Aviv for LGBTQ youth (ages 13- 18)
Phone :03-5164621



**To report an LGBTQphobic incident
Scan the QR code to access the
Reporting Center**

“There’s Someone to Talk To”

**The Aguda’s support, information,
and crisis helpline**

Days	Sunday - Thursday
Hours	14:00-17:00, 19:30-22:30 Saturday 19:30-22:30
Phone	*2982
WhatsApp	+972 058-620559

**LGBTQ Community Support
Services** - Therapy and counseling
services, legal aid and advice, and
assistance for asylum seekers.

For inquiries, contact The Aguda — The
Association for LGBTQ Equality in Israel:

www.lgbt.org.il
aguda@lgbt.org.il



Studio OMG



The Aguda

The Association for LGBTQ in Israel
האגודה למען הלהיט'ב בישראל
جمعية المجتمع الميم في اسرائيل

lgbt.org.il | aguda@lgbt.org.il