

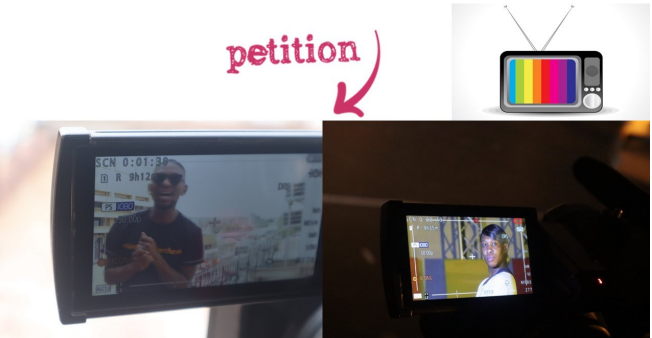
EMOLEMO QUEER TIMES

Free State Queer Newsletter

ISSUE 2.

In this issue:

- Comments from petition
- Event Highlights
- Gender Terminology
- I Am Who I Am with Hlasela TV
- Employee of the Month



Thabo Lecoko and Teddy B. Mhlambi on Hlasela TV camera 9 February 2021.
#IAmWhoIAm - Producing LGBTQIA+ content for Provincial Free State TV.

LGBTQIA specific content on Hlasela TV. #IAmWhoIAm

9 February 2021, nine individuals comprising of different members of the LGBTQIA+ community were interviewed by Hlasela TV. The story is #IAmWhoIAm.

In response to the call for a government regulation of 5% daily positive LGBTQIA specific content on national broadcasting channels by 31 December 2021. Tholwana e Molemo advocacy officer Nosana Sondiayazi invited Hlasela TV to be the first television channel to respond to the petition.

Hlasela TV was happy to lead the way to showcasing LGBTQIA+ stories from the Free State. Participants interviewed on the day included 1. Jefferson J. Dirks-Korkee, award winning theatre practitioner, writer, actor and director. 2. Moeketsi "TheGal" Ramabodu, beauty contest winner and student. 3. Teddy B. Mhlambi, dancer, entrepreneur and media personality. 4. Thabo Lecoko LGBTQIA+ activist and radio personality. 5. Palesa Moshanyana teacher from Adonai Fellowship and entrepreneur 6. Liboko Roxy Mofubetsoana beauty contest winner, actress, performer and business woman. 7. Tshepang Clive Tsoanyane, student and influencer. 8. Belinda van Zwijndrecht, musician, painter and business woman. 9. Mosa Sephapho, community worker and banker.

#IAmWhoIAm LGBTQIA+ stories will be screening in March 2021 Human Rights month on Hlasela TV screens found in government institutions; including police stations, hospitals and clinics, as well as municipalities and government departments across the Free State Province.



Know Your Status, Get Tested

FREE HIV TESTING and PrEP referral for LGBTQI
in Mangaung

WhatsApp or Call
Professional Nurse: 068 261 0132
Peer Educators:
BLOEMFONTEIN
Zanele 073 294 2083
Nonti 083 521 9591
BOTSHABELLO
Morapedi 061 370 3610
Thabang 073 517 3276
THABA NCHU
Keke 078 388 4926
Tshenolo 071 765 8303
Thandi 071 771 6884

www.tholwanaemolemo.co.za
Contact: info@tholwanaemolemo.co.za
Tel. 051 436 3044

@Tholwana e Molemo @Tholwana Advocacy



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FREE HIV TESTING and PrEP referral for LGBTQI
in Ladybrand

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HTS Officer: 078 165 6000
HTS Counsellors:
083 691 1796
078 514 8220
078 825 2580
078 142 7809
063 823 2331

www.tholwanaemolemo.co.za
Contact: info@tholwanaemolemo.co.za
Tel. 051 436 3044

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Know Your Status, Get Tested

FREE HIV TESTING and PrEP referral for LGBTQI
in Tweespruit
Excelsior
Thaba Phatswa
Marseilles
Westminster

WhatsApp or Call
067 013 7319 Bookholane
073 852 9874 Thabana

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RESPECT EQUALITY

What factors put men who have sex with men at risk of HIV?

The fact that HIV prevalence among men who have sex with men (MSM) is rising. This is mainly due to having unprotected sex. Structural factors, such as stigma, discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as sometimes cultural intolerance of same sex sexual practices, contribute to hindering the availability, access and uptake of HIV prevention, testing and treatment services.



Biological factors

One of the key reasons for high vulnerability to HIV is that unprotected anal sex carries a higher risk of transmission than vaginal sex. This is because the walls of the anus are thin and more easily torn, creating an entry point for HIV into the bloodstream.

