



**Human Rights Violations
Against the LGBT Community
Trend Analysis
2015-2018**

Disclaimer

The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of Equality Myanmar and Colors Rainbow and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union, British Council and MyJustice Programme.

Acronyms

CRB	: Colors Rainbow
FGD	: Focus Group Discussion
HAART	: Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy
HTY	: Hlaing Tharyar Township
IDI	: In-depth Interview
INGO	: International Nongovernmental Organization
KII	: Key Informant Interview
LGBT	: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
NLD	: National League for Democracy
NOK	: North Okkalapa Township
PLHIV	: People living with HIV
SPT	: Shwe Pyi Thar Township
SW	: Sex Workers
TGW	: Transgender Women
TGM	: Transgender Men
TKT	: Thaketa Township
TLN	: Thanlyin Township
TM	: Tamwe Township



Acknowledgement

This report would not have been possible without the contribution and collaboration of participants from different background and professions. Our sincere gratitude goes to:

- Daw Khin Ma Ma Aye, Executive Director of Colors Rainbow
- U Hla Myat Tun, Deputy Executive Director of Colors Rainbow
- Nan Hsu Mon Thar, Program Co-ordinator of Colors Rainbow
- Paralegals of Colors Rainbow
- Access to Justice team and other management staff of Colors Rainbow

All those government administrative authorities and police officers for their valuable time and insightful answers in each respective township. Last but not the least, LGBT community leaders and the participants for sharing their knowledge and experiences openly to support LGBTs.

We should like to thank the editors for their helpful comments and suggestions to produce the final report.

Dr May Yadanar Htun & the team

CONTENTS

Executive Summary	6-7
I. Introduction	8
II. Overview of the Legal Aid Provision Cases of CRB (2015-2018)	9-17
III. Methodology	18
IV. Findings	19
4.1 Experiences of Abuse, Harassment and Discrimination amongst LGBT participants	19
4.2 Access to Justice Amongst LGBT community members	24
4.3 Understanding on LGBT rights and legal procedures for pursuing justice	25
4.4 Community Perception and Discrimination based on their sexual orientations	26
4.5 Others	28
4.6 Paralegals' legal aids on LGBTs and Featured Case Studies	30
V. Recommendations	33
5.1 Recommendations within legal framework	
5.2 Recommendations outside legal framework	
Appendixes:	
• Structured Questionnaire for FGDs and KIIs	35
• Profiles of the interviewed LGBT community	35
• Profiles of the interviewed administrative individuals and non-LGBT community	36
• Statistics of the Cases (2015-2018)	36



Walks of life Exhibition in Thakhinmya Park, &PROUD 2019

- ♥ *Why do we hide? Be proud!*
- ♥ *Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation should not be a crime*
- ♥ *Don't mistreat and abuse us*
- ♥ *We have big hearts to share and contribute like yours*
- ♥ *Discrimination is the inhumane act of denying the existence of different colors of human lives*
- ♥ *Every one of us was born free and equal in dignity and rights*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is a 3-year (2015-2018) case analysis of Colors Rainbow legal aid assistance (access to justice) townships in Bago District and Yangon Region with the supporting field study in Yangon Region in 2018. While not comprehensive, it provides an overview of the trends of abuses and discrimination on Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgenders (LGBTs) community members; their access to justice; their understanding on LGBTs rights; gaps and the perceptions to provide further actions. Some of the documented cases in 2016 are also a reflection of cases in 2015. Therefore, this is a three-year report on 2015-2018.

LGBTs are the marginalized and discriminated community members in Myanmar. Moreover, it is compounded by Myanmar's sodomy law or Section 377 of the Myanmar Penal Code, "Whoever voluntarily has carnal intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal shall be punished with transportation for life, or with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to a fine". Moreover, there is no legal protection of LGBT rape victims. So as not having legal protection of all LGBTs except youth, they have become the target groups to be easily detained under the "shadow law" in section 35 (C) of the Police Act, which allows police to detain anyone they consider behaving suspiciously after sunset.

The following are key findings:

- Total 815 cases (Documentation, Mediation, Legal Advice, Referral and Legal Representation) are assisted in 3-year period and 52% of them are transwomen. Total 610 cases in Yangon Region over 3-year period and 68% of them are transwomen. 43% (19 out of 44 participants) of focus group discussion (FGD) participants are transwomen. 63% of transwomen participants of the FGD are the sex workers. 80% of the detainee with 35 (C) / 30D of the Police Act are transwomen and the rest are gays. 93% of those detained under 30D are young adults of age between 19-30 years old, future generation of the nation. It could be that transwomen are more visible, easier to reach out by CRB staff and the most vulnerable under shadow law. The perpetrators of 3 out of 14 rape cases in 2016 are the police officers.
- 48% (174 out of 350) of the documented cases in Yangon Region in 2016 and 2017 suffer physical and mental abuses by the family and community members. LGBTs experience verbal and physical abuses in every walk of life such as at home, in the residential area, at the workplace, at school, on the bus or taxi, etc. In Yangon Region, three townships such as Hlaing Tharyar, Thanhlyin and Tamwe have reduced cases from 152 to 125 as 15 of them are reduced in Hlaing Tharyar township between 2017 and 2018. According to the field study, very rude verbal abuses by the community members is reduced sporadically in Hlaing Tharyar township in 2018 as the community is aware of LGBTs and having more positive view towards them. Moreover, it is because of Colors Rainbow (CRB) legal aid assistance and so the cases are assessed more carefully. In Thanhlyin township, the famous abused police officer had to transferred out after CRB's incident report to the authorities. Then there is slight reduction of arbitrary arrest and abuses but there is increased police parole at night time. In Tamwe township, it is slightly decreased because transwomen sex workers are detained less as there is police parole near Kandawgyi every 15 days. Unacceptance, repeated verbal and physical abuses are some of the reason's LGBTs becoming migrants, run away from home and live by themselves with their partners, LGBT beautician owners, performing as spirit medium, operating self-employed business, unemployment, casual workers, sex workers, etc. Some police officers sometimes ask K1000/2000 from transwomen sex workers while they are looking for clients at night time or they have to provide the service to that police officer. Some police officers beat them with rods or slap their face during the time of arrest. In the police custody in some townships, transwomen have to perform oral sex to get a call to home within 24 hours of arbitrary arrest.
- As LGBTs are not well accepted by the society, they have encountered discrimination everywhere. They are also discriminated by the law enforcement personnel as they are still being seen as abnormal human beings who choose to live as LGBTs. A local authority said "Accompanying with them makes me feel belittled that it's just like others would disparage me or something like that. I'm not that kind of sexy. It worries me that everyone would undervalue my own standard." Once someone is observed as being gay in a private company, little chance of getting promotion. LGBTs especially transmen and

transwomen are very difficult to work in the factories in Hlaing Tharyar and Shwe Pyi Thar townships. Educated or skillful LGBTs can work in NGOs but verbal abuse is not uncommon. Wearing compulsory school uniform for transmen lead to high school dropout. Local authorities and community members do not take into account of the abuse incidents brought by LGBT sex workers. Moreover, it is the same if the incidents occurred with the rich family members. If the police found a guy with a transwoman, they will release the guy but arrested the transwoman. Moreover, they are threatened to give some money like K30000 to K350,000 or they will be arrested with 30D. If the guy got a ring, he can also give that as a supplement. When the police need more quota, transwomen sex workers are the target as they are obvious, sex work is illegal and 30D can easily applies to them. Furthermore, as the sexual act between LGBTs are seen as abnormal among local authorities and police officers, they even think it is one of the ways to protect LGBTs and others. On the other hand, LGBTs feel unsafe to live in Shwe Pyi Thar township because of 30D and arbitrary arrest.

- For transwomen, Muslim family members believe that wearing a longyi by a male sex is doing against the will of God daily; Buddhist community members better accept transmen as they are seen as women being trying to gain precious manhood. However, a few of them believe being LGBTs is their fate. On the other hand, those transwomen and gays who work as beauticians as well as spirit medium are more flexible religiously. They enjoy participating in various religious occasions and celebrations.
- In Hlaing Tharyar township, paralegals and other LGBT community members can sit and listen the judge hearings since 2017. However, it is said that LGBTs have little chance to explain the actual incident most of the time but the police officers do. Moreover, LGBTs are concern about finding a guarantor to get the bail as majority of them are migrants and sometimes it last for nearly two months to have a guarantor: the community representative or the administrator. Sometimes the police officers sign to get the bail. LGBTs prefer to confess even if it is an accused case with 30D as it will last for one month if they confess; if not, it will last for 3 months. Moreover, if they have to encounter the case,

sometimes it will take nearly 1 to 2 years. They were told by the police officers to follow them to the police station but they are not allowed to ask or explain anything. If a LGBT runs a beauty salon with transwomen who also work as sex workers, their relationship with the police officers and the local authorities will be different. In the legal process, transwomen have to face as men and transmen as women.

- In the wards or quarters, LGBTs get some equal and fair hearings in some areas of the same township though there is not much changes over the past three years.
- There is overall improvement for transwomen sex workers who would be able to talk to the police officers during the time of arrest and knowledgeable to request to make a phone call to the family members/ friends or CRB or NGO focal persons, etc. However, LGBTs who never attended a training organized by CRB or else, know little and do not understand on LGBT rights. Moreover, they do not understand the legal procedures to pursue justice. 45 % of the participants expect that LGBT rights will improve in the future. Furthermore, having LGBT leaders in high rank government officials could also improve their rights. & Proud public social events are eye openers for LGBTs to be able to coming out as transgenders.
- Only 22% of the participants from the field study think that LGBTs is a natural process. Therefore, if one's child or relative has open up about his/her sexual orientation as a LGBT, he/she will try to be changed as their born sex with different ways such as verbally with social and religious believes, physical punishment, physical exercises, behavioral exercises, etc. For the adult LGBTs, they are good breadwinners and transwomen beauticians have artistic mind. 42% of transwomen and gay participants from the field study believe that the most important thing in life is to have good income in order to stand on their own feet. People who have LGBT relatives or friends who work in different sectors have positive perspective towards them. LGBTs should get involved in various social and religious activities.

Provision of legal aid services to the vulnerable LGBTs not only improve their access to justice but also promoting their fundamental rights as well as enhancing the amendment of Myanmar's sodomy law.

I. INTRODUCTION

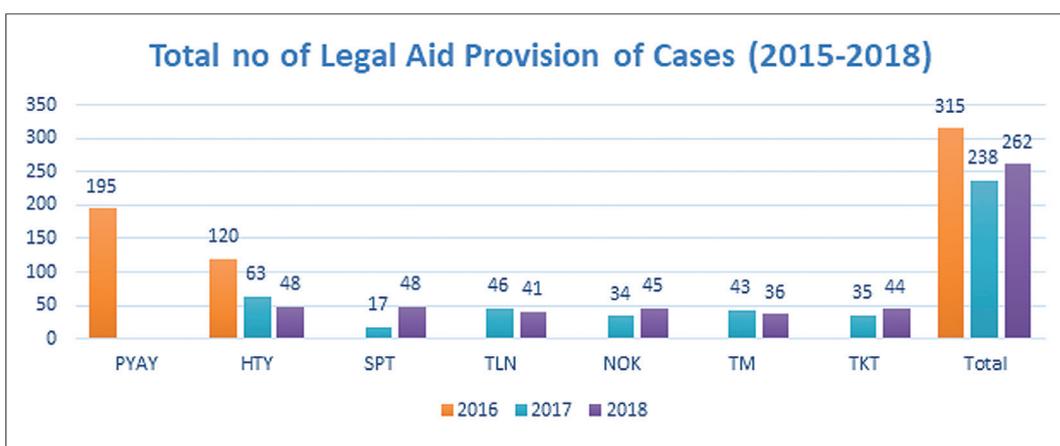
This is a 3-year report (2015-2018) analyzing the documented cases of Colors Rainbow (CRB) with the supporting field study in Yangon Region in 2018. Although this is a 3-year report, it also covers cases in 2015 as the cases in 2016 is also the reflection of 2015. In 2016, CRB supported Pyay Township (Pyay) in Bago Division and Hlaing Tharyar Township in Yangon Region. Since 2017, CRB support six townships in Yangon Region.

Myanmar's political landscape has changed following the 2011-2015 Myanmar political reforms and 2015 electoral victory of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy, there are certain improvements on LGBTs. In the new National Youth Policy published at the start of 2018, it protects youths (15-35 years) legally from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity under section 24(e) and section 26(e). Moreover, it is allowed to do LGBT events in public parks since 2018 in Yangon. However, Myanmar sodomy law and 35 C or 30 D of the Police Act have not amended yet.

II. OVERVIEW OF LEGAL AID PROVISION OF COLORS RAINBOW (2015-2018)

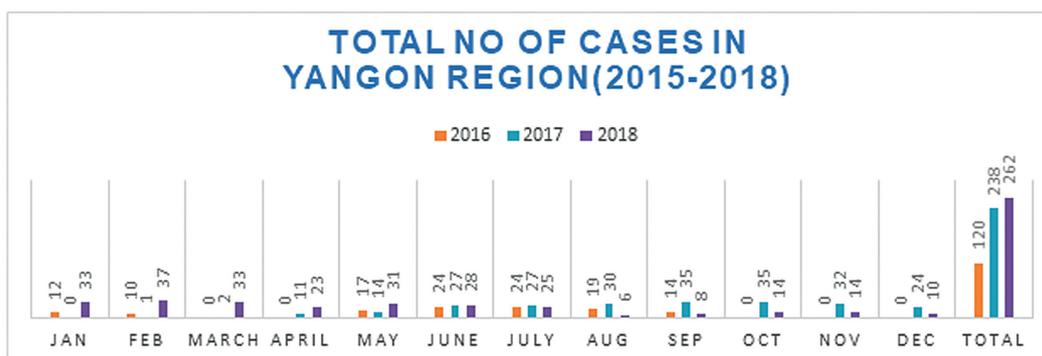
Desk review and detail review of the documented cases by Colors Rainbow (CRB) legal aid assistance team from Jan 2015 to August 2018 is done and the findings are as follows.

