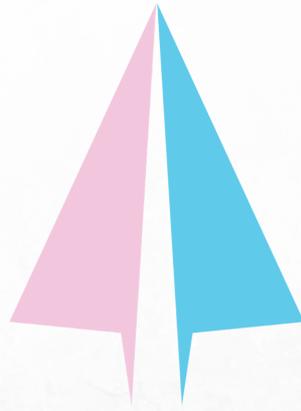


# OUR LOVE IS REAL

**Right Side Human Rights Defender NGO  
2017**





# RIGHT SIDE

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER NGO

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# Glossary

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- **Trans person/people/man/woman:** is an inclusive umbrella term referring to those people whose gender identity and/or a gender expression differs from the sex they were assigned at birth. It includes, but is not limited to: men and women with transsexual pasts, and people who identify as transsexual, transgender, transvestite/cross-dressing, androgyne, polygender, genderqueer, agender, gender variant or with any other gender identity and/or expression which is not standard male or female and express their gender through their choice of clothes, presentation or body modifications, including undergoing multiple surgical procedures
- **Transsexual:** refers to people who identify entirely with the gender role opposite to the sex assigned to at birth and seeks to live permanently in the preferred gender role. This often goes along with strong rejection of their physical primary and secondary sex characteristics and wish to align their body with their preferred gender. Transsexual people might intend to undergo, are undergoing or have undergone gender reassignment treatment (which may or may not involve hormone therapy or surgery)
- **Transphobia:** refers to negative cultural and personal beliefs, opinions, attitudes and behaviours based on prejudice, disgust, fear and/or hatred of trans people or against variations of gender identity and gender expression.
- **LGBTI:** Acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex people. This is the acronym that ILGA-Europe use to reflect our advocacy priorities; our members may use different formulations to more accurately describe their own work, for example LGBT\*, LGBTQ.
- **Queer:** has become an academic term that is inclusive of people who are not heterosexual - includes lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and trans people. Queer theory is challenging heteronormative social norms concerning gender and sexuality, and claims that gender roles are social constructions. Traditionally the term "queer" was an abusive term and therefore for some still has negative connotations. Many LGBTI persons however have reclaimed the term as a symbol of pride.
- **Lesbian:** a woman who is sexually and/or emotionally attracted to women.
- **Bisexual:** when a person is emotionally and/or sexually attracted to persons of more than one gender.

**Gay:** a man who is sexually and/or emotionally attracted to men. Gay is sometimes also used as a blanket term to cover lesbian women and bisexual people as well as gay men. However, this usage has been disputed by a large part of the LGBTI community and gay is therefore only used here when referring to men who are emotionally and/or sexually attracted to men.

**Gender:** refers to people's internal perception and experience of maleness and femaleness, and the social construction that allocates certain behaviours into male and female roles.

**Cisgender:** people whose gender identity matches the sex that they were assigned at birth

**Gender identity:** refers to each person's deeply felt internal and individual experience of gender, which may or may not correspond with the sex they were assigned at birth.

**Gender reassignment:** refers to the process through which people re-define the gender in which they live in order to better express their gender identity. This process may, but does not have to, involve medical assistance including hormone therapies and any surgical procedures that trans people undergo to align their body with their gender.

**Gender Reassignment Surgery (GRS):** Medical term for what trans people often call gender-confirmation surgery: surgery to bring the primary and secondary sex characteristics of a trans person's body into alignment with his or her internal self-perception.

**Gender recognition:** A process whereby a trans person's preferred gender is recognised in law, or the achievement of the process.

**Gender variant:** can refer to someone whose gender identity differs from normative gender identity and the gender roles/norms assigned at birth.

**Homo-bi-transophobia:** fear, unreasonable anger, intolerance or/and hatred directed towards homosexuals, bisexuals and trans people.

**Homosexual:** People are classified as homosexual on the basis of their gender and the gender of their sexual partner(s). When the partner's gender is the same as the individual's, then the person is categorised as homosexual. It is recommended to use the terms lesbian and gay men instead of homosexual people. The terms lesbian and gay are being considered neutral and positive, and the focus is on the identity instead of being sexualised or pathologised

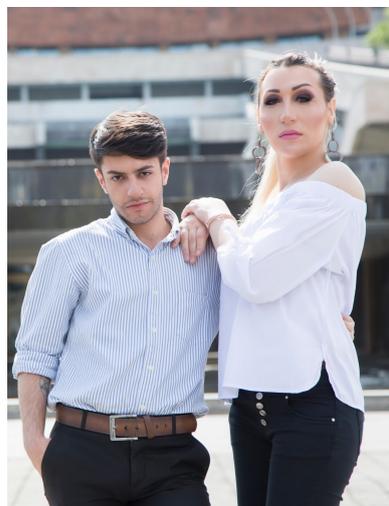
**I forgot the colors of the sun.  
They made me a night person  
not to see me.**



**I did not get education because if  
your ridicules. I do not have a job.  
They say the clothes I wear is  
immoral. I am alone...**