Having a sexually transmitted infection (STI) also makes a person more susceptible to HIV infection. STI rates among men who have sex with men are high and have been rising for the last 20 years.

Despite these heightened biological risks, HIV testing and sexual health check-up frequency remains relatively low among men and men who have sex with men (MSM).

•There are biological, behavioral, legal, and social and cultural factors which put men who have sex with men 27 times more at risk of HIV compared with the general population.

•Homophobia creates additional barriers for men who have sex with men when accessing HIV prevention, testing and treatment services.

•Despite growing evidence of the effectiveness of PrEP in preventing new infections among men who have sex with men, access remains limited.

OUR SERVICES



HIV Testing
STI Screening
TB Screening
HRT referral
Referral for PEP
Referral for PrEP
Psychosocial Support
Wellness Clinic
Health Advocacy
Linkage and Adherence to requested support
Condom and Lubricant Distribution
Community Dialogues
Support Group
Distribution of I.E.C. Material
Documenting Human Rights Violations



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info@tholwanaemolemo.co.za
Tel. 051 436 3044

Sign the petition

<http://chng.it/cWTscSrZMD>



Policy regulation of 5% daily positive LGBTQIA specific content on national SA media.

Policy regulation of 5% daily positive LGBTQIA specific content on national SA media.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Comments from petition supporters



petition



<http://chng.it/cWTscSrMD>

Policy regulation of 5% daily positive LGBTQIA specific content on national SA media.

Jefferson J. Dirks-Korkee

I am gay, but most importantly I believe that kindness, knowledge, understanding and compassion as well as informative information should thrive.

thank you!



petition



<http://chng.it/cWTscSrMD>

Policy regulation of 5% daily positive LGBTQIA specific content on national SA media.

Letshego Moshoeu

L Moshoeu

thank you!



petition



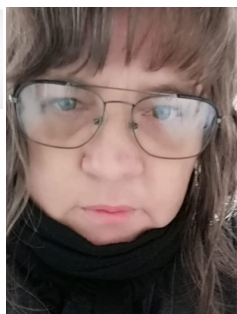
<http://chng.it/cWTscSrMD>

Policy regulation of 5% daily positive LGBTQIA specific content on national SA media.

Ndimiso Gwala

We are all in this together 🌍.

thank you!



petition



<http://chng.it/cWTscSrMD>

Policy regulation of 5% daily positive LGBTQIA specific content on national SA media.

Hanna Buter

We matter all lives matter

thank you!



petition



<http://chng.it/cWTscSrMD>

Policy regulation of 5% daily positive LGBTQIA specific content on national SA media.

Linda Sidukwana

Because am a part of the LGBTQ+ community and I would love to see some improvement. I would love to see these contents and actually see the media platforms address some of our issues with the correct relating content of LGBTQ+ out there

thank you!



petition



<http://chng.it/cWTscSrMD>

Policy regulation of 5% daily positive LGBTQIA specific content on national SA media.

Lazola Kati

I am signing because more positive content needs to be depicted, we need to humanize and destroy the ideology of heteronormativity being supreme and being "normal". We need to battle the stereotypes and educate on media platforms!

thank you!