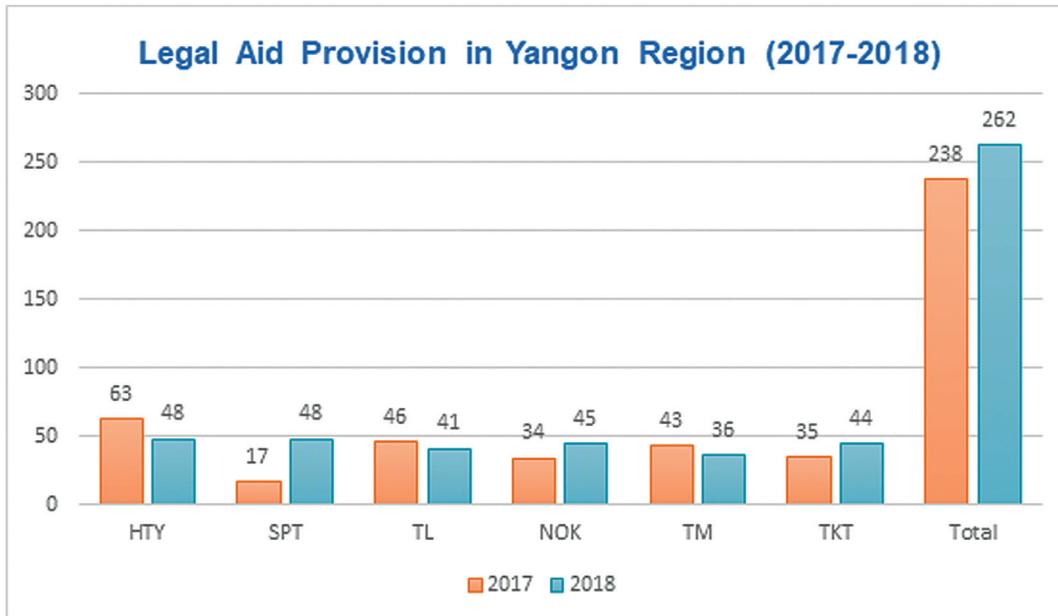
(TDH), Thamadi Foundation, Yadanar Myitta, Care Myanmar, Kings and Queens and Golden future foundations.



Total 815 cases are provided legal aid assistance over the 3-year period (Jan 2015-Dec 2018). It is the highest in 2016 as there are 195 cases in Pyay Township (Pyay) in Bago Division and 120 cases in Hlaing Tharyar Township in Yangon Region. It is also the reflection of cases in 2015. A lawyer and eight paralegals ran the operations. Total 315 cases are provided legal aid services in Hlaing Tharyar Township and Pyay Township in 2016. Since 2017, the project has expanded beyond Hlaing Tharyar Township. It includes (6) townships: Hlaing Tharyar (HTY), Shwe Pyi Thar (SPT), Thanhlyin (TLN), North Okkalapa (NOK), Tamwe (TM) and Thaketa (TKT).

Total 620 cases are provided legal aid assistance over 3-year period in Yangon Region. (Documentation, Mediation, Legal Advice, Referral and Legal Action). There are 120 cases in 2016, 238 cases in 2017 and 262 cases in 2018. CRB provide legal aid assistance on human rights violation cases, justice issue cases, domestic violence cases, sexual violence cases, child abuse cases, criminal cases, civil cases and miscellaneous cases. Sex workers cases, theft or child rape cases, couple fights, gay rape cases, human trafficking on woman migrants are handled directly by other organizations or referred by CRB. They are Equality Myanmar, Taw-win-kayay, Terre des hommes

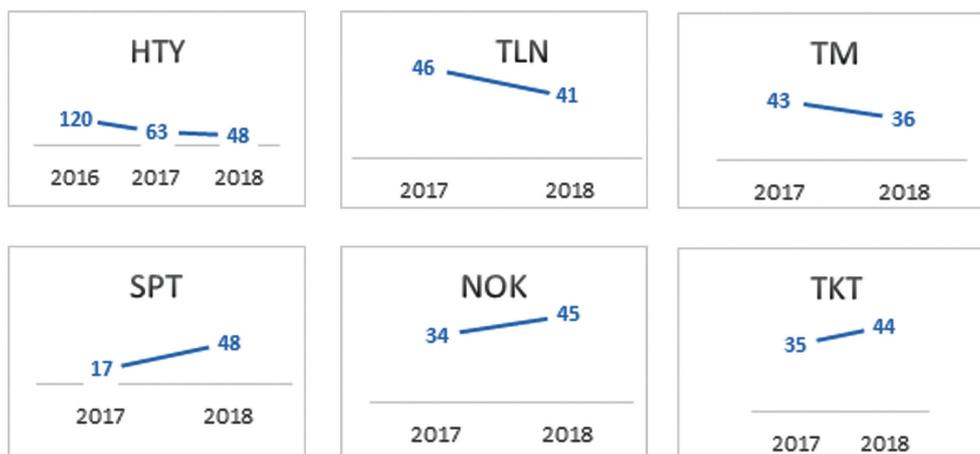


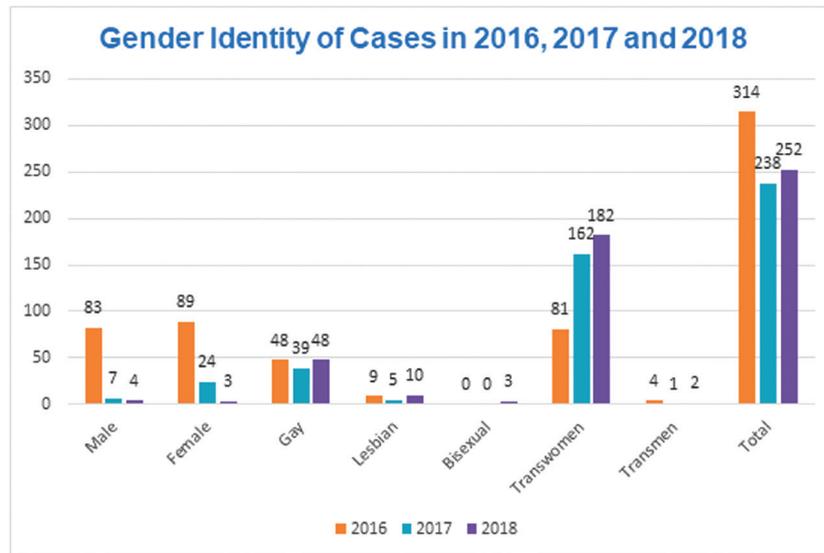


In Yangon Region, the total number of cases is slightly increased from 238 to 262 cases as Shwe Pyi Thar Township is increased more than doubled in the year 2018. In North Okkalapa and Thaketa Townships, there are about 10 cases increased in 2018. In Hlaing Tharyar Township, Thanhlyin Township and Tamwe Township, there are slightly drop in the number of cases assisted by CRB in 2018. In Thanhlyin Township, there is slightly decreased LGBT 30 D cases (Transwomen and Gays). From the authority stand point, there is significant reduction of LGBT cases in 2018. It is assumed that LGBTs understood more about law and few Transwomen in Kyite-kaut pagoda road at night time because of CRB's support and there are more police patrol at night time and LGBTs were evicted and they were told to go back home.

In Shwe Pyi Thar Township, there is significantly increased number of people seeking legal aid from CRB. It is said that the police often caught with arbitrary arrest and they have to face the cases in the court. They also have to spend money to be released or to get the bail.

Over 3-year period, majority of cases are Transwomen except in 2016. transwomen accounts for 26% in 2016, 68% in 2017 and 72% in 2018. In Yangon Region, transwomen (68% in 2017, 72% in 2018) and the second most common are Gay cases (16% in 2017, 19% in 2018). There are 3 bisexual cases in 2018 as bisexuals do not easily reveal their sexuality. Moreover, it is difficult to clarify the nature of incident. More than 80% of them are young adults between 19-30 years old.

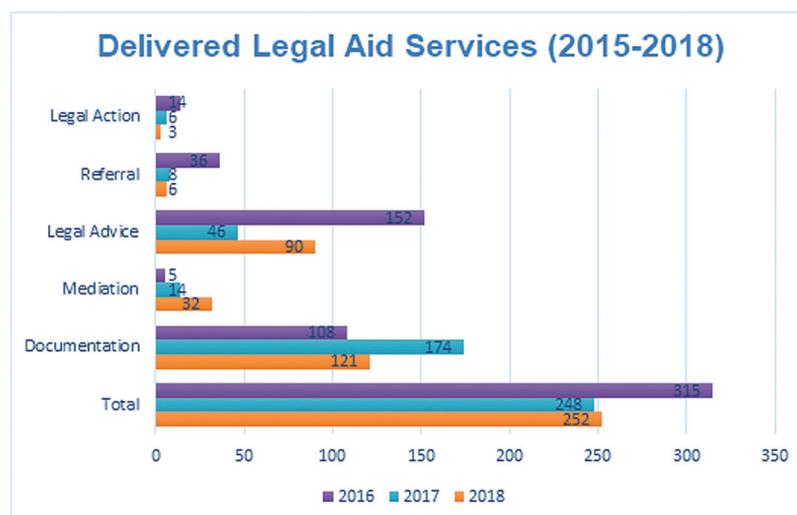




Among the total 815 cases, CRB represent the accused victims in 23 cases over 3-year period. In 2016, 14 cases are provided legal actions together with partner organizations but the remaining 9 cases are represented by CRB in 2017 and 2018 for Yangon Region. Cases in 2016 are also reflection of 2015. Legal aid services are provided with client centered approach. There are total 23 cases that CRB represented the clients at courts. In 2016, CRB lawyer represented a case of Myanmar Penal Code 376¹, another case of the suppression of Prostitution Act² and the remaining cases are Yangon Police Act 30D cases. In 2017, there are six cases that CRB lawyer represented at the court and it also includes 2 cases from Bahan and Mingalardon townships in Yangon Region. The case in

Bahan township was the code of Criminal Procedure 235³, Myanmar Penal code 323⁴ and 326⁵ whereas the one in Mingalardon township was Myanmar Penal code 380. The remaining cases are Myanmar Penal Code 379 and Yangon Police Act 30D cases. The following are examples of the summary of legally represented cases.

- **30 D cases:**
 - (i) In 2016: It took 5 days to 5 weeks from the day of arrest to bring 30D cases to the court. It lasted from 8 weeks to 18 weeks for CRB lawyer to legally represent the clients at the court. The accused victims usually convicted in the court. There is one case that the client run away and did not show up the following court



1 Punishment for rape
 2 Carries a jail term of up to three years for sex workers
 3 Trial for more than one offence. Offence falling within two definitions.
 4 Punishment for voluntarily causing hurt
 5 Voluntarily causing grievous hurt by dangerous weapons or means

appointments. Therefore, CRB lawyer withdrew the defendant lawyer representation.

(ii) In 2017: It took 3 to 11 weeks to bring 30D cases to the court. It lasted 6 to 8 weeks for CRB lawyer to represent the clients at the court. CRB lawyer withdraw the defendant lawyer representation in two cases as the clients did not show up for two consecutive appointments.

(iii) In 2018: It took nearly 5 weeks to bring a 30D case from the day of arrest to the court. CRB lawyer also withdrew the defendant lawyer representation after six weeks as she could not able to contact the client.

- Prostitution case in 2016, CRB lawyer represented the client two days after being arrested and it lasted nearly 24 weeks to face the trial. She convicted finally as of having difficulty in staying in the jail after facing 11 appointments and she was also really worried about her mother's illness. Therefore, she was sentenced for one year. It was stated that she was arrested using a fake customer by the police.
- Myanmar Penal Code 376 case was encountered by a transgender man in 2016, it lasted nearly 16 weeks to represent it in the court and 3 perpetrators are sentenced.
- Myanmar Penal code 380 case in 2017, gay client is released from the police custody after two weeks as he could show the ownership of the mobile phone. CRB took legal representation on the day of arrest.

In Yangon Region, people seek more legal advice from CRB. The number of legal advice cases has increased from 46 cases to 90 cases in 2017 and 2018 respectively. Majority of legal advice cases are documented and provided by paralegals. Paralegals give legal advices while documenting the cases or ongoing disputes to mediate or refer or settle the issues. Therefore, it could prevent further occurrence on facing human rights violations or justice issues mostly.

Mediation cases were significantly increased more than six times from 2016 to 2018. However, mediation cases were increased nearly 2.5 times between 2017 and 2018. More than 90% are facilitative mediation cases resolved by paralegals together with the administrators, quarter representatives, police officers and the relatives of disputes persons. It was documented that paralegals took legal advice from the lawyers in nearly 5% of cases. Most of mediation cases are documented single incidents of various domains. Among them, paralegals mediated and negotiated LGBT community members and a few non-LGBT community members in cases such as abuses by the family members or the community members,

discrimination by the police or local authority, access to justice issues, rule of law issues, arbitrary arrest and 30D issues, domestic violence, sexual harassment, relationship disputes, debts disputes, sell and property disputes, etc. The following are examples of the summary of mediation cases by the paralegals.

- Abuse by family members: (i) In 2018 in Hlaing Tharyar township, A 18-year-old lesbian moved out from her family and stayed with her girlfriend. Her parents visited and then beaten her. Her sister, Hlaing Tharyar paralegal, 10 and 100 household leaders facilitated it on the same day. They got married traditionally. There could be underlying domestic violence or family problems at her home. (ii) In 2017- A newly coming out 20-year-old gay university student visited parents during holiday in Myingyan. Parents found out that their son was gay by having a boyfriend and so they tried to restrict his social activities by not allowing to meet with anyone, keeping his ID card, bank cards, etc. Tamwe Paralegal mediated via mobile phone with the parents and it took nearly three days explaining about LGBT and requesting them to allow him to continue his study in Yangon. Finally, he could continue his study in Yangon. Such cases should be followed up.
- Abuse by community members: (i) In 2018: Ex-boyfriend of a bisexual lady verbally abused her of dating a girl. Then her brother and the ex-boyfriend threatened each other. It took nearly 10 days to settle at the administrative office. (ii) In 2018- a drunken gay community member verbally abused to a gay beautician. North Oakkalapa paralegal negotiated and settled it. (iii) In 2018- A single lady was verbally abused by a drunken man. Then a lesbian helped her by fighting back verbally. Hence, the case was brought to the administrative office and settled there in the presence of administrator and Thanlyin paralegal. (iv) In 2018- a tailor neighbor spread the news to the community members that the beautician had HIV and so his customers as well as the community members should be cautious. It was also confirmed by the house owner that she told the same thing to the house owner. It was mediated with the Hlaing Tharyar paralegal and house owner at the administrative office. It was settled as the tailor moved out to another place but the beauty parlor business had been expanding until today.
- Access to justice issues: (i) In 2017-TGW sold snacks and a customer broke her chair. They fought verbally and then he hit her seven times with a wooden rod. She took medical treatment from the hospital and went to the police station to open the case. It was denied to open the case at first visit, then she went there again with Thanhlyn paralegal together with the quarter representative. She received K50000 for medical

treatment and it was settled after 7 days.

