



Namibia Diverse Women's Association (NDWA)

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**Press Statement by
Namibia Diverse Women's Association (NDWA)
commemorating International Day Against Biphobia, Homophobia, Intersexism and
Transphobia (IDAObIT)**

Theme: Together: Resisting, Supporting, Healing

Namibia Diverse Women's Association (NDWA) commemorates and celebrates International Day Against Biphobia, Homophobia, Intersexism and Transphobia and therefore would like to magnify the importance of realising the existence, recognition experiences and realities faced by members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex community.

The theme Together: Resisting, Supporting and Healing amplifies a lot for the Namibian LGBTI community who continue to face discrimination, injustices and inequalities within the midst of what our country and the world are facing during this COVID-19 pandemic.

The Namibian LGBTI movement today celebrates the achievements and milestones of our continued resilience, enhancing support systems and healing through advancing a collective narrative of inclusion, non-discrimination and equality for all.

Over the years the Namibian LGBTI movement has realised the emergence of diverse organisations, representation and collaboration on sexual and diverse people's rights which raised the diversification of strengthening intersectional approaches on raising awareness, visibility and development within our country.

The Namibian LGBTI Community continue to struggle overcoming the lack of enabling legislative frameworks, inclusive service delivery and the protection of rights with full justice that serves all Namibians.

"Advancing Collective Consciousness"



Namibia Diverse Women's Association (NDWA) is aware that Homophobia, Biphobia, Transphobia and Intersexism continue to be in existence in Namibia, as it is experienced through human rights violations such as hate-speech, family disownment, exclusion from affirming services, denial of human dignity, discrimination on the basis of their SOGIE status as well as a lack of enabling legislative environments.

Therefore, NDWA continues to call upon all LGBTI community members to remain together as a collective by being resilient through the struggles as we build support systems that would assist our processes of healing into realising equal recognition, protection and socio-economic development.

NDWA further calls upon the Namibian government, civil society organisations, state institutions and the broader nation to resist affirming any form of Homophobia, Biphobia, Transphobia and Intersexism in Namibia as such phobia is irrational fears exerted onto members of the LGBTI community.

NDWA believes the fundamental principles and values of the Namibian nation are to amplify the rights of all Namibians in unity and justice. Today, 17 May 2021, should be a reminder to us all not to degrade and dehumanise members of the Namibian society based on their sexual and diverse orientations.

NDWA and all members of the LGBT community remain committed to demystifying Homophobia, Biphobia, Transphobia and Intersexism and upholds the Namibian constitution including the current COVID-19 pandemic guidelines instituted.

We look forward to a Namibia that Resists any form of Homophobia, Biphobia, Transphobia and Intersexism by embracing a nation of diversity through healing and support.