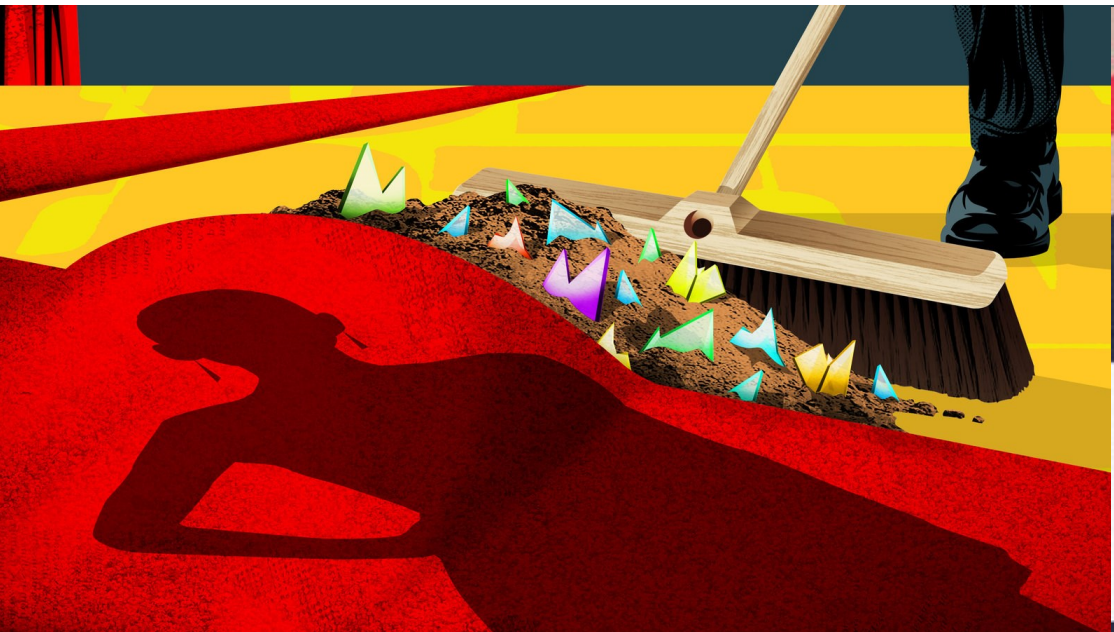
Sign the petition

<http://chng.it/cWTscSrMD>



Gender Terminology

Aromantic	A person who doesn't experience romantic attraction.
Asexual	A lack of sexual attraction to others, low or absent interest in or desire for sexual activity.
Agender	A person who does not identify themselves as having a particular gender.
Androgyny	Combination of the characteristics or nature of both male and female.
Bias	An inclination or prejudice for or against one group in a way that is considered unfair.
Bigender	A gender identify that can be translated as having two gender identities. Could be male and female or non-binary identities.
Biphobia	Dislike of or prejudice against bisexual people.
Bisexual	Romantic attraction, sexual attraction, or sexual behaviour towards both males and females, or romantic or sexual attraction to people of any sex or gender identity.
Butch	Masculine identity associated traits.
Celibacy	Abstaining from sexual relations or marriage.
Cisgender	People whose gender identity matches the sex that they were assigned at birth.
Cohabitation	A living arrangement by two unmarried people.
Commercial Sexual Exploitation	When payment is exchanged for some kind of sexual objectification of another person.
Crossdresser	One who wears items of clothing and other adornments commonly associated with the opposite sex.
Cyber stalking	The repeated use of electronic communications to harass or frighten someone.
Cyber violence	Is a form of bullying or harassment using electronic means. Harmful bullying behaviour can include posting rumors, threats, sexual remarks, a victim's personal information.
Date rape	Being raped by someone you know or you agreed to see but not agree to have sex with at that time, even if you've had sex with them before.
Discrimination	Where one person or group is treated less favorably on grounds such as sex and gender, age, nationality, race, ethnicity, religion or belief, health, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity.
Diversity	Difference in the values, attitudes, cultural perspective, beliefs, ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, skills, knowledge and life experience of each individual in any group of people.
Domestic partner	A person who is living with another in a close personal and sexual relationship.
Domestic violence	All acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit, irrespective of biological or legal family ties, or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence as the victim.



22.	Drag king	A female who dresses as a man and impersonates male characteristics for public entertainment.
23.	Drag queen	A male who dresses as a woman and impersonates female characteristics for public entertainment.
24.	Emotional abuse	Belittling, humiliating or undermining an individual's sense of self worth/ self-esteem through constant criticism, verbal insults, name-calling, etc.
25.	Emotional attraction	Emotional attraction is when you're attracted to someone's mind and spirit, and you may or may not be physically attracted to them.
26.	Empowerment of women	Process by which women gain power and control over their own lives and acquire the ability to make strategic choices.
27.	Equality	The state of being equal, especially in status, rights, or opportunities.
28.	Feminism	Political stance and commitment to change the political position of women and promote gender equality, based on the thesis that women are subjugated because of their gendered body.
29.	Femininity	The quality of being female; womanliness.
30.	Femininities	Different notions of what it means to be a woman, including patterns of conduct linked to a women's assumed place in a given set of gender roles and relations.
31.	Femicide	The killing of women and girls.
32.	Forced marriage	Intentional conduct of forcing an adult or child to enter into a marriage, lacking the personal expression of the full, informed and free consent of one or both of the parties.
33.	Forced pregnancy	Unlawful confinement of a woman who has been forcibly impregnated, with the intent of affecting the ethnic composition of any population or carrying out other grave violations of international law.
34.	Forced prostitution	Forced prostitution, also known as involuntary prostitution, is prostitution or sexual slavery that takes place as a result of coercion by a third party.
35.	Forced sterilization	Use of a procedure to control the reproductive behaviour of a woman or a particular group of women.
36.	Gay	Primarily refers to a homosexual person, most commonly men but women can be gay also.
37.	Gender Identity	Gender identity is the personal sense of one's own gender. Gender identity can correlate with assigned sex at birth or can differ from it.
38.	Gender Bias	Prejudiced actions or thoughts based on the gender-based perception that women are not equal to men in rights and dignity.
39.	Gender Binary	The classification of sex and gender into two distinct, opposite and disconnected forms of masculine and feminine.
40.	Gender Expression	The many physical and non-physical ways in which an individual can express themselves in line or opposite to their gender. This expression can also be in the middle, expressing both or no gender with their looks, attitude, actions and dress.
41.	Gender Equity	Provision of fairness and justice in the distribution of benefits and responsibilities between women and men.
42.	Gender Fluid	Denoting or relating to a person who does not identify themselves as having a fixed gender.
43.	Gender Alignment	Set of medical measures that can, but do not have to, include psychological, endocrinological and surgical treatments aimed at aligning a person's physical appearance with their gender identity.
44.	Gender Roles	Social and behavioral norms which, within a specific culture, are widely considered to be socially appropriate for individuals of a specific sex.