(ii) In 2017: A 30-year-old female was verbally abused and hit her chest with his hands by a mentally ill community member. He also threatened her family verbally. She reported the incident to the police and then a police officer took K10000 from her as transportation fees to send him to the mental hospital and K30000 from the mentally ill person's parents not to send him there. However, he remained in his house with the guarantee by the police. Thanlyin Paralegal took legal advice from CRB lawyer and it lasted nearly 10 days to settle it together with the police officers. (iii) In 2018: a TGW faced name calling by Grade 2 and Grade 3 children. She brought the incident to their parents but it ended by fighting with the parents. Then she brought it to the quarter representative and he negotiated verbally. Therefore, she took advice from Thaketa paralegal. After that, they met again in front of the quarter representative by explaining the incident again. The quarter representative explained the parents to discipline and rear their children well. As a result, the children did not name call TGW next time. (iv) In 2018: a gay was walking back home around 9:30pm and passing by a monastery. It was mentioned that he saw three monks who told two boys to harass him. Then they were trying to touch his shoulders and hands. He denied it and he was trying to run away. Then they chased him and fought him. They took away his wig. He kept on running until he reached to the road and took a taxi to go back home. The next day, he visited the monastery together with Thaketa paralegal and explained the incident to the head monk. The monk said that they went back home and he would discipline them when they come back. (v) In 2018 - A TGW was arrested by the police parole in a park around 8 pm together with a guy she had just met on the street. It was mentioned that when her family requested a high rank authority to make a phone call to the police, she was released straight away in the presence of the administrator, Hlaing Tharyar paralegal and her family members. (vi) A TGW on a motorbike met with police officers around 11pm and she was threatened to be detained. She requested to call her family members. It was settled at the administrative office by giving K15000 of unofficial fees, bribes, to the township sheriff and signing a paper in the presence of Hlaing Tharyar paralegal. (vii) In 2018- a male guy hired a motorcycle with K20000 but he took him free on the way to motorcycle driver's home. In the quiet lane, another guy hit him and both of them took the motorcycle. Later, they were caught in a quarter and the motorcycle was kept. In one court hearing, a police officer took the motorcycle. Then, the motorcycle owner took advice from Thanlyin paralegal and then the paralegal met with the station police officer and took advice from

the police officer. After that, the motorcycle owner followed their advice by bringing two witnesses during the next court hearing and he also agreed to bring the motorcycle to every court visit. Thanhyin paralegal mediated the motorcycle owner to have his motorcycle in hand during court hearings.

- Discrimination by the police: LGBTs celebrated 2018 New Year in front of a beauty salon. Then police officers asked them if they got a permission to celebrate it as some of them live with bail. Although there are no legal rights of someone living with bail not to participate in a New Year celebration, they had to stop it. Otherwise, they were told that they would proceed to check the household guest approved list. It was mediated by Shwe Pyi Thar paralegal and the beauty parlor owner.
- Discrimination by the local authority: In Shwe Pyi Thar Township in 2018, a TGW returned the borrowed artificial jewelry to a female staff as the beauty parlor owner was away. When TGW arrived home, the staff called her and told her that there was some money left. TGW argued that she had given with the voucher and then they fought on the phone and the conversation was recorded. It was settled not to proceed the case to the police at the administrative office by the paralegal, the beauty parlor owner and the 100HH leaders. It was documented that if the case was proceeded to the police station, 100HH leaders were stand from the woman's side.
- Arbitrary arrest and 30D case: (i) In 2017: a 16-year-old TGW sex worker was accused of stealing K 200000 from a customer. She contacted Thanlyin paralegal and she was released within hours as they could not find that amount of cash on her body. (ii) In 2017, a TGW sex worker was trying to go out of the compound after having sex with a customer and then she met with two police officers. They were trying to arrest her by stopping the motorcycle. Thanlyin paralegal saw the incident and mediated on the spot and then she was released.
- Impact of 30D and Myanmar Penal Code 377: (i) In 2018 in Thanhlyin township- four TGWs were having mont-hin-kar in a tea shop around 2:30am, a drunken guy wearing police trouser threatened them that they could be easily detained. TGWs asked his rank and then they called Thanhlyin paralegal as there were 3 other guys had arrived and threatened them. Paralegal explained them that they did not do anything wrong related to shadow law and the police officers also explained them that they were from kyaut-tan and it was settled. (ii) In 2018: three TGW were brought to the police station around 9pm on the street as they were found in the quiet area and arrested upon project target. Thanhlyin paralegal negotiated with the station police officer and finally they convicted. Therefore, they were sentenced for 3 months. Paralegal also assisted two of them

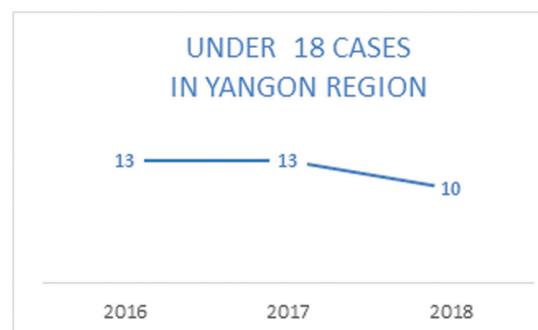
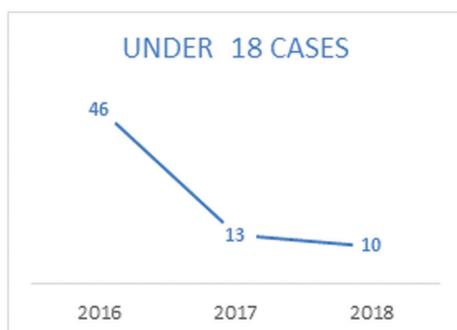
- to get HAART. (iii) In 2018- while four TGW were having tea around 7pm in a tea shop, they were arrested by the police. The convicted and detained for 3 months. Police took their mobile phones and they didn't give them back when they asked the police. Then they requested Thanhlyin paralegal. Paralegal contacted the police station and got the mobile phone back after 5 days.
- Rule of law issues: (i) In Thaketa court in 2017, K50000 for the judge and K 20000 for the office staff was asked to get a bail, paralegal negotiated that it was impossible for the accused person to pay the requested amount of money. Then they got the bail without giving any money after first court hearing. There is no rule of law, weakness of law enforcement and no strong legal framework. Even someone who understands legal procedures had to insist repeatedly to follow the normal legal procedure without paying bribe. It took longer time frame to settle a case as well as more inconvenience for victims to seek justice.
 - Domestic violence cases: (i) In 2017- a husband threw with stones to the house of his wife who live separately. Hlaing Tharyar paralegal gave advice to reunite with the husband as they had children and economic dependency. However, the actual result was not very clear as it was facilitated a single incident. (ii) Husband accused wife of having an affair with her nephew. While the wife and the nephew were walking back home together with her children, the husband beat both the wife and her nephew on the road in public. The husband threatened to kill the nephew on sight. Whether there were witnesses for this incident is not stated. Thanhlyin paralegal mediated with the administrator and it took 22 days to facilitate it. In the end the case settled: they continue living as husband and wife. (ii) In 2018- A bisexual lady was physically and verbally abused by her husband and she wanted to get divorced. The victim mentioned that it was not related to her sexuality. Hlaing Tharyar paralegal negotiated it for about 11 days and then it was referred to Shwe-yaung-a-nar-gat.
 - Lack of knowledge on Sex Education (Rape case): In 2018 in Hlaing Tharyar township- A 15-year-old girl followed her ex-boyfriend's bicycle and had sex in a paddy field and then she followed him in his friend's house and stayed overnight. He disappeared the next day and she found out later that he was married with a pregnant wife. It was negotiated at the administrator's office with the paralegal, her parents and community representatives. And then it was referred to Terre des hommes (TDH).
 - Sexual harassment at home: In 2017- In a shared rental house, the husband of a couple sneaking a lesbian girl while she was taking a shower. It took nearly two days to settle it by Hlaing Tharyar paralegal and the house owner. Then the couple transferred from the shared house.
 - Heterosexual marital conflict: (i) In 2017 in Tamwe township, a teenage couple fights frequently and paralegal mediated a fight on the same day at the administrator's office. (ii) In 2017, North Oakkalapa paralegal resolved married couple dispute as the wife did not continue to stay with their parents in law's house. However, she gave advice to the wife to follow her husband's will as they have seven-month-old baby. The couple reunited at that time.
 - Relationship dispute: (i) In 2018-Two lesbians who met in facebook for about four months was into relationship and one of them moved in to her place in South Dagon in Yangon Region without telling her family. The family found out that she stayed with her lesbian girlfriend together with her poor mother. So, they had to transfer money quite often. Later when they realized that her partner had step-father, the family filed a case at the police station as she was underage. Thanhlyin paralegal mediated via mobile with the family and she was sent back to her family's place in Dawei the next day.
 - Fights among LGBTs: (i) In 2017- Five drunken LGBTs fought in a beauty parlor. TGW owner did not want to go any further like open the case at the police station as they were friends and they forgave each other and worshipped the owner. It took nearly 20 days to mediate by the North Oakkalapa paralegal. (ii) In 2018 – a gay was thrown into the swimming pool during new year celebration. He was injured and 3 stitches were performed in a private clinic. He took advice from North Oakkalapa paralegal to open the case but he advised to settle the case as they were friends and there was no intention to hurt him. About 3 weeks later, it was settled by agreeing to pay for the medical expenses and the damaged mobile phone fees.
 - Customer dispute: (i) In 2018- a customer wanted to straighten her hair without cutting any of it against the beautician advice and proceeded to straighten her hair. Once her hair was straighten using the equipment, her hair had fallen and then she fought with the beautician. The customer called her husband and the owner called the Shwe Pyi Thar paralegal. It was settled by taking K 12000 instead of agreed amount 18000 and providing free haircut. (ii) In 2018- a customer accused of losing his mobile phone in a beauty parlor shop and the customer called the police. The police had arrived and inquired the incident. The next day the customer found out the mobile phone and asked the owner of the shop to forgive him. The owner of the shop agreed not to file the case against the customer. It was settled by the Hlaing Tharyar paralegal, administrator and the police officers.
 - Stealing things: (i) In 2017- a gay beauty parlor staff stole a mobile phone and run away. The owner found him two months later and then it was said that the mobile phone was sold with K 500000, actual price was K9500000. Hlaing Tharyar paralegal, his parents and administrator mediated not to file the

case by giving back K100000 per month for five consecutive months. (ii) In 2018- A beauty parlor staff stole K70000, a wig, 3 sets of artificial jewelry and two hair straightening machines and run away. The owner called North Okkalapa paralegal and followed her residential address in North Dagon as she did not want to open the case. They met her mother and she called her next day that she would give the money back. She took only K50000 from the mother and gave the wig to her. She got other stolen things at her staff friend's place in Insein Township. (iii) In 2018-A TGW visited her friend TGW's home and stole her mobile phone and the earrings. She followed her place and got the mobile phone back. North Oakkalapa paralegal, house owner and the community members mediated to return the stolen earrings that was pawn with K30000.

- Seeking debts dispute: (i) In 2018-A TGW guaranteed someone to borrow 28 lakhs from someone but the borrower did not return the debt. Therefore, she had to give one lakh every month in order not to be detained. It took nearly 4 weeks to mediate by the Thanlyin paralegal, police officers and the administrator. (ii) In 2018- a gay borrowed K50000 without interest to a friend but he did not give it back the next month. He was even threatened verbally as there was no evidence. He took advice from Shwe Pyi Thar paralegal and the paralegal mediated to give it back within 3 months as they were friends.
- Sales and Property dispute: (i) In 2018 in Mayangone township- A TGW and her sister bought an apartment 50/50 with his sister's name and allowed her to stay there. When they were trying to sell it, her sister convinced to give her 20% only. Therefore, Thaketa paralegal referred to a private lawyer with CRB lawyer's guidance. Finally, it was agreed to give her back separately until January 2020. (ii) In 2018- a gay sold his used fridge with K200000. The buyer took the fridge but he did not give money. The fridge owner

and North Oakkalapa paralegal tried to meet with the buyer with the help of the buyer's house owner as the house owner told them that he came back at night time. It was settled by agreeing to give K100000 per month for two consecutive months. (iii) In 2018- a gay sold his TGW roommate's clothes and he also borrowed nearly K200000 under her name. North Oakkalapa paralegal told them to negotiate as they had been staying under the same roof for more than 4 years. He told them that they could seek advice from him anytime. It was not very clear it was really settled the issue or not.

