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Press Statement

Out-Right Namibia stands behind the plea to reform abortion laws in Namibia

Out-Right Namibia (ORN) is an LGBT+ organization registered as a Trust with the Master of the High Court on 21st October 2017. It works in the areas of human rights and public health to support LGBT+ persons, their families and their allies to receive non-discriminatory services in order to live safely in their local communities. Together with other sexual and gender diverse Civil Society Organisations' (CSO's), ORN's focus is on overturning unfair colonial and discriminatory laws that negatively affect LGBT+ persons, demanding greater protections from the state and its agencies.

Much like the sodomy law, amongst other inherited oppressive laws, the Abortion and Sterilization Act (1975) of South Africa reveals Namibia's penchant for selective socio-legal and political reform, further marginalizing and excluding a vast majority of poor, black and gender diverse persons.

Access to safe and legal abortion options should then be accompanied by Comprehensive Reproductive Care, supplemented by Family Planning, Post-Abortion Care and Comprehensive Sexuality Education to ensure that all women and adolescent girls make informed decisions on the options available to them as agents of their own bodies.

Out-Right Namibia believes that intersectional and inclusive reproductive justice should remain the key driver to reforming the current outdated, oppressive and dehumanizing law, forty years since its enforcement by the then Apartheid era South African regime.

It is against the above convictions that Out-Right Namibia stands behind the plea to reform the abortion laws in Namibia that would grant women and adolescent girls their full reproductive rights to bodily autonomy, choice and reproductive justice.

Sincerely,

Agapitus Hausiku (Director) ORN Trust