45.	Gender Stereotypes	Preconceived ideas whereby females and males are arbitrarily assigned characteristics and roles determined and limited by their gender.
46.	Gender Based Violence	Gender-based violence encompasses a large variety of crimes committed like rape, sexual harassment, stalking, human trafficking, domestic abuse, genital mutilation, and forced prostitution all based on ones gender.
47.	Genitals	A person’s external organs for reproduction and sexual activity.
48.	Hetero normativity	Assumption or a person’s heterosexuality.
49.	Intersex	Describes a condition in which a person is born with a sex that doesn’t fit the typical definition of female or male due to genetic, hormonal or anatomical differences.
50.	Intergender	A variation in sex characteristics including chromosomes and or genitals that do not allow an individual to be directly identified as male or female.
51.	Inter- sectionality	Analytical tool for studying, understanding and responding to the ways in which sex and gender intersect with other personal characteristics/identities, and how these intersections contribute to unique experiences of discrimination.
52.	Lesbophobia	Irrational fear of, and aversion to, lesbians.
53.	Lover	A partner in a sexual or romantic relationship.
54.	Lesbian	Woman who is attracted to other women.
55.	LGBTQIA	Umbrella term used to denote individuals from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Queer/Questioning, Intersex and Asexual Community.
56.	Pansexual	Not limited in sexual choice with regard to biological sex, gender, or gender identity.
57.	Prejudices	Attitudes and feelings – whether positive or negative and whether conscious or nonconscious that people have about members of other groups, which may be based on preconceived ideas and influenced by elements such as gender, race, class, personal characteristics or other factors.
58.	Queer	All individuals who fall outside of the gender and sexuality ‘norms’. Also the umbrella term for the LGBTQIA community.
59.	Rape	Any non-consensual vaginal, anal or oral penetration of the body of another person where the penetration is of a sexual nature, with any bodily part or with an object, as well as any other non-consensual acts of a sexual nature by the use of coercion, violence, threats, duress, ruse, surprise or other means, regardless of the perpetrator’s relationship to the victim.
60.	Rape culture	Complex of beliefs that encourages male sexual aggression and supports violence against women.
61.	Revenge Porn	Non-consensual pornography involves the online distribution of sexually graphic photographs or videos without the consent of the individual in the images. The aim is to inflict real damage on the target’s ‘real-world’ life.
62.	Sex	Biological and physiological characteristics that define humans as female, male or intersex. Sex is also the act of physical sex with a partner.
63.	Masturbation	Self-stimulation of the genitals with the hand or object for sexual pleasure.
64.	Sexual Orientation	Someone’s sexual orientation is whether they are sexually attracted to people of the same sex, people of the opposite sex, or both.
65.	Sexuality	Central aspect of being human throughout life and encompasses sex, gender identities and roles, sexual orientation, eroticism, pleasure, intimacy and reproduction.