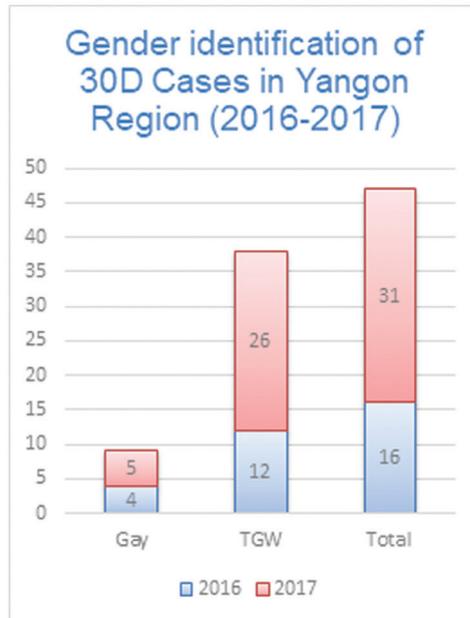
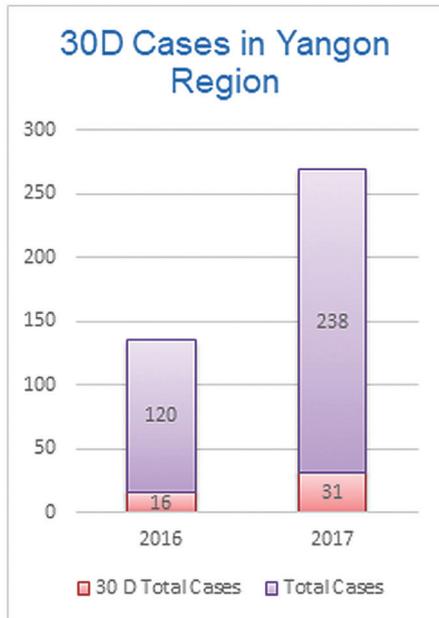
- Borrow / Rent dispute: (i) In 2018-it was agreed to give one month notice before moving out from a rental place and the landlord had to give back deposit K300000. However, after gay tenant had moved out, the landlord did not return back the deposit money on time. The tenant took advice from the paralegal and it was mediated with a guarantor and the administrator by doing an agreement contract to transfer K30000 within 2 weeks. (ii) In 2018- a friend borrowed a mobile phone from a TGW and he told her that he lost it. Thanhlyin paralegal mediated nearly 10 days to tell him to give back total K100000 (K50000 twice) whatever the reason it was.
- Employee issue: In 2018- a newly arrived staff in a beauty saloon usually went out until 1 am with a man. As it is not usually allowed for the staff, the beauty parlor owner took advice from Thaketa paralegal. Then her parents were called to bring her back and then she was brought back to her village.
- Suspected Drug issue: In 2018 in North Oakkalapa township, police officers visited a beauty salon to inquire a drug case. The owner denied contact with the drug dealers. Paralegal negotiated by explaining that they can inquire by phone or the owner can visit the police station or somewhere so as not to have negative impact on the business. The police officers peacefully went back.



Under 18 cases are significantly reduced from 46 in 2016 to 10 in 2018. However, there is only 3 cases less in Yangon Region between 2017 and 2018. Although the number of cases has been reduced, there is the need of interventions for LGBT children. There was a 10-yr-old transwoman lived in rural area suffered

ones are transwoman and the rest are Gays. 93% of them are young adults of age between 19-30 years old.

In 2017, it is documented that one case is defended and released in Tamwe. It is also documented that total six cases in Hlaing Tharyar, Tamwe and North Okkalapa townships convicted and then

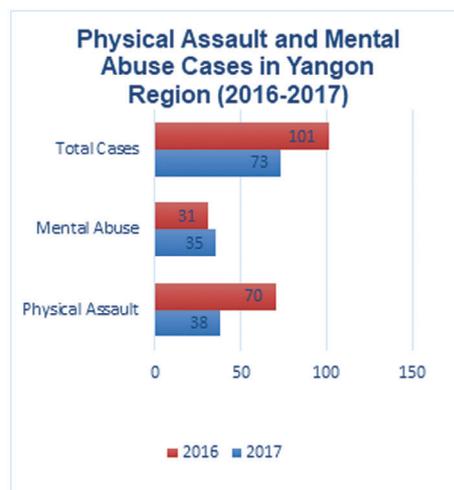
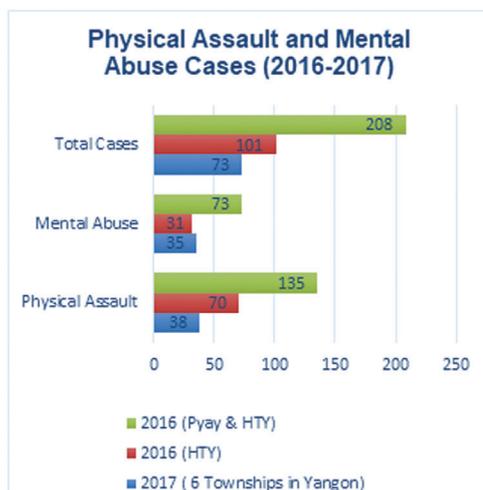


repeated physical abuses by family members and so she ran away from home and then she arrived to Yangon. While she was sitting alone in downtown Yangon, a beautician took the transwoman to her place. Since then, she has been working as a beautician. Now she is in her late 20s.

In Yangon Region, there are total 47- 30 D cases between 2016 and 2017. Among them, there are 16 out of 120 cases in 2016 and 31 out of 238 in 2017. It has increased in 2017 but it could be under-reporting of 30D cases. Among them, about 80% of the detained

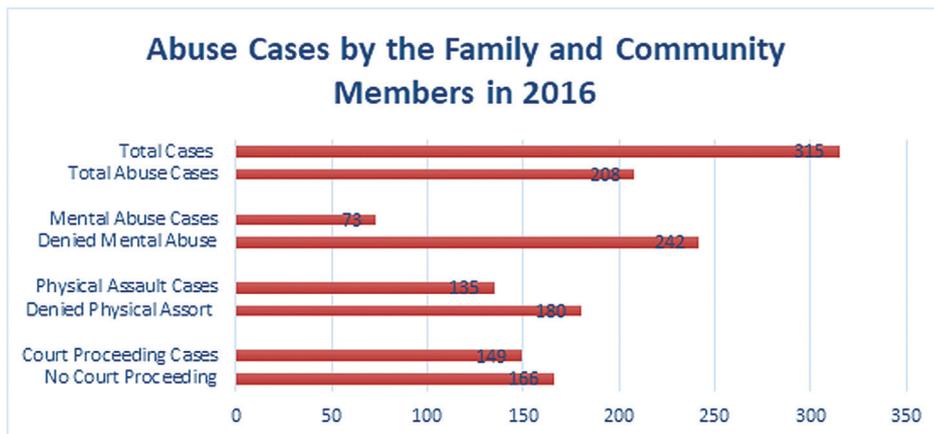
detained for one month. CRB represented five of the cases but the accused LGBTs withdrew in two cases. Two cases in Hlaing Tharyar township has to pay bribe K 150000 and 200000 to be released from the police custody. In Thanlyn township, K150000 is paid to get the bail. The rest of them are documented cases.

In 2016, CRB represented five cases, legal advice is provided in 2 cases and the rest are documented. Among them, four of the victims are physically assaulted by the police officers in police custody in HTY.



Among 30D cases, human rights abuses are easily seen as in the featured case studies (30 D Cases, Arbitrary arrest and 30D Cases).

sexual violence including rape by the police officers and bribery cases). 27% (41 out of 151) of cases encountered bribery between 2016 and 2017. In 2016,



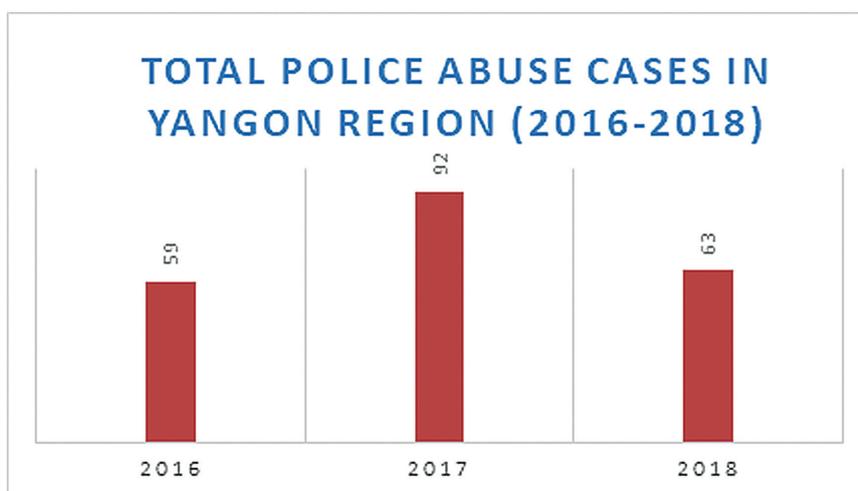
Total 208 cases are physically assaulted and mentally abused by the family and the community members in Hlaing Tharyar township in Yangon Region and Pyay township in Bago District. In Yangon Region, although the project has expanded to six townships, documented physical assault and mental abuse cases has decreased from 101 in 2016 to 73 in 2017 whereas physical assault cases has decreased from 70 to 38.

3 out of total 14 rape cases are documented police abuse cases. CRB provided legal action for a victim in Thanhlyin township and the police officer was transferred. (Featured Case Studies: Case 1.1). The rest of the cases received legal advices.

In order to obtain more in-depth information about LGBT abuse cases; to understand more about their current situations and challenges; changes over the past three years, key informant interviews and focus group discussions with the CRB management team, CRB lawyers, CRB staff, paralegals, local authorities, police officers, LGBT community members and non-LGBT community members are further explored.

In 2016, 66% (208 out of 315 cases) of the cases encounter physical assault and mental abuses by the family and community members. 71% (149 out of 208 cases) of them are proceeded to the court.

Police abuse cases (physical assault, mental abuse,



III. METHODOLOGY

There were two components in this case analysis.

1. Desk review of the documented cases that legal aid assistance has been provided by CRB and detail review of the cases from Jan 2016 to August 2018.

2. Individual interviews and FGDs

(i) Key informant interviews (KII) with CRB paralegals and CRB management staff, legal service providers, police officers, local authorities and community leaders.

(ii) Focus group discussion (FGD) of LGBTs networks in six project areas and their friends and relatives

Then the information obtained from the study area was analyzed preliminarily while continue reviewing of past reports and the current news of LGBT community in Myanmar. Participation in this study was voluntary and verbal consent from each of the respondents participated were requested prior to the interviews and personally identifiable information of all the participants involved in this report are kept confidential.

IV. FINDINGS

These findings are obtained from the Key Informant Interviews, In-depth interviews and Focus Group Discussions with the participants in CRB project townships in Yangon Region, respective paralegals in each township, police officers, local authorities, CRB management, CRB lawyers and CRB access to justice program team.

The following photos are taken during focus group discussions and individual interviews in Colors Rainbow Legal Aid assisted townships.

4.1 Experiences of Abuse, Harassment and discrimination amongst LGBT participants

(4.1.1) Abuse and Harassment

In general, LGBTs are not socially and morally accepted by the community members. However, social acceptance is

becoming better in some areas in recent years; in Yangon Region as the community became aware and understand LGBTs through events, films, LGBT celebrities, etc. and it is also the diverse State in Myanmar. On the other hand, a few LGBTs accept themselves and gain confidence to open up about their sexual orientation after they joined those events and attended some CRB trainings. They became confident to publicly display their gender identity and sexual orientation.

Transgender-women (TGW) who work as sex workers (27%, 12 out of total 44 participants) are more harassed and abused by community members both verbally and physically. Majority of TGW in the study are sex workers (63%, 12 out of 19 TGW participants). In Shwe Pyi Thar, a TGW was teased and then hit by a motorcycle while she was walking and then she died in Shwe Pyi Thar hospital in 2018. In Thanhlyin, TGW sex workers are also thrown with stones in some areas. In Hlaing Tharyar township, they were called “lady with balls= gway-si-nae-ma-ma” but it was less common in 2018 and it is said that it could be the effort



Figure 1 - Focus Group Discussion with LGBTs



Figure 2 - Focus Group Discussion with LGBTs

of organizations that the community is more aware of the existence of LGBTs. None of TGM participants work as sex workers. Community members in migrant condensed suburban parts of the townships easily tease LGBTs. Gays and TGW who do not work as sex workers and have their own professions as teachers or beauticians are less likely to be harassed by the community members. Furthermore, when gays meet groups of men at night time, they are forced to perform sex or they have to run away in Tamwe township.

LGBTs are teased in the streets, on the bus and by the taxi drivers. Moreover, the TGW participants experienced water bottles being thrown at them by taxi drivers and being spit chewed betel nuts in 2017. In contrast, it is said that severe verbal abuse is slightly reduced in the past 3 years and obviously this year in Hlaing Tharyar, Thanhlyin and Thamwe townships though it is more or less the same in other townships. It is also said that community members are more familiar with them in good videos, TV channels and events.

“When the people from rural area meet LGBTs, they even spit or laugh or discriminate, not to mention transgender women or gays. And also, even boys and girls mention the word “broken ball lady” while we pass by.”

FGD, TL

“While passing by, people say that we don’t know how it feels like making love with men.”

TGM, HTY

“People tease me when I visit in the quarter, no matter which dress I’m wearing until now. When I go to work at night, I have been insulted as well as slapped. I am verbally harassed by others in the bus, even though I wear as a man. Girls also tease me.”

TGW, NOK

“It’s such a disgusting thing to see dressing like a woman although being a strong man.”

TGW, TKT

“Generally, people don’t jeer at us during this year. When they see a gay, they ask him where would he go and they just become cordial.”

FGD, HTY



Figure 2 - In-depth interview with a Transman



Figure 2 - Focus Group Discussion with LGBTs

In Hlaing Tharyar township, police officers usually slap the faces of TGW easily if they use a pronoun ‘tha-mee= I for girls’ whenever they encounter with them in the evenings. Police accustomed to beat TGW if they meet them outside between 7pm and 5am. If the police meet TGW with her client and if her client asked the police with a few questions, the police would then threaten him to put in jail. If they called and asked for help, they were beaten more by police. Once, there was bleeding from the head and bruises on cheeks. Police in Hlaing Tharyar township usually beat LGBTs with their belts and they do not usually talk to them. Police officers in Htan-ta-pin is better than Hlaing Tharyar township. In Thaug Chay police station, they have to pay 30000 to 50000 if they are arrested. The participants in Hlaing Tharyar township are not aware that it is not right for the police officers to beat them even if they stole things.

In Shwe Pyi Thar township, during the time of arrest, TGW sex workers were beaten, slapped their face, pulled their hair, took their money, etc. by the police. They told them to follow them to the police station and they are not allowed to ask or explain anything. Drunken police officers verbally abuse them. They arrest TGW either on a car taxi or motorcycle. In the custody, some TGW were sexually abused. They told the incident to other police officers but the police officers protect their fellow members and nothing happens. Moreover, they were forced to show their private parts in front of other detainees. They have to wear men’s clothes there.

In Thaketa township, No 1 police station is the worst among 3 police stations. Police officers often physically abuse LGBTs while they are in custody. One of the participants had to perform blow job and hand job to be able to make a call to home in 2018. Sometimes they had to exhibit their private parts in front of other detainees. There is also a bisexual police officer in No 2 police station that usually forced TGW sex workers to have sex with him for free. Some of them were scared of him so they run away whenever he is insight. During the night arrest with 30D at a traditional festival, TGW were asked to take off all their clothes and had to wear men’s clothes.

In North Okkalapa township, township sheriff shouted and beat TGWs without saying anything. Police officers usually asked them to take off their clothes when LGBTs get arrested by the police. They kept their wig in the police station.

