

# Homosexuality in the caribbean assignment

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This can only show that the legalization of homosexual marriages is in the near future. However, the statistic on the other hand, also proves that homosexuality in countries such as Barbados, is strictly prohibited and can also result in life imprisonment, or in some countries up to twenty five years hard labor. Homosexuality is defined as the emotional or sexual attraction to the person of the same sex. This research paper is going to prove that, due to the increase of homosexuality there has been a rapid growth of discrimination and divorce in the Caribbean.

This drastic change in sexual orientation has caused an escalation in the divorce rate and sexual discrimination. In the eighteenth century homosexuality was merely an issue, but as time progresses, the gravitation of men and women toward same sex relations is redundant. As seen by President Beam's statement "I do not live being gay or lesbian is a choice", some Caribbean countries, especially Trinidad, gay rights groups (LBS.) has taken hold of this statement and has protested for equal rights.

As a result, one is to question the influence of the American culture on the Caribbean. In Cuba, Sexuality has been considerably more complex. The fact that both woman and men wield sexual power is celebrated. Until very recently, the Cuban revolution treated homosexuality and lesbianism as social deviations from the "socialist sexuality", the revolution has attempted to forge the Federation of Cuban Women purportedly barred known lesbians from its ranks and provided a forum for neighbors to denounce others.

Up until the 1950's it was customary for homosexuals and lesbians to be denied jobs like teaching that would bring them "in contact with children".

In the mid sass's supposed revolutionary zealots placed suspects homosexuals in work camps, in the sass's hardliners fired Gays from cultural Jobs But the gays sued and less than a decade later a Cuban court declared that they are firings illegal. By the close of the sass's, homosexuality has been decentralized in Cuba but homophobic taboos have lingered. (Lewis, 2003, p. 79-80)

According to BBC news " A Rutgers University freshman appears to have killed himself by jumping off the George Washington Bridge after his roommate broadcast live images of the 18-year-old having a sexual encounter with another man on the internet, according to campus and law enforcement sources. Tyler Clementine, 18, of Rosewood, was presumed dead after his car, cell phone and computer were found near the George Washington Bridge last week, law enforcement sources said. His wallet was found on the walkway adjacent to the New York-bound lanes.

In a statement released this afternoon, Clementine's family confirmed the suicide and said his body has not been found". (New US & Canada, 2010)

Since there is a stigma associated with homosexuality, persons find it necessary to ridicule and distress such persons causing serious bodily harm and sometimes death. Due to this change in sexual preference, families and marriages are broken and in some instances children are being affected at school by peers, teacher and the society on a whole because of the change to the same sex family structure.

Homosexuality in the Caribbean is not surprising, precisely because homosexuality undermines and fundamentally contradicts hegemonic

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masculinity. Note the derision and hostility in some comments from Barbarian men in Graham's Dawn's study. I feel them kind people want killing, man. That type of people ant have no right living under this sun If I had my way I would burn all homosexuals in the place I feel them sort of men want putting off the earth They should burn all. Those people want putting on an island by themselves.

These comments reveal a rather contradictory, but common, misconception: that one is capable of "beating" or eliminating homosexuality out of existence or beating the life of an individual through a violent intervention. Popular reggae artist Shabby Ranks, no stranger to controversy over issues of homosexuality, is quoted in the Village Voice as having said; "if a man is thinking of homosexuality, he is thinking of disease and wrong doings, so God almighty himself hates homosexuals. In Jamaica, if a homosexual is being found in the community, then we stone him to death. It was also Shabby Ranks who proclaimed to the music world in his "wicked in bed" the punishment that should be meted out to homosexuals; "me nah promote mama man. All mama fee dead." To remove any doubt about their fate Shabby declares: "Pam, Pam. Lick a shot in a mama man head." Bus Bantam outraged many with his 1992 reggae song "boom bye bye." Like Shabby, Bus suggested that homosexual be eliminated at the barrel of gun ' send for ah automatic and De Uzi instead. / Shoot deem now come let me shoot deem. " Boom!

Bye Bye, in a batty boy head Rude boy nah promote no batty boy Deem hafiz dead Shabby and Bus are not the only reggae artists to have given voice to homophobic lyrics. Many others such as Pappas, Caption and even <https://assignbuster.com/homosexuality-in-the-caribbean-assignment/>

progressive and politically conscious performers such as Anthony B and Sizzle have expressed similar views of nonsexual and homosexuality. (Lewis 2003, p. 112-113) While the plethora of homophobic reggae songs might have contributed to a submerge of its own, it seems to underline the region's strong resentment to the gay lifestyle.

But Grenadier sociologist Claude Douglas argues that the Caribbean attitude to homosexuality is changing. Douglas, a lecturer at SST George's University, says tolerance has increased significantly in recent years partly blames the United States' cultural invasion of the Caribbean. "Yesterday's deviants will become today and tomorrow's norms. Let us take, for example, the wearing of earrings by men. This was actually taboo in Grenade many years ago. Today, there are men who appear almost feminine," Douglas said in an interview with the Caribbean Media Corporation. There is a rampant homophobia in the Caribbean; a lot of it has its origins in the concept that HIV/AIDS was a disease of homosexual males, which of course it is not," declared health expert Sir George Allen, who believes stigma and homophobia are obstacles in the fight against HIV/AIDS. (The gay uprising in the to highlight a kind of cultural and political acceptance of homophobia - singers who have no problem calling for the killing of homosexuals are encouraged rather than condemned by private sector and Caribbean Governments.