66.	Hormone Replacement Therapy	Treatment with oestrogen and testosterone to assist a transgender individual in their process of gender realignment.
67.	Sexism	Actions or attitudes that discriminate against people based solely on their gender.
68.	Sexual Abuse	Actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.
69.	Sexual Harassment	Form of gender-based violence encompassing acts of unwanted physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature, which have a purpose or effect of violating the victim's dignity and creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment.
70.	Sexual Health	State of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being related to sexuality; it is not merely the absence of disease, dysfunction or infirmity.
71.	Sexual Identity	How one thinks of oneself in terms of attraction to the same sex or members of the other sex, based on one's own experiences, thoughts and reactions, rather than defining oneself based on the gender or sex of one's sexual partner(s).
72.	Sexual Orientation	Each person's capacity for profound emotional, affectional and sexual attraction to, and intimate and sexual relations with, individuals of a different gender, the same gender or more than one gender.
73.	Sexual Slavery	Sexual exploitation is the sexual abuse of children and youth through the exchange of sex or sexual acts for drugs, food, shelter, protection, other basics of life, and/or money.
74.	Survivor	Word used to describe persons who have survived sexual violence, often at the threat of their lives. The word victims was formerly used.
75.	Transgender	Person who has a gender identity different to the gender assigned at birth and who wishes to portray gender identity in a different way to the gender assigned at birth.
76.	Transman	A man who was assigned female at birth.
77.	Transwoman	A woman who was assigned male at birth.
78.	Trans phobia	Irrational fear of, aversion to, or discrimination against transgender people.
79.	Testosterone	A steroid hormone that stimulates development of male secondary sexual characteristics, produced mainly in the testes, but also in the ovaries and adrenal cortex.
80.	Oestrogen	Oestrogen, is the primary female sex hormone. It is responsible for the development and regulation of the female reproductive system and secondary sex characteristics. There are three major endogenous oestrogens in females that have oestrogenic hormonal activity: estrone, estradiol and estriol.
81.	Unisex	Designed to be suitable for both sexes.
82.	Victim	Person who has suffered harm (including physical, mental or emotional harm or economic loss) directly caused by a criminal offence.
83.	Victimization	Any adverse treatment in reaction to a complaint.
84.	Vulnerable Groups	Women, children and persons belonging, or perceived to belong, to groups that are in disadvantaged position or marginalized.
85.	Womanizer	A man who engages in numerous casual sexual affairs with women.
86.	Stealthing	The act of removing a condom during sex without the consent of the partner. It's illegal in many countries, and is a form of sexual assault.





Maipato Joyce Letsika

Age: 21

Pronoun: She

Gender: Female

Lesbian



Q. What does LGBTQIA+ Pride mean to you?*To me Pride means to be able to be free and be able to express your thoughts, feelings and how you feel comfortable with yourself.*

Q. How does COVID19 affect your life?*It affected me both in a negative and positive way. The negative way is that I lost many things and almost myself along the way. the positive way is that I managed to work on myself to grow as a person both emotionally and mentally.*

Q. What is your wish for the LGBTQIA+ community?*To be more exposed to available job opportunities, to love and support each other. To be more business minded and to love each other.*



Interview by: Bookholane Sekhonyane



Name: Mosa Sephapho

Age: 33

Pronoun: She

Gender: Female

Sexual Orientation: Lesbian



Q. What does LGBTQIA+ Pride mean to you

I am able to be myself with no fear.

Q. How does COVID19 affect your life?

Social circles has changed, less going out with friends.

Q. What is your wish for the LGBTQIA+ community?

Stop making their SEXUALITY an excuse, or a wall between them and their dreams.



Interview by: Nosana Sondiayazi



Name: Keitumetse Siwela

Age: 27

Pronoun: He

Gender: Transgender

Sexual Orientation: I date women



Interview by: Bookholane Sekhonyane

Q. What does LGBTQIA+ Pride mean to you?When I think about PRIDE I think of Perseverance Resilience Inclusion Determination Expression. The LGBTQIA+ community means the world to me because I am also a part of it. Pride to me means being able to be your own authentic self, being proud of who you are and standing up for yourself every time someone questions your pride.....

Q. How does COVID19 affect your life?

.....Covid19 pandemic has affected me very badly, I personally live in fear and those who can understand my fear are the ones who have lost their families or those who has survived covid19. There are so many things I want to do but with these restrictions it becomes difficult to achieve them. Mosotho ore “Ho nkg a ho sa bola” look at how we should always cover up its tough especially during sunny days. I just wish the nightmare we live can be over..

Q. What is your wish for the LGBTQIA+ community?

.....Firstly I wish the community to stop judging each other and start appreciating one another. I believe if we could treat each other fairly so will the rest of the world. It is in my prayers that we are seen as humans and not as people with mental problems. I wish we could all succeed and be taken seriously. Just imagine being employed at a place whereby a member of our community is a manager? I wish nothing but the best and more opportunities for the LGBTQIA + community.



Name: Karabo Sentimile

Age: 29

Pronoun: He

Gender: Male

Sexual Orientation: Gay

Q. What does LGBTQIA+ Pride mean to you?It means embracing diversity in who we are despite the differences in sexual orientations but we are one as a rainbow nation.

Q. How does COVID19 affect your life?Financially things have been really tough as the economy has taken a knock so I also felt the drain financially.

Q. What is your wish for the LGBTQIA+ community?For us to live freely and our voices to be heard, that we are human we should not be judged by our sexual orientations or sexual preferences.



Interview by: Bookholane Sekhonyane

Name: Moeketsi Ramabodu
Age: 20
Pronoun: She
Gender: Transgender woman
Sexual Orientation: Lesbian

Q: Please give us a background on your Life... Childhood... Coming out...