In Tamwe township, newly arrived LGBTs have to pay some money to the police officers. Otherwise, they will be searched, asked several questions and threatened that they could be easily arrested. If TGW did not answer obediently when they meet with police patrol in the street, they would slap her face and threatened with detention. However, they do not usually check TGW residents of Tamwe and LGBTs do not have to pay regular payment to the police. Gay men are threatened by the police officers to pay some money if

they do not want their family members to be known about their sexuality and sexual orientation. They think that 9 out of 10 LGBTs will not dare to face their family members.

If there is a conflict with a police officer, a few of them take the incidents personally and abused LGBTs physically if they are arrested. In Thanhlyin, not all TGW sex worker participants encountered physical abuse in police custody. Evidently, there was a famous case about a police officer who physically abused gays. (Case 1.1 under featured case studies)

Physical abuse by the family members and relatives was articulated by several participants. Since childhood, LGBTs started to encounter the experiences of abuse and harassment done by the family members or the relatives.

A TGW (A) was threatened with a knife by her uncle for being talking and behaving like a girl when she was in high school. She was afraid and so she stayed as a gay man until her graduation. A TGW (B) ’s late father beaten her by tying her with ropes when she was a teenager. Another TGW (C) was punched with fists by the family members as she wore girls’ clothes when she was about 10 years old and she run away from home.

TGM (A) was slapped his cheeks for wearing longyi when he was 18.

“When they arrest us, they don’t need to check our private parts and question if they are artificial or real.”

TGW, TKT

(4.1.2) Discrimination

“Some police officers threatened LGBTs if they do not satisfy their sexual desire. They threaten that they remember their face and live well”

FDG, Paralegals

(i) Social and Moral Discrimination

Gays do not dare to open up about their sexual orientation to their family members and their religious community (Buddhist, Muslim and Christian participants) as they are afraid of rejection, disappointment and discrimination. 4 out of 19 gay men participants thought it is impossible. None of them experienced and heard of being killed or tortured with religious reason to TGW. However, TGW from Muslim community faced verbal abuses by the family members and relatives as wearing a longyi by a male sex is doing against the will of God daily. Buddhist TGM are better accepted as they are seen as women being trying to gain precious manhood. On the other hand, those TGW and Gays who work as beauticians as well as Nat-ga-daw (Spirit medium) are more flexible religiously. They enjoy participating in various religious occasions and celebrations.

It is said that people in the delta region do not usually talk or make friends with TGW. They only communicate with them during celebration of traditional nut ceremony.

A conservative local authority blocks people in face

book if he found out they are LGBTs. He felt unpleasant and embarrassing to walk with LGBTs.

Such perception of unwillingness to accept diversity can lead to self-discrimination among the gays and this type of perception should be reduced to gain the acceptance of LGBT community.

“The basic concept is that those who aren’t the same with us are our enemies.”
Gay, Yangon

(ii) Discrimination in the workplace

Gays and transgenders encountered verbal abuses and harassment in workplaces (factory, private company and government intern). In factories, verbal abuse is more common and so usually TGW and TGM only work for a couple of months in one factory. Only one gay participant in Hlaing Tharyar Township is able to go to work as TGW every Saturday. He had been working there for nearly 4 years and he does not acknowledge any abuse, harassment and discrimination in the garment factory. His workload and salary are also parallel to men. However, the company stopped recruiting LGBTs and men. So, none of his LGBT friends are able to apply there.

One of the gay participants, with a broken arm, was attending a workshop at a big hotel in downtown Yangon. His broken arm was obviously tied with a bandage across his shoulder. While he was taking out his glasses from his bag, he was slapped suddenly across his face by one of the hotel’s employee. It was really unexpected since he had never met the person who assaulted him before. There was no interaction between the gay participant and the individual in prior or whatsoever. The Hotel staff slapped him because he despised gays. As a result of the incident, the hotel staff was fired immediately.

TGM often encountered verbal abuses by his colleagues as he wore longgyi when he worked in a government court. There was a time he was almost sexually abused by an elderly man but he was able to protect himself beforehand. Those TGM who work in factories also encountered verbal abuses and being called as “baw-pyar= flat ball” (All TGM participants) either by the leaders or the co-workers.

“If they had a vantage, they sarcastically say that a woman is just a woman when the time comes, no matter how I live as a man.”
TGM, TKT

A gay participant works in a private company for about one year. His boss favors him at first. However, when he found out his sexual orientation after they became friends in face book, he had stopped picking him up to go to work together with him. He outcasted and not given certain assignment as before. However, there was no verbal abuse and the salary remains the same.

A TGM took a job interview to work in a Chinese garment factory in Mingalardon in November 2018. The interview went well and the problem started when he gave them his ID. He had long hair in the ID as he has a short hair now. Moreover, he denied to wear longyi to get the job and he told them that he would never become like a woman in appearance. He totally took 3 interviews in a week and all of them denied him as his appearance is different with the one from his ID.

It is evident that there is still discrimination at the workplace for transgender men and women although there are interventions for reduction of discrimination. They are still facing joblessness and fighting for their survival.

“You can have a job only if you wear longyi. All the other boys like you have turned into females now.”
TGM, SPT

“No one expressly employs LGBTs. We’re just fine within our society. It’ll be alright to make own business, if not to run a beauty salon. There are LGBTs who cannot make good income by running beauty salons.”
FGD, SPT

(iii) Discrimination by the local authorities

In Tamwe township, when gays go out at night and when they drop their friends at their places, police officers asked them at every check point. It is said that it is understandable as they perform their duty but they were being searched every check point even though one point is nearer to another.

In North Okkalapa township, local authorities and police do not usually proceed LGBT cases if they also work as sex workers. If LGBTs do not open the door at night time and that someone broke their windows with stones, they have to turn off the light and stay quiet as no one could really solve the matter when they bring the incident to the local authorities. In 2016, a drunken man abused them verbally and threw with stones at their place. The case was brought to the administrator with the approval signatures from the nearby neighborhood, the administrator visited their place once and then nothing came out of it. So, they brought it to the police station but police did not take the incident as a case.

In Hlaing Tharyar township, if the police found a guy with TGW, they will release the guy but arrested TGW. They are threatened to give some money like K50,000 or they will be arrested with 30D. The guy was afraid and gave K30000 and his ring. Sometimes, the guy had to pay even like K350,000. Some police officers sometimes ask K1000/2000 from TGW sex workers while they were looking for clients at night time or they have to provide the service to that police officer.

In Thaketa township, there was a fight between TGW and a gay as the gay taunted the TGW with slurs recently.

However, the quarter administrator denied to handle the case as the guy is from a rich family in the township.

Through the findings, there is the need to do more advocacy and sensitization with local level authorities to be able to understand gender identity and SOGIE.

“If we were actually those who make the problems, we would get into the custody by ourselves. We want to ask not to keep those in custody only based on misinformation.”
FGD, TKT

“Accompanying with them makes me feel belittled that it’s just like others would disparage me or something like that. I’m not that kind of sexy. It worries me that everyone would undervalue my own standard.”
Local Authority

4.2 Access to Justice amongst LGBT community members and local authorities

(4.2.1) LGBT community members

In Hlaing Tharyar and Shwe Pyi Thar townships, LGBTs are concern about finding a guarantor to get the bail as majority of them are migrants. Sometimes, even the community representative or the administrator could not able to show up and then it was postponed to last nearly two months. There were also cases that people run away once they got the bail in Hlaing Tharyar township. In Shwe Pyi Thar township, sometimes even the police officers sign to get the bail. In Hlaing Tharyar township, a TGM who works in a KTV is raped by the fellow workers but they keep silent about the incident as they do not want to feel ashamed in the community. In Hlaing Tharyar township, TGW who goes out at night time are usually arrested with 30D.

In Shwe Pyi Thar township, sometimes LGBTs feel unsafe to live there because of 30D and arbitrary arrest. Female sex workers encountered less 30D but there are more 30D cases of TGW. 8 out of 10 LGBTs (especially TGW) were arrested in Shwe Pyi Thar township. They were told by the police officers to follow them to the police station but they are not allowed to ask or explain anything. They have to spend money to be released or to get the bail. In the court, LGBTs have little chance to explain the actual incident most of the time but the police officers could explain. Prime arrest periods are at the end of months or a year when they need money or case. There is not much changes in the number of LGBT cases in the court.

In Thaketa township, there was a fight between a TGW and a guy as the guy taunted the TGW with slurs recently. However, the quarter administrator denied to handle the case and so nothing happened. There is a noticeable increasing trend of arresting TGW with 30 D in the past

3 years. An elderly TGW used to walk to and fro between downtown and Thaketa in the evenings and she was not checked during that time. If a TGW is arrested with 30D, it would cost about K30,000 to get the bail in the police custody and K100,000 to K150,000 in the court processing.

In Tamwe township, if a LGBT (TGW) encounter with police, they have to pay usually MMK 70,000 to 120,000 to 150,000 on the spot or at the police station not to proceed the case. (it is usually LGBTs group going out late at night or they found sexual act in the toilet).

In Thanhlyin township, sometimes police officers do not inform the accused person’s family members if they are detained. There was a case that a participant’s friend was caught with 30D and then she only knew her mother was not informed when she was in the court processing. She asked for the trishaw fees to inform her mother but she could not give the money.

In North Okkalapa township, TGW fought with a wife of police officer. As the wife started first and TGW did nothing wrong, 100 HH leader resolved the case by telling the house owner’s wife that she was in the wrong on TGW. This is a good example of the local level understanding of the LGBT issue.

In general, LGBTs get some equal and fair legal processing in some areas of the same township though there is not much changes over the past three years.

If a LGBT runs a beauty salon with TGW who also work as sex workers, then their relationship with the police officers and the local authorities will be different. It is also the same as in the general population how powerful their LGBT leader is.

LGBTs prefer to confess even if it is an accused case with 30D as it will last for one month if they confess; if not, it will last for 3 months. Moreover, if they have to encounter the case, sometimes it will take nearly 1 to 2 years.

If the cases are assisted and followed up by CRB or other human rights organization, there is great improvement of the outcome. Individual and informal contacts will be useful to erase the present situation.

“We would like to ask to protect trenchantly and stand by our sides if anything occurs actually in groups. If we had to face the lawsuit, we want you to take action to get bail.”
FGD, TKT

(4.2.2) Local authorities and Paralegals

Only a few participants stand for LGBTs and try to solve the incidents within their hand fairly. As most LGBT cases are handled directly by ward administrators or mostly township administrators and the police officers, to improve the status of LGBTs and access to justice depend on the police act and the police officers. Generally being said that LGBTs will face the same and equal legal process as others if they commit crime. Though TGW will face as men and TGM will face as women.

"We want to ask to solve effectively those unfair which are currently taking place and also want the police to acknowledge that there are also such organizations like this."
FGD, SPT

"TGW have been arrested. The law has been biased and doesn't have equality. The catamites are set free but gays are slapped."
FGD, TL

"It is so great that the senior lawyers have been transformed."
Lawyer, Yangon

"Officials in the court and police stations only suppose that LGBTs are illegal."
FGD, SPT

"If you encounter the police, you cannot do anything without money. There has been a constant belief that money would make things just fine. Most cases are not brought to a court of law, believing it would be just a shame."
Paralegal, HTY

"One will be sentenced based on how big the case is and it depends on individual case."
Local Authority

"Police entrap how to give lessons to gays and blackmail them, and also how to extort boys. Police assume that every LGBT is merely an inferior and wouldn't offend them. They think nine in ten LGBT wouldn't dare to confront them."
FGD, TM

In Thaketa township, an administrator was once inquired about a TGM taxi driver in his area by the police. He inquired the case details first before proceeding anything as he was trying to protect the TGM. He knew he was a good guy although he is a TGM. Later, it was found out that it was murdered by a lady, not TGM. He also saved a TGM from being gang rape by his friends by telling TGM about their plan on that late afternoon if he drank with them as usual and so he didn't go there.

In Tamwe township, there is decreased detention of LGBT Sex Workers as there is police parole near Kandawgyi every 15 days with 7 officers. (fire brigade, police officers, quarter administrator and his staff, traffic police). However, when the police need more quota, TGW Sex Workers are the target as they are obvious and sex work is illegal in the country.

In Thanhlyin township, TGW cases are handled usually by the police as it is assumed that they are criminals and it would be criminal cases. There are several TGW Sex Workers theft cases because the client does not give the agreed amount, then TGW usually stole their bags or their money. In the police custody, TGW are seen and placed as men. Their punishment is the same as men. It is said that the current situation has also changed and so it is not allowed to abuse them easily like before. TGW are encouraged to stay as TGW both day and night. If they only appear as TGW at night time, they could be easily arrested by the police if they need to fill up the target.

In North Okkalapa township, it is said that police arrest LGBTs especially TGW with 30D as a way of saving TGW' lives and they are arrested under the suspicion of LGBTs would commit a crime. Police usually handle fight cases of LGBTs everywhere at their home or in the office or else.

In Hlaing Tharyar township, paralegals and other community members can sit and listen the judge hearings since 2017. There is positive improvement after 2015 as the organizations could assist and follow up LGBT cases and so the cases are assessed more carefully.

4.3 Understanding on LGBT rights and legal procedures for pursuing justice

Even in general population, they are not aware on the rights of a citizen and so for those LGBTs, who never attended a training or events organized by CRB or else, know little and do not understand on LGBT rights. Moreover, they do not understand the legal procedures to pursue justice. However, there is overall improvement for TGW sex workers who would be able to talk to the police officers and able to ask questions during the time of arrest in 2018.

Those participants and their circle of friends, who attended trainings from CRB, Equality Myanmar, Thawin Kayay, etc. understand at least how to defend themselves if they face arbitrary arrest and in police custody, gain confidence of being a LGBT is not an issue to be harassed by any other people or arbitrarily arrest by the police. Moreover, they are knowledgeable to ask questions of why they are being arrested and request certain things like making a phone call to the family members/friends or NGO focal persons, one cannot be detained more than 24 hours in the police custody, the accused person has the right to ask the name and the rank of the police officers, etc. Even NGO workers mentioned that they are more confident and understand what they should do if they ever encounter with police after the recent training. About 38% (17 out of 44) participants attended CRB trainings. However, though the rest of them suffered from abuse, harassment and discrimination, they still do not know what they should do, how they should do in what conditions, how they can respond to police officers within legal framework, etc. A

few of them think that police officers can beat the suspects if they stole things. Though LGBTs are more confident to face with the police in the streets, it is estimated that 40% of them will run away if they meet with the police last year. They expect that LGBT rights will be improved in the future (45%, 20 out of 44 participants).