**Yes, I am a transgender and I am proud! Walk a day with me and you will feel what I feel, how I live.**



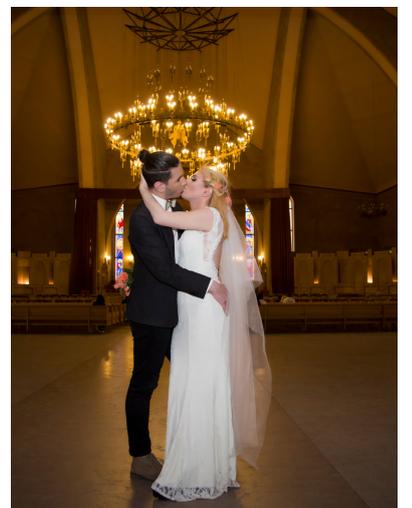
• Let me be happy in this country. All of us created the world together and I am no different from you.



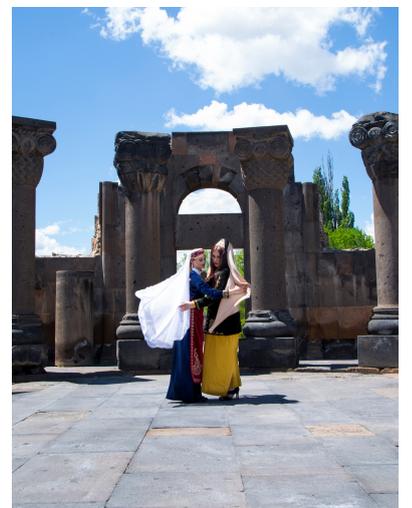
I visit my mother at night, when the village is asleep and no one will see me.



**I am a Christian and want to marry in the church. I was born in a body that was rejected by my soul.**

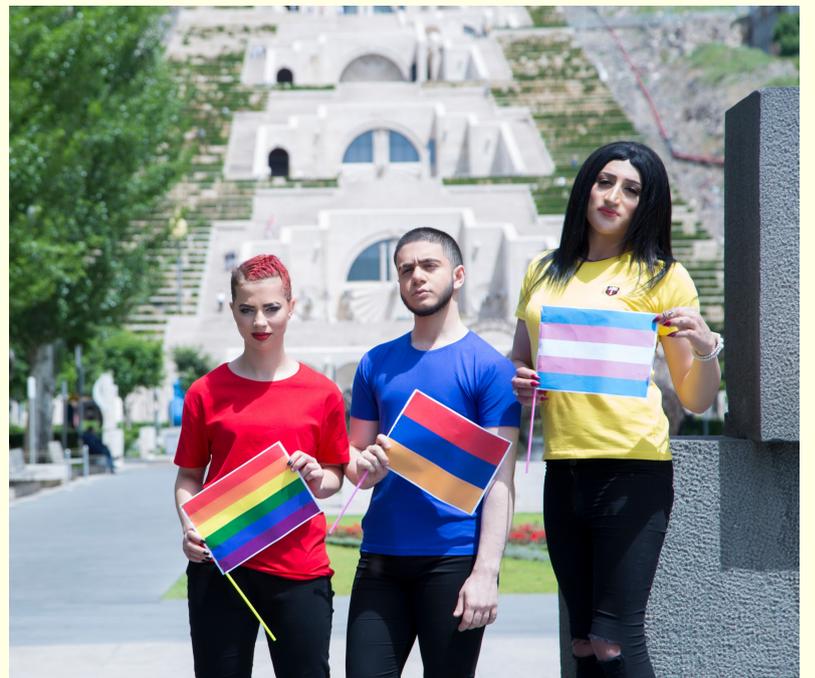


**Right in front of me they told my mother: "You should have killed this person that destroys your reputation."**





**I will enter the same places as you do, will sit there where you sit,  
will study there where you do. I am no different from you.**



# Right Side Human Rights Defender NGO



“Rights Side” Human Rights Defender NGO was founded in 2016 by trans activists. “Rights Side” is the first and the only NGO in Armenia that is run by and for trans community.

## Vision

“Rights Side” NGO’s vision is to create a society respecting the gender diversity where trans people have equal rights, live safe, healthy lives and are equally involved in all spheres of life regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

## Mission

Our mission is to create an egalitarian society and a strong trans community, providing health, educational, social, psychological and legal services to the trans community, raising their visibility in society and enhancing the protection of the rights of trans people. “Rights Side” NGO, in cooperation with a number of other initiatives is providing a safe space to the trans community where the community gets an opportunity to self-education, free and unconstrained self expression and protection by attending to various social, psychological, legal, informational, and educational events organized by staff members, volunteers and experts.

## Values

We acknowledge, accept and prioritize diversity, equality, humanism, social justice and universal values. We recognize and respect fundamental human values, in particular emphasising on equality and elimination of discrimination. We promote active citizenship, human rights and democratic values among the LGBT community Armenian society in general. We encourage solidarity towards other discriminated groups, civil society movements which aimed at achieving full democracy in our country.



**RIGHT SIDE**  
HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER NGO

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