I was born in Botshabelo 2000/09/15. And also raised in Botshabelo by my both parents and my grandmother. I am the first born of one girl and one boy.

My childhood wasn't difficult or hard because I've got a most supportive and loving mother. My mom never said harsh words or words that will hurt me because of who I am. Even when my father was against me, my mom would stand with me.

I came out at early age. My mom told me that I've been gay since I was little. I liked having long hair and singing a lot. Even when I was playing with other children I'd be saying "I Am the mother of the house". *When I was in grade 9 I started putting on makeup like other girls, because I was identifying myself as a girl. I wanted to look pretty... I didn't get that much transphobia from the community.*



Q: What are your views on online dating?

Online dating isn't good because we affiliate ourselves with people we don't know. And we trust people we've never met. It's very risky to date online. Even if you are desperate for love, I don't support online dating.

Q: What is your wish for the LGBTQIA+ community?

I want to see people collaborating together, without prejudice and homophobic behaviour. I want to see our LGBTQIA people considered in everything that takes place in the community. I want to see them owning positions everywhere like other people.



Q: What does LGBTQIA+ Pride mean to you?

For me it's an umbrella term for all people with different genders and sexual orientations.

Q: Who is your favourite South African queer person and why?

Morapedi Motlolane because he is the most loving and funny person to everyone.

Q: Who is your favourite international queer person and why?

I don't know anyone from outside S.A.

Q: How were you introduced to Tholwana e Molemo?

I was introduced to Tholwana e Molemo by Morapedi Motlolane. He was sending us messages to attend workshops and other events of LGBTQIA+ community

Interview by: Nosana Sondiya

Q: What have you gained most from being introduced to Tholwana e Molemo?

Because of Tholwana e Molemo I now know my self better than before. I learned about LGBTQIA, and I can now also explain myself well to people. I even know my rights as a transgender woman.

Also with their help, I am now on hormones, something that I was lacking information about. If it wasn't for Tholwana e Molemo even today I'd still be asking myself questions like how to do that ?? And where to go? I will always support Tholwana e Molemo and it's employees for the good work they do for LGBTQIA + community

Q: What is the difference between transgender women and gay men?

- Transgender women - are people whose gender does not match with their birth sex
- Gay man - man who is attracted to other men emotionally and physically

Q: What is the typical transwoman lifestyle you are aware of in the community?

First thing that I've noticed about transgenders in my community it's that they are extroverts, loving and most fashionable. They don't get that much stigma from the community only few people who lack knowledge about transgenders are still against.

Q: Do you know your HIV status? Would you like to test for HIV?

Yes I know my status ..and I would like to encourage other people to test

Q: How does COVID19 affect your life?

Positive. Because of lockdown I've been reading different short stories, to free my mind from thoughts that would cause me stress. Negative. It affected my study plans.

Name: Tshepang Clive Tsoanyane
Age: 20
Pronoun: They, them, theirs
Gender Identity: Non-binary
Sexual Orientation: Feminine & masculine gay men & butch lesbians

Q: Please give us a background on your Life... Childhood... Coming out...

I had a decent life growing up, I'm the first born out of my two siblings, I looked after by my grandmother while my mom and dad went to work. My life was marvelous from kindergarten to primary school, when I arrived at high school that was when things started taking a turn for the worst. The boys from the class I was in began calling me names, when I ignored them, they became violent and then from there they stole everything from my lunchbox to my calculator every week. During lunch time in the toilets, they did all sorts of things that I truly can't find words to truly explain because shame it was hectic. Funny enough today those boys are the ones calling me declaring how much they love me and want us to have a relationship, imagine the level of disrespect. My parents always turned a blind eye towards my sexuality, but on the 24 November 2019, I came out them after I told them I'm seeing a psychologist also I had pierced my nose and had long Bongo dreadlocks which made me look like a full-on woman. Before I disclosed to them, I had always been my feminine self around them I never acted straight or anything.



Q: Who is your favourite international queer person and why?

A : Sam Smith must be the one because first he is non-binary and second through his music, I was able to find healing in my heart from the physical & emotional trauma I faced in high school.

Q: How were you introduced to Tholwana e Molemo?

A: I was introduced to Tholwana e Molemo through a very good friend of mine at varsity during health week and that's where I got my first HIV test.

Q: What have you gained most from being introduced to Tholwana e Molemo?

A: I have gained knowledge regarding my well being physically & emotionally, also understanding diversity of my community by meeting different queer people from all walks of life. All of this was possible from the queer programs they host.

Q: What is the difference between a transwomen and gay men?