“They become more confident to speak out. We just walk on public streets and we won’t behave decadently.”
Paralegal, SPT

“We expect the police officers not to beat every TGW as not all of us are thieves. They can ask them first and if they found out they stole things, they could be beaten.”
FGD, HTY

4.4 Perception and discrimination based on their sexual orientation

(4.4.1) Family members and Relatives

Once we realize if a child or a relative is a LGBTs, we will try to change them the way they are born. For lesbians and TGM, they are not allowed to cut their hair and they will ask to do more women chores. For gays and TGW, they will be trained physically to become stronger and encourage them to do physical exercises and to become a Buddhist novice. If not, we might send him to the military.

For the adult LGBTs, they look prettier than most of the girls and they are good bread winners. TGW beauticians have artistic mind. They are like women in talking, gossiping, taking care of family members, doing house chores, etc. We cannot accept bisexuals and we think they cheat in the relationship.

(4.4.2) LGBT participants and their community members

The most important thing in life is to stand on our own feet and to have good income. Then we can support our family financially. In this way, our families will at least try to be nice to us even if they view our sexual orientation as sin. (42 %, 12 out of 28 Gay and TGW participants)

The participants assumed that 2 to 5 out of 10 community members in their townships accept their sexual orientation. Acceptance of LGBTs by the community depends on the character of LGBTs.

In Shwe Pyi Thar township, TGW are seen as thieves or kidnappers or drug dealers for about 2 years after TGW were caught and sentenced for dealing drugs.

In Thanhlyin township, TGW are usually seen as thieves in the past 3 years as there are a lot of snatch and run cases of gays and TGW.

In Thaketa township, TGW are normally accused as the source of HIV infections. After the recent famous underage rape case of accusing a gay man, mothers start to afraid

of letting their boys to visit LGBT beauticians. However, in general the community members prefer to go to LGBT beauty salons nowadays.

“Unlike before, people come to accept make-up by transgender women. Transgender women themselves become more united as well.”
FGD, TKT

“There is nothing to do with how much educated you are. People look down on transgender women. So, we need to restrain our own actions or behaviors so that they might come to accept.”
FGD, TL

“Offer means working as sex workers. Sex workers have sex workers’ mindset. It is different between someone living prettily and sexually promiscuous. People will admire or look down on us, it depends on us.”
TGW, TL

“People will praise you or criticize you. If we have well enough for the living and if we can live well, they will not say anything. They will keep on judging you before you get to that level. If we get there, nobody will say that much.”
FGD, HTY

“I wonder if Thanlyin has been cursed. There, they approve of their children’s relationship with transgender women. But they dislike transgender men.”
TGW, TL

(4.4.3) Police Officers, local authorities and paralegals

Even among government law enforcement personnel, those who have LGBT friends at the university or those who are familiar with LGBTs of different professions rather than sex workers have good perspective on LGBTs.

A few local authorities (3 out of 7 participants) seen the main focus of LGBTs is on sexual activities and they should get involved in other social and religious activities. In the conservative society, being open about sex is seen as sin or shameful act. Therefore, if LGBTs live very openly, they will be seen as bad people.

According to the observations, the new administrative authorities have more positive perspective towards them except in Shwe Pyi Thar township where it is said that 9 out of 10 hundred household leaders dislike LGBTs. Majority of them took the positions as local level authorities in 2018. Those who have LGBT relatives or friends have more positive attitude towards them.

Transmen are seen as fantastic as they desire to be like a man but dislikes transwomen mostly. Transmen are seen as more vulnerable than men. If men have 100% strength,

transmen have 75% whereas women have 50%. Transmen are preferred over transwomen whenever dispute occurs like fights. If there is a rape case of transman, they will protect and take side from transmen. Transmen should be treated and respected as women. Transmen want to live as the head of a household and they want to change their ID.

“Few people like TGW. They want to verbally abuse us normally. They say that we sell drugs if we go out at night time. People say we are thieves and steal things.”
FGD, SPT

Only two participants (2 out of 9 participants) perceive of being a LGBT is a natural process. One of them think it is genetic, natural process and their fate. Among the rest, another one thinks they are abnormal human beings, it is their choice, just live their life openly and the rest did not clearly mention about it. One of them said that even LGBTs would get equal opportunities but not in Buddhist religion. Paralegals mention that there are some judges who do not know or aware of who LGBTs are. Those are the judges who do not familiar with SOGIE or who still do not accept LGBTs.

“There is no law, Transwomen are discriminated. People prefer lesbians for gays.”
Gay, SPT

LGBT’s profession and their character play a key role to be able to be seen as LGBTs are good people.

In Thaketa township, there were also cases of fake gays/MSM, who are performing illegal acts such as theft and pickpockets who destroy the real LGBTs who may not be doing this kind of work. They dress as women when they perform or do something and at any other times, they dress like men.

“I don’t wish to criticize them. They were just born this way”
Local authority

“They have been psychologically inclined to be that way since childhood”
Local authority

“They have been this way since born. It does not just happen only when they grow up. No creation involved.”
Local authority

“They were inherently born with such nature. Nothing that I could say. It is just their wish. I don’t think it can be changed.”
Local Authority

TGW are everywhere even in famous political parties who just live like guys. Even if someone is being sexually harassed by a gay monk, he did not want to say anything about it as a way of receiving bad luck and it would be his fate in Buddhist.

Though a local authority never handled any LGBT case, if there is any dispute in the police station, he thinks it is difficult to stand from LGBT side even LGBTs are right as they are abnormal people and the police might assume that LGBTs tease the other party first. 60% of police will not stand for LGBTs. It is better if there is no dispute. For TGW, 40-60% of police will not stand for them. However, if there is any case of TGMs, 20% of them will stand for them as they are more understandable of desire to become precious manhood. He feels pit on TGW as it seems that they lost their precious manhood and are looked down by the community members.

In Hlaing Tharyar township, LGBTs are accepted more than before by the ward administrators. It is said that the police and the administrators try to handle TGW who work as sex workers as they could be the source of infection because they live with variety of people. It is one of the reasons that they usually check the areas where sex workers look for their clients.

“People consider them as thieves. However hard I try to explain to them, no one change their views. LGBT also do not change themselves for the better. If they act properly, others will give them support.”
Paralegal, SPT

“I feel pity for them. They cannot live their life fully. Their hardly-gained men’s life is being degraded by others.”
Local authority

“It is abnormal by appearances. According to Buddha’s teaching, it is due to their karma.”
Local authority

“It is abnormal by appearances. According to Buddha’s teaching, it is due to their karma.”
Local authority

In general, if two gay couples, especially one of them is a sex worker, are found in a public toilet or a dark place at night time, it is assumed that they are performing sexual act. Though 377 is rarely applied directly on LGBTs but they are able to arrest, threaten and detained them with more common and legally easily applicable 30D. As the sexual act between LGBTs are seen as abnormal among local authorities and police officers, they even think it is one of the ways to protect LGBTs and others.

“Being in a building or a place in inappropriate hours without any good reasons is 30D. It has been a rare case now. Commonly, they now go to the hotels. We are just preventing a problem from growing bigger. We must perform our task if needed. We are protecting their life.”
Police Officer

4.5 Others

(4.5.1) Emerging and new generation of LGBTs

It is apparent to some participants that more educated LGBTs from the universities like GTI/GTC and NGOs are coming out and opening up about their gender identity and sexual orientation in public. However, lesbians usually connect with each other online and they are not very conspicuous like gays.

(4.5.2) Domestic violence and marriage

Lesbians and TGM experience more forced marriages because parents and relatives consider that heterosexual marriage would be a turning point for these individuals; to be corrected, to become heterosexuals and to identify their gender and sexual orientation identically to their biological sex that they were born with. This could be one of the unfortunate consequences that resulted broken families and broken marriages in Myanmar. Mothers of two TGM participants were also openly TGM before they got married, had children and then they separated from their heterosexual marriage. Moreover, LGBTs who experienced domestic violence because of their sexual orientation are more likely to live in hostels or with friends in a more diverse, new environment like Yangon.

“As family members are government servants, they live within boundaries. Therefore, I don’t dare to open up about this to my family. If I told them, they would force me into marriage. In Yangon, I feel happy and free. But there, I feel smothered.”
Lesbian

“It is not acceptable in culture or religion. Telling that to my family is like killing them. I don’t have many difficulties now. It will be hard for me to say no to marriage when I get older.”
Lesbian

(4.5.3) National ID Issue

Once TGW lost her ID, it is difficult for her to reapply it as they are migrants and lost contact with the family members to provide the required original document. They also have to apply the approval letter of residence. In addition to that, majority of LGBTs (TGW) SW came from broken families. Furthermore, sometimes it takes more than 3 months for reapplication of national ID card, a TGW who resides in SPT since birth. TGW in TL has been waiting

for about 4 months to get the ID. In SPT and TL, it is said that 7 out of 10 TGW SW do not have national ID card.

(4.5.4) LGBT and migration

Since members of their families and the community members do not accept their gender identity and sexual orientation, mostly they had to experience many kinds of abuses. They usually migrate to different parts of Yangon. Majority of LGBTs in HLAING THARYAR TOWNSHIP are usually migrated from Ayeyarwawady region.

A TGW and an administrator have LGBTs migrant workers as they can live more freely abroad and the salary is good. The administrator even encouraged LGBTs (TGM) to apply job overseas.

(4.5.5) High risk victims of human trafficking

“Lesbians are oppressed mostly by their family members. They superstitiously refute marriage between women. So, lesbians just wander off.”
Paralegal, HTY

A TGW lived in rural area suffered repeated physical abuses by family members when she was 10 years old. She ran away from home and then she arrived to Yangon. While she was sitting alone in downtown Yangon, a beautician took the TGW to her place. Since then, she has been living openly as a TGW and working as a beautician. She seldom visits home though she is still in contact with her relatives. Now she is in her late 20s.

(4.5.6) LGBTs and government education

One out of three TGM participants dropped out of school because he did not want to wear compulsory female school uniform in high school. He could easily drop out from school by just not going to school the next days after telling his mother.

(4.5.7) LGBT and drugs

In Hlaing Tharyar Township, a few boyfriends of TGW sometimes sell drugs so police always conduct warrantless search on TGW for suspected drug dealings. This is becoming a trend in drug cases in other townships as well.

(4.5.8) HIV infection and HAART

In Shwe Pyi Thar township, they claimed about interruption of HAART during detention in prison while they faced 30D. One out of 44 participants experienced and complaint about such incident and the medicine was borrowed from other fellow prisoners during the time of court processing.

(4.5.9) Toilet problem

In Hlaing Tharyar and Shwe Pyi Thar townships, TGW and TGM encountered toilet problems in the factories. 13% of LGBTs (6 out of 44 participants) mentioned about the difficulty to use the toilet especially while travelling. Others use the toilets in accordance with their appearances and

clothing they were wearing.

(4.5.10) Infection Screening

A transman, who has been facing the rape case in the court, has lack of health education on contraception and sexually transmitted infections. They should be aware about this.

(4.5.11) Harassment in the street

Women encountered verbal harassment in the streets as people speak rude words and unpleasant looks depends on their physical appearance. A few local authorities said that Gays and TGW should also be aware of not to harass others in the streets too. TGW should be aware of not teasing teenage boys in the way of harassing others.

"You must keep your role high. You must conform to the society and avoid doing things such as yelling on streets, that society dislikes."
FGD, TL

(4.5.12) Role of LGBTs in the community

In Thanhlyin township, TGW who work only as beauticians and work for celebrities and high rank government authorities are well treated and they are even allowed to participate in the front row of Novitiation Ceremony.

Paralegals are also treated well by the law enforcement personnel and the local authorities.

(4.5.13) Self-esteem and Social cohesion

LGBTs either TGW or TGM who live openly about their sexual orientation, and whose immediate environment accepts them, they are really like women and men. They have inner strength and they are less easily irritated by the environmental forces.

The community members will accept LGBTs if they participate in social welfare activities and funeral services. As locally those activities are seen as very positive views and so it will promote more understanding among LGBTs themselves and the community members.

"Station Police Officers treated us well. It could be that we visit there representing the organization"
Paralegal, TKT

(4.5.14) Income generation and job opportunities / Livelihood activities

Local authorities and LGBT leaders expect to improve the lives of LGBTs with better job opportunities. If TGW become famous beauticians, then they will have good regular income. Otherwise, ordinary beautician daily income is less than that of SW who earns about MMK 10,000 per night. So, they also have to work as sex workers.

LGBT leaders in Hlaing Tharyar township wish to support more life skill training or income generation

activities for LGBTs to be able to work beyond offering sex. There were pilot programs before. It is estimated that about 2-3% of LGBTs work in the factories in Hlaing Tharyar and majority of them are TGM.

"In Ward 20, LGBTs who have been living for long participate in social occasions, and it has been normal and there was no discrimination against them. But in another community, they do their own jobs and remain isolated."

Gay community leader,
HLAING THARYAR TOWNSHIP

A famous beautician in Thanhlyin who runs own beauty salon thinks that it is difficult to handle TGW to emphasize only on their beauty parlor job. In Thanhlyin township, they also expect to provide livelihood opportunities as well as social integration programs for TGW sex workers.

In Thaketa township, five Gays and TGW work only as beauticians but two of them also work as Nat-ga-daw (Spirit medium). They have good income and they can even transfer money to their family regularly.

TGW and gays without having formal education or much life skills training work as sex workers at first. Some of them will then work in a beauty parlor. Only a few of them run a beauty parlor shop with their partners or with their own later. At the same time, they will work as Nat-ga-daw (Spirit medium) in different parts of the country. To be able to become good income Nat-ga-daw, they should have good networking. 68%, 26 out of 38 Gays and TGW participants pass through such experiences and majority of them are rejected by the family members because of their gender identity and sexual orientation and so this is how their life has gone through. As sex work is illegal, their income depends on how flexible the police round is on that particular day.

(4.5.15) Transgender Equality

"We wish to earn an honest living. We wish there could be an organization that would give us a loan and let us pay back by instalments."

