

## **Lesbians as the motor of the 2nd German women's movement - Lesbians in times of self-ID - SBGG and international law - Lesbians between adaptation and resistance**

Good afternoon, dear women, and my special greeting to the lesbians among you,

Today I am concerned with the effects of the so-called "Self-Determination Act" (SBGG) on lesbian women, who are particularly in the crosshairs of transgenderism because of their sexual orientation.

Before I come to the current situation of lesbians, I will take a look back at the lesbian movement. I then look at the legal situation under the SBGG for exclusive lesbian spaces, supplemented by aspects of international law. Finally, I draw a conclusion as to what remains for lesbians: Adaptation or resistance. **I plead for resistance!**

**Because:** The SBGG is a frontal attack by the patriarchy on all women born as girls. It is an attempt to erase the once hard-won lesbian/women's rights. And just like at the beginning of the second lesbian/women's movement, we must resist forced heterosexuality by trans-identified men and gender role stereotypes.

### Lesbian movement

In 1972, lesbians in West Berlin founded the women's group HAW (Homosexuelle Aktion Westberlin), later LAZ e.V., and initiated many projects - a recent highlight was the 2018 exhibition "Radikal-Lesbisch-Feministisch" at the Schwules Museum Berlin. This was followed by the founding of LAZ reloaded e.V. to counter so-called "queer feminism" and the threat of historical reinterpretations.

However, the "woke zeitgeist" increasingly took hold: violent attacks on lesbians at CSDs, the so-called cancel culture and vile hate attacks became more frequent. "TERFs are Assholes" was a banner at the Dyke March(!) in Berlin in 2018. Young lesbians are increasingly being coerced into heterosexual sex with trans-identified men.

### Legal situation in Germany

The SBGG, which mixes gender and gender identity, threatens, among other things, gender-specific spaces. How? The legislator simply refers to domiciliary rights and the General Equal Treatment Act:

The holder of the domiciliary right may deny men with a female gender entry access to women's spaces but must state an AGG-compliant reason for doing so, e.g. the protection of women's privacy or a threat to their personal safety.

This apparent "solution" does not work. Minority rights are to be enforced here at the expense of lesbian's/women's rights, if necessary through a court ruling. All of this violates the rule of law and the principle of democracy, because in the case of **competing fundamental rights** of men with a female gender entry on the one hand and lesbians/women on the other, the legislator is obliged to make the necessary regulations itself and not to defer to the judiciary in individual cases.

It remains to be seen whether lesbians will be able to point to their homosexuality, which is called into question by the presence of a man, in order to assert their claim to exclusive spaces in this legal hotchpotch. And: How many female entrepreneurs and how many lesbians under pressure will be able to fight through such a costly legal dispute?

## International law

One advocate for lesbians is Reem Alsalem, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls at the UN. She points out that lesbians are protected by various conventions under international law. The legal bases include the

- **Women's Rights Convention 1979 (CEDAW)** and the
- **International Convention on Civil and Political Rights 1966 (ICCPR).**

They state that lesbians may gather in public without such exclusivity constituting discrimination against third parties.

In the case of competing human rights, the right to sex equality does not have to take second place to the right to protection of gender identity.

## What to do? - Lesbians between adaptation and resistance

1. adaptation: The “women's pub” **BEGINN**, a child of the autonomous lesbian women's movement, now operates as a trans-inclusive women's\* pub and has made it unmistakably clear to the participants of the LAZ regulars' table that they are only welcome if they “observe the rules (of trans-inclusivity)”. Since then, LAZ reloaded has been looking for new, lesbian-exclusive spaces.

### 2. Resistance

#### a) Internationally: Lesbians are fighting back

In 2022, the women of the Lesbian Caucus of WDI USA drafted the “**Lesbian Bill of Rights**”, the **declaration of lesbian rights**.

In 2023, the organization “**Lesbian Bill of Rights International**” (LBORI) was founded to protect these rights, with LAZ reloaded as a founding member. Other member organizations come from New Zealand, Australia, Norway and Italy.

In international groups of radical feminists (e.g. WDI), who denounce the increasingly trans-infiltrated UN international law guidelines and recommendations, LAZ reloaded also fights for lesbians not to be subsumed under “**Other Status**”, together with gender identity in anti-discrimination protection clauses, but rather to be naturally included under “**Women**”:  
**Lesbians are women!**

#### a) LAZ reloaded e.V. is fighting back

The activities include: **Participation** in radical feminist **demos**, **criminal charges** for defamation by queer.de, **legal statements** on anti-women/lesbian/girls bills by the Federal Government, **lobbying** with politicians, **media work**, **events** on lesbian issues from a radical feminist perspective, **cooperation** with the lesbian organization SAFIA e.V., a **regulars' table** for lesbians, and: The forgery-proof **archiving of** lesbian legacies and estates is in the pipeline!

#### a) Germany-wide: Lesbians are fighting back

### Call for documentation of assaults and discrimination

LAZ reloaded considers the creation of an **instrument** to document the adverse consequences of the SBGG for lesbians and girls to be a necessary strategy. The **medium** for this register could be a publicly funded anonymized website.

**Examples** of such reports: Verbal insults, physical assaults, coercion into heterosexual sex, criminal charges and the presence of trans-identified men in exclusive lesbian spaces.

This should be a joint task of lesbian women's organizations.

**The call for this has gone out nationwide today!**

Thank you for your attention!

Berlin, 01.11.2024  
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Member of the Board



LAZ reloaded e.V.