A: Transwomen have a sex change surgery to identify as women, they are also attracted to either straight men or transmen also some are bisexual. Gay men in general are men sexually & non-sexually attracted to other men they can be feminine, masculine, and non-binary but at the end of the day they just love each other.

Interview by: Nosana Sondiyaizi



Q: What does LGBTQIA+ Pride mean to you?

A: It means celebrating the lives of our queer ancestors who fought for our freedom & equality to have pride in the first place and it is the place where one can enjoy pure black queer joy, feel loved, content for being who they are and having a place they belong to.

Q: Who is your favourite South African queer person and why?

A : Non, because the mainstream media in Mzansi is focused on masculine gay men to make the 'default homosapiens' comfortable.

Q: What is non-binary?

A: It is not identifying to the gender we were assigned with at birth also is a spectrum of gender identities that are not exclusively masculine or feminine hence our pronouns are (them, they, theirs).

Q: What is the typical non-binary lifestyle you are aware of in your community?

A: The typical lifestyle must be that of not conforming to any gender, by the clothes you wear also on how you behave or present yourself to the masses on a day-to-day basis.

Q: Do you know your HIV status? Would you like to test for HIV?

A: Yes, it is negative and I'm on Prep which I was able to accumulate through Tholwana e Molemo health team, I would like to test for HIV again.

Q: How does COVID19 affect your life?

A: It affected my life positively; it also gave me the comfort of time to begin my spiritual journey in truly understanding how the world & universe we live in really works and utilizing that knowledge to live the life I was meant to live in this physical plane of existence.

Q: What are your views on online dating?

A: Online dating can be toxic and good depending on the application you are using to connect with people but personally, for being a spiritual being and understanding I'm an old soul I prefer to do things the old fashion way, even though it takes some time, but for me it is worth it because I get the privilege of being comfortable & content by myself.

Q: What is your wish for the LGBTQIA+ community?

A: My wish for the community is that of visibility through mainstream media in such a way that it inspires the upcoming queer youth and for them to not feel like outcasts in their own countries. Also for heterosexuals to learn more about being queer to remove the stigma and stereotype about the community for good. Equality and freedom for the next queer generation in this amazing universe we live in, it might not be easy, but it is possible.

Name: Katleho Mabula
Age: 21
Pronoun: She/Her
Gender: Transgender woman
Sex: Assigned Male at Birth
Sexual Orientation: Straight guys

Q: Please give us a background on your Life... Childhood... Coming out...

A: I am a cool and collected trans from Botshabelo in Free State, raised by a single mother. My childhood was very fun and easy. Growing up I used to play with girls and saw myself as a woman. I grew up around a loving and caring family and friends. I never had to come out, because I have been very open about my sexuality since from a very young age. I dressed like a girl from a very young age, but being an introverted person saved me from a lot of things because most of my peers were exposed to drugs, gangsterism and some other bad things. *Being a transgender is still a taboo subject in my community, but I believe in the next 5 years it will not be, because after all we are all human beings and God loves us all.*



Q: Who is your favourite international queer person and why?

A: My favorite international queer person is Amiyah Scott because she is one of the first trans-woman of color on television, she has been an impactful figure to many. In addition, to acting, Scott is a motivational speaker and activist with the goal of giving a voice to transgender woman. She focuses on the themes of bullying, self-esteem, and self-acceptance.

Amiyah is also vocal with politics. For example, she criticized some of the Trump administrations policies together with other activists in the transgender community such as Laverne Cox and Janet Mock.



Q: What have you gained most from being introduced to Tholwana e Molemo?

A: I have gained a lot, now I know more about my sexuality and more especially about LGBTIA+ community.

Q: What is the difference between a transwoman and a gay man?

A: A transwoman is a person who was assigned male at birth but whose gender identity is female. A gay man: is man who has a sexual attraction to persons of the same gender.

Q: What is the typical transwoman lifestyle you are aware of in your community?

A: 90% of my community is against trans people, they think trans people are possessed by some devil spirit, they see us as people who are against God's creation. As much as we want to be seen and heard, we can't because they see us as people who brought some shame in our families, but I think slowly but surely they will understand we are here to stay and trans people are real.

Q: Do you know your HIV status? Would you like to test for HIV?

A: Yes, I do know my status, yes would love to test.

Q: How does COVID19 affect your life?

A: Having to adapt to online learning with my academics was overwhelming and a challenging thing.

Q: What are your views on online dating?

A: Online dating is good thing, because you get to meet more people quicker with similar core values, faith, interests, background, and preferences. Also, it saves time, if you are very busy and have a hard time making time to date, online dating can help you make time. LOL, you can date or contact people online during break from work or late at night when you cannot sleep or even when you are watching TV or doing other things

Q: What is your wish for the LGBTQIA+ community?