FGD, SPT

"It would be great if a gay could have equal rights as women. We want that. Only then, we wouldn't have any loss and we would no longer be treated unfairly by police."

TGW, TKT

One of the participants expressed her feelings of overcoming unfair treatment by the law enforcement personnel could be if gays and TGW are accepted as women. Then they are invited for the social occasions, community meetings, etc.

(4.5.16) Amending Myanmar Penal Code of 1861 (India Act XLV) Section 377⁹

Even though Section 377 is rarely applied directly on LGBTs and so it is not legally significant, its impact on the behavior of police authorities and local authorities put LGBTs more vulnerable and discriminatory. As it is mentioned that respect for the other person is not based on the moral worth of that person, but on the fact that his or her actions and moral disposition are an instance and proof of law's existence.¹⁰

Among legal professionals, there is confused understanding of amending section 377 could have effect on current popular child abuse cases.

"Section 377 is an act that criminalizes sexual activities against the order of nature. It shouldn't happen if possible, I think. It's strange. It is the section with the least possibility and the least occurrences"
Police Officer

"Prosecuting someone under Section 377 is really rare now."
Police Officer

(4.5.17) Support to LGBTs

Among LGBTs, various LGBTs lay in different social layers. Majority of LGBTs encountering with police in the study are those working as Sex Workers. Needs are different among secondary students, university students, working adults, elderly, celebrities, etc.

In the ground level, LGBTs expect to get more support once they are detained with arbitrary arrest, 30D, etc. and to get assistance to get the bail (a guarantor), continuous and effective legal aid to get bail if they have to fact the cases in SPT.

A police officer said that they would like to request the government or the parliament to provide a separate detention place for LGBTs especially gays or transwomen as there is a great concern for young LGBTs.

The participants mentioned that there is a separate place for transwomen in the prison as they are placed in the medical ward. Transwomen are comfortable as they are not mixed with guys.

4.6 Paralegals' legal aids on LGBTs and Featured Case Studies

There are six paralegals and one of them represent each township. They have different backgrounds and all five of them are Gays and Transwomen except one female paralegal. There is no lesbian or Transmen paralegal. Only one of them is recently joined CRB and she holds a law degree though she cannot perform legal practice because

she is a transwoman. One of them has long experience in the NGO sector and knowledgeable. The rest of them are also good team players, passionate and flexible. As of being LGBTs, they also had experience of facing with the police.

Paralegals are backbone of the project and so they have become full time staff since 2018 mid-year. Becoming the staff of CRB, they are prouder and more motivated; they will have more sense of ownership and commitment. On the other hand, there will be more workload and stressful. The extent of their ability to handle the cases differ by townships depending on their relationship with the police and the understanding of police officers on LGBTs.

The following cases are paralegals' documented cases, CRB lawyers and legal aid team case summaries. There are also extracted cases from the experiences of participants of Focus Group Discussions and In-depth interviews.

Featured Case Studies

Paralegal's success stories

Case 1.1: In Thanhlyin, there were documented cases (Ye Ko, Aung San Ko and Nay Htet Lin) as of a police officer beat them. Ye Ko and Aung San Ko was beaten in the guardroom in 2016 but they did not open the cases against the police officer. In January 2017, Nay Htet Lin was beaten again by that police officer. He was bound with shackles and beaten with rod and broomstick being tied with the string to a pole. Paralegal in Thanhlyin was called for help as someone called him. He went to the scene straight away and saw him semi-conscious. He took him to a private clinic and a medical certificate was issued. CRB and the victim opened the case against that police officer and so he was transferred out of Thanhlyin.

Police Abuse Cases

Case 2.1: Paing Paing, gay man, had recently transferred to Tamwe in 2018 and lived with his friends. He met with police patrol and he was being told to pay something if he did not want to be arrested. They took nearly K 100,000 from his pocket.

Case 2.2: A TGW was walking around 7pm in Hlaing Tharyar in 2018. She met with the police parole and they told her to go back home. So, she went back home. She was also walking again around midnight. She was brought to the police station and asked to do sit up for 100 times; treated her late dinner and sent her back.

Case 2.3: A 23-yr-old TGW was walking back home with her friend from her uncle's place in August 2017 in Hlaing Tharyar. Police officers suddenly approached them and so her friend was afraid and run away. She was beaten with rod by the police officers and then abused verbally. She

⁹ Myanmar Penal Code of 1861 (India Act XLV) Section 377: "Whoever voluntarily has carnal intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal shall be punished with transportation for life, or with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to a fine."

¹⁰ Justice and Human Rights in Postmodernity, Costa Douzinas; Understanding Human Rights

was forced to go back home without wearing any clothes.

Case 2.4: A 26-yr-old TGW and two of her friends were swimming in a pool in Aug 2017 in North Okkalapa. At that time four boys fought each other and one of them injured and his head was cracked. They did not involve in the fight and did not do anything to them. However, when the police officers arrived, they verbally abused LGBTs and they were forced to take off their women attire. Then they were teased and beaten their breasts with rod and shouted them. They were forced to stand for a long time though they did not do anything wrong.

Case 2.5: In Thaketa in February 2017 around 7pm, a 37-yr-old transwoman was suddenly asked by five police officers if she knew someone. She was also beaten. Then a lawyer from an organization visited the scene and assisted her. So, the police officers let her go and even apologized her.

30D and Police Abuse

Case 2.6: In December 2016 in Hlaing Tharyar township, a 26-yr-old handicapped Transwoman beautician, who is on HAART, has just transferred to HTY for about one month from delta region. She was going out to have dinner around 10:30 pm and so she took a trishaw. On the way, the township sheriff stopped the trishaw and asked her where she was going. Though she explained him that she was going out for dinner but he slapped her cheeks, her head. And then she was brought to the guard room. She made a phone call to her father and then he visited her to the police station. However, they accused her with 30D. She faced the case with CRB legal representative for about two months. Finally, she was sent to prison for 15 days. When she was in police custody, she was raped by another detainee man. Her hair was shaved and now she is afraid to go out at night time.

Arbitrary Arrest and 30D

Case 2.7: In July 2017 in North Okkalapa township, an 18-year-old Transwoman met with five police officers. They told her to follow them to the police station. She was then being told to sign a blank paper before letting her to go back home. She signed it but she was not released and then the next day, she had to wear boy's clothes first and then she was brought to the court. Again, she was being coached to answer that she convicted. Therefore, he was jailed for one month finally. (Documentation)

Case 2.8: In Hlaing Tharyar township in June 2017, a 25-year-old Transwoman was waiting for a bus at the bus stop around 9pm. Five police officers inquired her and then she explained that she was waiting for the bus. But they did not listen to her instead verbally abused her in the public area in front of many other people and then beat her. She was not allowed to contact with her family members and the next day, she was accused with 30D in the court. She convicted and then sentenced for one month.

Case 2.9: I am a 20-yr-old gay and I usually visit my grandmother on the other side of river bank in Hlaing Tharyar township. In February in 2017 around 9pm, I was waiting for the boat and then a police officer approached me. He verbally abused me and so I asked him back. He accused me of disrespecting a police officer as I was asking questions back to a police officer during his duty hours. Everybody knows that I usually visit my grandmother. But I was arrested with 30D. My family and my relatives visited me and then apologized them to release me but they did not. Then we had to pay K200,000 and then I was released.

Case 2.10: I am a gay and in July 2017 in Thaketa township, I participated in the rescue operations for flood victims and then I came back home. I met with my friends and then we were talking when the police patrol and the ward administrators approached and arrested us. The police officer took my friend's mobile phone as he was trying to make a phone call. We were threatened to be beaten. We convicted that we did wrong at the police station and so we were released.

Discrimination by Police

Case 2.11: In July 2017 in Thanhlyin township, three transwomen were sitting in a teashop. Then 3 police officers approached them and harassed them by name-calling them as 'a-chote-ma'. They were being told that TGW were not allowed to sit in a teashop and if they visited there again, they would be arrested. Moreover, their bags were searched. So, they were walking back home and then the police officers verbally abuse them on the way back home.

Bribery and Abusing TGW Sex Workers

Case 2.12: In July 2017 in Thanhlyin township, two Transwomen were trying to take a taxi around 3 am. Then 4 police officers interrogated them and handcuffed them. They also searched their purses and took K12,000. They were threatened that they would be sent to jail if they ever met next time and then they were released.

Case 2.13: In Aug 2017 in Thanhlyin township, a Transwoman was in a car with her client. Then three police officers stopped them. They verbally abused them, kicked them, twisted their fingers and slapped their face. They took her purse and then she was released.

Police helping LGBTs

Case 2.14: Moe Moe, TGW went out to eat something in the evening in September 2018 in TM. Then a group of men approached and pointed her with a knife and dragged her to somewhere. A police officer and his team approached and then saved her. All of them were brought to the police station and interrogated. After the interrogation, she came back home safely.

Discrimination by the local authorities

Case 3.1: If TGW fight with women, people usually take side on women in Hlaing Tharyar Township. Recently in

2018, my mother asked me to take interest from someone, she borrowed money. So, I visited his place after 8am. After I was talking with him, he denied to give the interest and then slapped me. So, we started fighting and then his sisters get involved in the fight. I also hit their heads. In the ward administrator's office, I had to pay some money for the incident and released with bail.

Case 3.2: In Shwe Pyi Thar township in 2018, The nephew of a ward administrator shouted and told bad things in front of a TGW beauty salon. At that time, she was sitting with her friends around 10pm on the full moon day of Thazaungmone. They fought verbally and she brought the case to the administrator's office as she at least wanted to be apologized. 10 HH leaders and 100 HH leaders take side from the nephew and nothing had happened.

Case 3.3: In Hlaing Tharyar township in 2018, I was sitting in front of my house wearing a longyi in the afternoon. Then a drunken man lighted my longyi on fire using a lighter. So, we fought. He fell down and got injured. He brought the incident to the administrator. It was decided that I had to pay some money to him. I felt as if I were not a TGW, the solution would be different. It seems to me that TGWs are almost always on the wrong side and no one stands for us.

Case 3.4: In 2017 in Thaketa township, La Min Maung, 26-yr-old TGW came back home from his office work on 24.7.2017. A drunken man verbally abused him and then threw him with his slippers and then he followed him in front of his house. He reported the incident to the ward administrative office. They just said that they would be given the drunken guy verbal warning and asked him to go back home.

Fair Trials by local authorities

Case 4.1: In Hlaing Tharyar township, I borrowed some money with interest to someone. I waited five days to get the interest as agreed beforehand but she did not pay. So, I waited her in the street and slapped her face twice. Then she agreed to pay the interest on time. However, we were then brought to the administrator's office. She accused me of sexually harassing her by tearing up her clothes by herself. The witnesses confessed that she did it all by herself. So, I won the case. I would say, the administrator was a good man.

Case 4.2: In Thanhlyin township in 2018, I am a TGW and one day I was walking back to my beauty salon. Then a guy was drunk and approached me. He was trying to touch my hands and so on. I know him and so I told the incident to the administrator. Then the next day, his parents visited and apologized me.

Access to Justice

Case 5.1: In Shwe Pyi Thar township in 2018, my friend and myself (TGW and Gay) were arrested with 30D about 3am under the bright light of the road. In the court, the name of the police officers during arrest and the time of arrest were changed. The judge found out and it was confirmed those discrepancies and so we were released after 2 months of arrest.

Case 5.2: In Tamwe in July 2017, when a 26-yr-old TGW, came out of a taxi in the evening, police officers approached him and told him that they wanted to interrogate him. Then he was accused with 30D and he defended the case. He won the case and released.

Case 5.3: I am a TGW sex worker lives in Thahlyin. In 2017, I was looking for my client on the street around 9pm. Then three boys on a motorbike approached me, and then, they took out their knives, and, told me to go to an isolated, dark place. I was very scared, shaken and then shouted for help. I kept on shouting but no one came for help, so I run as fast as I could by shouting louder.

Family Abuse

Case 6.1: In Thanhlyin in July 2017, it is documented that La Min, 17-year-old TGW, was forced to change her girl's clothes with boys' clothes and told him to wear boys' clothes.

Abuse by community members

Case 7.1: In June 2017 in Hlaing Tharya , a 23-yr-old gay was selling lottery tickets on his motorcycle around 2pm. Then unknown 5 boys teased him, verbally harassed him and then kicked him.

Interrupted HAART

Case 8.1: In August 2017 in Tamwe, a 25-yr-old Transwoman was accused of stealing someone's mobile phone. She was accused with criminal penal code 379. She was beaten in the custody and her HAART was interrupted for 17 days. The case was represented by CRB.

Overcoming challenges of becoming TGW

A transwoman had served in the government sector and then she resigned by giving Kyat 7,000,000 (Seven million Kyat) as she studied abroad under government scholarship, because she decided to live as a transwoman and beautician.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Recommendations within legal frame work

1. Continue to advocate for **amendments** in laws/ clauses/ legal terminology of Myanmar Penal Code of 1861 (India Act XLV) **Section 377**

- Relay stories of abuses and discrimination to the Members of Parliament and human rights groups as one of the platforms to repeal section 377
- To include LGBT as well as non-LGBT members of the society for the successful repeal of Section 377. (Sexuality rights are part of a larger movement in support of all minority rights).¹¹

2. Continue to **advocate** government law enforcement personnel (**Police Officers, Judges and Lawyers**)

- SOGIE sensitization workshops for senior judges and senior police officers (case stories of abuses and discrimination suffered by LGBT community should be shared in order to understand more about LGBTs and their inhumane sufferings)
- SOGIE sensitization workshops for operational judges, police officers and lawyers (case stories of abuses and discrimination suffered by LGBT community should be shared in order to understand more about LGBTs and their inhumane sufferings)
- Human dignity and Human Rights trainings to the operational police officers

3 Monthly meeting (one to two hours) or experience sharing sessions with the operational police officers (Police officers and LGBT rights lawyers); Reward or send written appreciation letters to incredibly good police officers and local authorities on LGBTs.

5.2 Recommendations outside legal frame work

1. Social Support:

- Promote to form regular small social support groups among LGBTs (university students, beauticians, company employee, NGO workers, etc.) to obtain ways to seeking help upon their unmet needs, providing psychosocial support to one another, to gain more self-realization and acceptance, etc.
- Regular gatherings of LGBTs in the public places together with non-LGBT members by participating social welfare activities, blood donation, green environment, university events, funeral services, religious activities, etc.
- Continue sharing of acceptance stories by the family members

2. Community Mobilization:

- Continue to organize and conduct more LGBT public events as it will promote the community members to rethink their attitudes, eradicate discrimination as a matter of social practice and more able to open up their non-heterosexual sexual orientation
- 10 minutes Coffee talk with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender: Train LGBT advocates to do professional online Q & A sessions. Invite other ASIAN LGBT community members to participate.
- Continue mobilization of LGBT celebrities, sympathetic non-LGBT celebrities, business and religious leaders to promote the cause of non-discrimination and equality as well as to raise the awareness of LGBT sufferings.
- Continue to reach out university students LGBTs

3. Trainings:

- Basic Human Rights including LGBT rights trainings to Bus drivers like YBS and co-operate taxi drivers.
- Continue human rights and LGBT rights trainings among LGBT community, Legal trainings and documentation trainings for the paralegals.
- To conduct access to justice trainings to various target groups including respective LGBT young leaders from their various sub-groups in different townships and emerging young LGBTs.
- Train LGBTs in tourism sectors and let them lead or participate community-based tourism
- To educate LGBTs on drug issues: the dangers of addiction and its impact.

4. Advocacy:

- Advocate SOGIE and LGBT Rights to Public Health Practitioners Even among medical professionals (senior and junior), perception towards LGBTs is still challenging. Senior medical personnel are in the parliament and so it could have indirect impact on the amendment of section 377 and other LGBT related policies.
- Advocate and conduct trainings on SOGIE and human rights to Teachers
- Continue to advocate SOGIE and LGBT Rights to the law enforcement personnel (judges, police, lawyers, etc.)

5. Leadership:

- To improve their rights and the situation in the future, LGBT leaders such as LGBT Member of Parliament, high rank government officials,

¹¹ Facing 377, Discrimination and Human Rights Abuses Against Transgender, Gay and Bisexual Men in Myanmar: Colors Rainbow

etc. are needed.

6. Health Education:

- Health Education on contraception and sexually transmitted infections
- Health Education on dangers of using unregistered hormonal pills and injections

7. Collaboration:

- Collaborate to promote non-discrimination policy in the co-operate workplaces
- Promote prevention of infectious diseases: to raise awareness and referral of screening services whenever necessary (rape case victims), co-ordinate to promote the wellbeing of LGBT sex workers.

8. CRB Support:

- Continue legal aid services at all levels to gain basic momentum and to maintain confidence by LGBT community members as LGBT cases are occurring at all levels
- Should have more paralegals or complement with volunteers with at least two to three focal persons in a township

9. Data Management:

- Provide written operational definitions of abuses, harassment, discrimination, human rights violations, etc.
- Set a timeline and criteria for the documentation of all type of cases
- Major points to note down for documentation, mediation, legal advice, legal action and referral (e.g. mediators involve, place of negotiation, outcome, follow up, etc.)
- Legal advice guideline or outlines for paralegals on specific type of cases and cut off point for referral of cases to CRB lawyer or steps for referral (e.g. to note down what legal advice is given, when to refer domestic violence cases, etc.)
- Feedback sections of case documentation every month for consecutive 6 months and then every 3 months
- Each case files should have serial numbers and on top of the case folder it should have the list of type of cases, the list of type of cases should update soft copy every month, update type of case lists with the raw data every 3 month or 6 months or Each case folder should be filed according to the type of cases rather than by month, then it would be easier to review and analyze the cases even if there is missed period to recheck the data.
- Case summaries should be updated in soft copy and updated every 3 to 6 months, featured

cases should have case summaries with essential information.

- Mediation and Referral Cases should be placed in separate folder or by separating with a sheet inside the folder

Structured Questionnaires for FGDs and KIIs

(1) Guidelines for facilitating FGDs

- Introduction (Name, Gender, place of origin)
- Participants attitude towards the society
- Encountering discrimination / differences/ abuses based on their sexual orientations in society
- Common problems, coping mechanisms of LGBTs and access to justice
- Coping mechanisms, level of understanding about their human rights and legal rights
- Strengths, limitations and gaps
- Major needs and gaps of LGBT

(2) Questions Guidelines for KIIs

- Can you please describe your work?
- What are the common legal disputes among LGBT groups in your areas? What are the minor crimes committed against LGBT individuals or by LGBT individuals in general? What are the serious crimes committed against LGBT people?
- What are the common mechanisms and procedures to handle LGBT cases? How about sensitive cases such as rape or sexual assault?
- Do you think that LGBTs can access to legal system equally if there is a case committed against them in your area? How? How is the situation from 2016 onwards?
- Do you think police / community leaders treat the case the same as other crimes? How? Do you notice any difference? How? Why? How is the situation from 2016 onwards?
- If there is any ongoing support / case related to LGBT individuals or groups here, can you tell us more? What major constraints do LGBTs are facing to get access to justice?
- If there is a crime committed by LGBTs, do they receive a fair trial in judicial system? How is the situation from 2016 onwards?
- In your opinion, do you think that LGBT has enough understanding on their rights and legal awareness? Why do you think so?
- In general, do you think LGBTs rights and their situations will get improved or worsened in the future? What will you recommend to improve LGBTs supports to improve their understanding of human rights in general and legal awareness as well as access to justice? How?

Profiles of the interviewed LGBT community

No	Place	Type	L	G	B	TGM	TGW	Occupation	Place of Origin
1	Hlaing Tharyar (HTY)	KII, IDI		1	1	1		Factory worker, Beautician, Ex-military personnel	HTY, Ayeyarwady
		FGD	1				5	Factory worker=1, Beauticians + Sex Worker (SWS)=2, Beautician = 1, Casual laborer =1, SWS=1	
2	Shwe Pyi Thar (SPT)	FGD	1	2			4	Beautician=2, Small business employee=1, SWS=4	SPT, Ayeyarwady, Lashio, Yangon
		IDI				1		Job seeker	
3	Thanlyn	FGD	1	3			3	Beautician=1, Beautician&SWS=2, Company Staff=2, Job Seeker=2	South Dagon, North Okkalapa, Thanlyn, Dawbon, Rakhine, Ayeyarwady, Mandalay
4	North Okkalapa	FGD		5			2	Beautician=2, SWS=2, NGO Staff=3	North Okkalapa, Ayeyarwady, Bago, Hlegu
5	Thaketa	FGD		3			3	Beauticians + Medium =1, Beautician = 3, Beautician + sex worker =1	Thaketa, Dawbon
		IDI				1		Ex-marketing staff in a company, job seeker	
6	Thamwe	FGD		4			2	Beautician=2, Company employee=1, Computer diploma student(private)=1, Self-employed=2 (Vinly printing, sell mobile CRBedits)	Ayeyarwady, Myeik, Mawlamyine, Pazundaung

Profiles of the interviewed administrative individuals and non-LGBT community

No	Place	Type	L	G	B	TGM	TGW	M	F	Occupation	Place of Origin
1	Yangon	KII	1	1					2	NGO Management, lawyers, NGO Staff	Yangon, Kachin, Shan
		FGD, IDI		2			3		1	NGO Staff	Yangon, TL
2	Hlaing Tharyar (HTY)	KII						2		100HH leader, 10HH leader	HTY
3	Shwe Pyi Thar (SPT)	KII							1	100HH leader	SPT
4	Thanlyn (TLN)	KII						3		100HH leader, Police Officers	TLN, Monywa
5	North Okkalapa (NOK)	KII						1	1	100HH leader, Police Officer	NOK
		FGD							5	House wife, self-employed, NGO volunteer	NOK, Yangon
6	Thaketa (TKT)	KII						1		Community Representative	TKT
7	Thamwe (TM)	KII						1		100HH leader	TM

Colors Rainbow Statistics (2015-2018)

Table 1: Total no of Delivered Legal Aid Services by CRB in Yangon Region (2015-2018)

Table 2: Total no of Delivered Legal Aid Services by CRB in 2016

Table 3: Total No of Legal Aid Provision of Cases (2015-2018)

Township	2016	2017	2018
PYAY	195		
HTY	120	63	48
SPT		17	48
TLN		46	41
NOK		34	45
TM		43	36
TKT		35	44
Total	315	238	262

Table 4: Cases of Mental abuse and physical assault in community (family, neighbors and schools) in Hlaing Tharyar and Pyay Townships in 2016

2016	Number of Cases		Gender Identity							Under 18	Court Proceeding		Physical Assault		Mental Abuse		Delivered Services				
	HTY	Pyay	M	F	G	L	T	T	Y		N	Y	N	Y	N	D	L	A	R	L	R
Jan	12	30	11	17	4	1	8	0	6	12	30	15	27	6	36	17	12	13	0	0	
Feb	10	30	16	10	5	0	7	2	6	25	15	14	26	16	24	13	12	15	0	0	
March	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
May	17	27	16	15	5	1	6	1	7	28	16	17	27	7	37	4	31	6	2	1	
June	24	28	8	13	12	2	17	0	6	17	35	34	18	9	43	23	24	2	2	1	
July	24	27	8	14	6	1	21	1	3	26	25	24	27	12	39	12	36	0	0	3	
Aug	19	25	11	11	7	1	14	0	6	23	21	17	27	13	31	12	27	0	5	0	
Sep	14	28	13	9	9	3	8	0	12	18	24	14	28	10	32	27	10	0	5	0	
Oct	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Nov	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Dec	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	120	195	83	89	48	9	81	4	46	149	166	135	180	73	242	108	152	36	14	5	

D=Documentation
 LA=Legal Advice
 R=Referral
 LP=Legal Representation
 M=Mediation

Yearly Total no of Cases in Yangon Region			
Month	2016	2017	2018
Jan	12	0	33
Feb	10	1	37
March	0	2	33
April	0	11	23
May	17	14	31
June	24	27	28
July	24	27	25
Aug	19	30	6
Sep	14	35	8
Oct	0	35	14

Total no of Cases in 2016		
Month	HTY	Pyay
Jan	12	30
Feb	10	30
March	0	0
April	0	0
May	17	27
June	24	28
July	24	27
Aug	19	25
Sep	14	28
Oct	0	0

Table 5: Cases of Mental abuse and physical assault in community (family, neighbors and schools) in Yangon Region in 2017

2017	Total no of cases	Cases by Townships						Gender								Under 18	Legal Action		Delivered Services					
		HTY	SPT	TM	TKT	NOK	TLN	M	F	G	L	B	T W	T M	Y		N	D	L A	R	LR	M		
Jan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
March	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
April	11	4	0	0	1	0	6	0	1	2	2	0	6	0	0	0	11	10	0	0	1	0	0	0
May	14	7	0	0	0	1	6	0	1	2	0	0	11	0	1	0	14	12	0	0	1	0	0	0
June	27	4	2	5	7	5	4	0	3	3	0	0	21	0	0	1	26	16	10	1	1	4	0	0
July	27	8	3	5	1	5	5	1	6	4	0	0	20	0	2	2	0	16	5	0	1	1	0	0
Aug	30	9	1	6	6	4	4	0	5	5	1	0	19	0	1	0	0	18	10	0	1	2	0	0
Sep	35	8	4	7	4	6	6	0	4	6	1	0	24	0	1	0	0	32	8	0	0	2	0	0
Oct	35	8	4	8	6	5	4	2	1	7	0	0	25	0	3	0	0	27	4	2	1	2	0	0
Nov	32	8	0	8	5	5	6	1	1	4	0	0	21	1	5	0	0	22	5	2	0	3	0	0
Dec	24	6	3	4	5	3	3	3	2	5	0	0	14	0	0	3	21	18	4	3	0	0	0	0
Total	238	63	17	43	35	34	46	7	24	39	5	0	162	1	13	6	75	174	46	8	6	14	0	0

D=Documentation
 LA=Legal Advice
 R=Referral
 LR=Legal Representation
 M=Mediation

Table 6: Cases of Mental abuse and physical assault in community
(family, neighbors and schools) in Yangon Region in 2018

2018	Total no of cases	Cases by Townships						Gender							Delivered Services					
		HTY	SPT	TM	TKT	NOK	TLN	M	F	G	L	B	T	W	TM	Under 18	D	L	A	R
Jan	33	5	9	8	3	5	3	0	1	5	2	0	22	0	3	11	14	1	1	6
Feb	37	4	7	9	7	5	5	0	0	6	1	1	26	0	3	11	23	0	0	2
March	33	9	5	4	5	5	5	1	0	9	0	1	20	1	1	12	10	0	0	4
April	23	3	4	3	5	3	5	0	1	5	0	0	16	1	0	7	8	0	0	1
May	31	8	6	3	5	4	5	1	0	6	0	0	22	0	2	11	16	2	0	1
June	28	6	5	3	5	5	4	0	0	5	1	0	22	0	0	23	3	0	0	2
July	25	3	3	3	5	5	6	0	0	1	4	0	20	0	0	23	1	0	0	2
Aug	6	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	2
Sep	8	0	0	2	3	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	6	0	0	6	1	0	0	3
Oct	14	2	4	0	1	3	4	1	0	1	2	1	9	0	0	6	4	1	1	5
Nov	14	3	2	1	3	3	2	1	0	6	0	0	7	0	0	3	6	1	0	3
Dec	10	2	2	0	2	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	8	0	1	5	4	1	1	1
Total	262	48	48	36	44	45	41	4	3	48	10	3	182	2	10	121	90	6	3	32

D=Documentation
 LA=Legal Advice
 R=Referral
 LR=Legal Representation
 M=Mediation

Table 7: Police Abuse Cases in Yangon Region (2016-2017)

Month	Total no of Cases in 2016	Total no of Cases in 2017	Abuse				Bribery	
			Physical		Mental		Yes	
			2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
Jan	6	1	4	1	2			
Feb	5	0			5			
March	0	2						2
April	0	3				1		2
May	7	10	2	3	4	4	1	3
June	12	10	7	5	2	4	3	1
July	10	18	6	5	3	7	1	6
Aug	10	9	4	3	5	4	1	2
Sep	9	13	3	3	4	4	2	6
Oct	0	13		3		4		6
Nov	0	13		2		6		5
Dec	0	0						
Total	59	92	26	25	25	34	8	33

Table 8: 30 D Cases in Yangon Region (2016-2017)

Month	No of Cases in 2016 (HTY)	No of Cases in 2017
Jan		
Feb	1	0
March		0
April		1
May		5
June		4
July	3	5
Aug	5	0
Sep	5	8
Oct		5
Nov		3
Dec	2	