A: They must remember that they are not alone. Who people think you are, is not who you really are. You are so much more than you even know. Look for the beauty in the little things. Most importantly, be true to yourself and follow your heart.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Gabbi Tuft, WWE Star Behind 'Burning Hammer,' Comes Out as Trans



The former wrestler says she's "unashamed, unabashedly" transgender.

BY MEY RUDE


FEBRUARY 05 2021 4:11 PM EST

ADVOCATE

She may not be bringing the Burning Hammer down on opponents in the WWE anymore, but Gabbi Tuft is feeling stronger than ever before.

The former WWE wrestling star, who went by the ring name “Tyler Reks” from 2009-2012 has now come out a proud trans woman who “can now say, with confidence, that I love myself for WHO I am.”

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS







**MSM AND GAY MEN
FRIDAY MOVIE**
DURING COVID19 LOCKDOWN
12 FEB 2021
12PM
"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



**QUEER EYE
INTERVIEWS**

17
FEBRUARY
18:30

TOPIC: BUTCH LESBIANS VS TRANSMEN

**SPRINTER** **HOPOLANG**


 @Tholwana Advocacy
 @Tholwana Emolemo


LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP

TOPIC: SEX GENDER SEXUAL ORIENTATION
THABA NCHU OFFICE
20 February 2021
10am
Info. 067 013 7319
"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"

**LESBIAN
TRANSMAN
POTJIEKOS**

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"


**BOTSHABELO
MULTI-FUNCTIONAL CENTRE
SECTION E**
27 FEBRUARY 2021
10am - 1pm
FOR MORE INFO 067 013 7319

**DANDY DYKE** **FAG DYKE**

Zoom Meeting



**ONLINE
BLIND
DATING**





Dave






Travis

TEST FOR HIV
AND GET 500MB
DATA FOR YOUR
30MIN BLIND DATE



For more info 076 037 1985  @Tholwana EMolemo

       End Meeting

Certificate of Appreciation

AWARDED TO

MRS PINKY & MRS BOITUMELO KHELESI

Your generosity in cases of hardship when assisting members of the LGBTQIA+ community is appreciated. It is through acts of kindness and selflessness that we can remember and celebrate our humanity.

10 February 2021





Mmotseng Moletsane a 16 year old lesbian orphan received a generous donation from Mrs Pinky and Mrs Boitumelo Khelesi.



Certificate of Appreciation

AWARDED TO



MORAPEDI MOTLOLANE

**EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
JANUARY 2021**





Certificate of Appreciation

AWARDED TO



KEKE RAMATSA

**EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
FEBRUARY 2021**



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY DURING COVID19 LOCKDOWN

❖ LGBTQIA+ MSM fear reporting assault at police stations because of bad treatment they receive at police stations

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM fear HIV testing at health facilities because of fear of confidentiality of their status being breached, and their sexual orientation/practice exposed.

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY

❖ Parents and teachers of LGBTQIA+ & MSM need sensitizations at schools and home.
• To better assist them at home and school with acceptance by teachers and caregivers.

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY

❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM need more lifestyle awareness and physical health awareness.
• As well as chronic conditions awareness.

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY DURING COVID19 LOCKDOWN

❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM are not certain about SA Constitution Human Rights.

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY DURING COVID19 LOCKDOWN

❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM are experiencing depression.
• Examples of depression were identified during lockdown with clients losing family members to COVID19.
• Some clients were depressed after being raped or assaulted by friends and police did not take their reports seriously.

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY DURING COVID19 LOCKDOWN

❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM are experiencing internalized stigma
• Intimate Partner Violence
• Assault because partner wants private affair and not public affair

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY

❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM struggle accessing equal rights at Department of Home Affairs
• Denied same sex marriage even with Civil Union Amendment Bill enacted
• Struggle to access gender marker change and name changes

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY DURING COVID19 LOCKDOWN

❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM struggle accessing condoms and lubricants from clinics.
• They are asked questions like why are you having sex with men?
• Some clinics leave condom dispensers empty and only fill them when requested.

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY DURING COVID19 LOCKDOWN

❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM have issues with alcohol abuse
• Leads to risky behaviour and rape

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY DURING COVID19 LOCKDOWN

❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM are struggling to come out of the closet in small towns
• Clients feel misunderstood in small towns when identifying as LGBTQIA+

Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



MSM AND GAY MEN ADVOCACY DURING COVID19 LOCKDOWN

❖ LGBTQIA+ & MSM are not clear on sex, gender and sexual orientation terminology for their own self classification.

Prioritising services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX
WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"



Responsible services for
GAY MEN & MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"

