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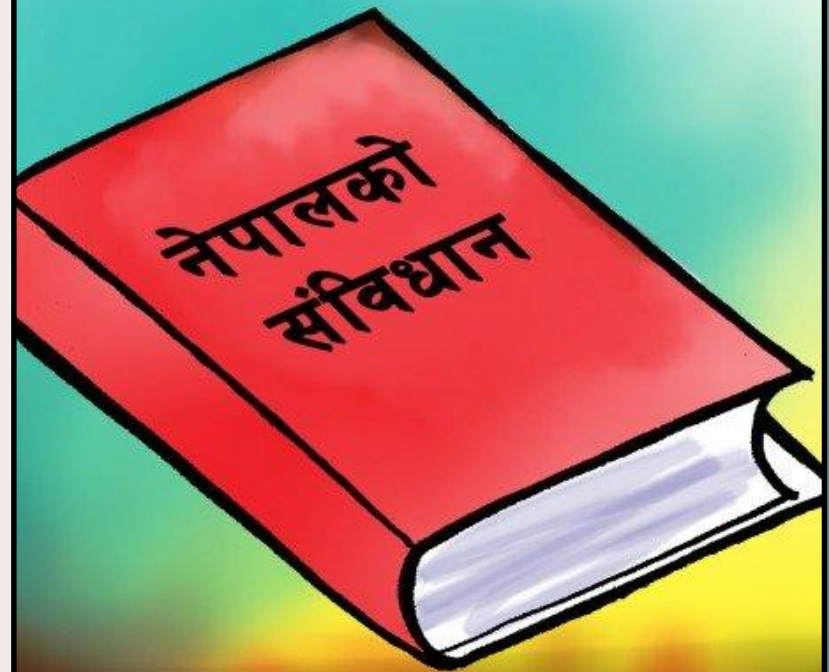
# Introduction

- Founded as loose network in 2016
- Registered as a NPO in 2017 as 1st and only intersex led organization with the vision to unite and advocate about the Intersex community in Nepal.
- First and the only organization to address the issue in Nepal.
- Get the attention of both government and international institutions.
- Fighting to have basic human rights such as proper education, health services, employment opportunities and so on.



## Positive step on National Level

- The Constitution of Nepal 2015 has mentioned Sexual and Gender Minorities in Articles 18 and 42.
- Intersex has been mentioned in the definition of Sexual and Gender minority in the directive issued by Ministry of Home Affairs
- Nepal Government allocates budget to raise awareness on intersex issues.



## International level Achievements

The UN treaty bodies CRC and CEDAW committees recognized the issues raised by Intersex activists from Nepal and gave recommendations to the Nepal government to protect and promote intersex human rights in the year 2016 and 2018, respectively.

## CRC concluding observation

### **42. The Committee recommends that the State party:**

- (a) Conduct **awareness-raising** campaigns to combat stigmatization of and discrimination against intersex children;
- (b) Ensure that intersex children have **access to identity documents** that correspond with the sex/gender identity of their choosing;
- (c) Ensure that no child is subjected to unnecessary medical or surgical treatment; **guarantee bodily integrity, autonomy and self-determination to the children concerned**; and provide families with intersex children with adequate counseling and support;
- (d) Undertake investigations of incidents of surgical and other medical treatment of intersex children **without informed consent and adopt legal provisions in order to provide redress to the victims of such treatment**, including reparation and/or adequate compensation;
- (e) **Educate and train medical and psychological professionals** on the range of sexual, and related biological and physical, diversity and on the consequences of unnecessary surgical and other medical interventions for intersex children.

## CEDAW concluding observation 2018

**11. The Committee recommends that the State party, in line with its general recommendation No. 33 (2015) on women's access to justice:**

(b) Provide targeted financial support and legal aid in commonly spoken languages for women facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, such as Dalit women, indigenous women, including Madhesi and Tharu women, women belonging to religious minority groups, women with disabilities, women living in remote areas, lesbian, bisexual and transgender women, **intersex persons** and displaced and migrant women;

19. (d) Adopt legislative provisions that explicitly prohibit the performance of unnecessary surgical or other medical procedures on intersex children before they reach the legal age of consent and train medical and psychological professionals on the rights of **intersex persons**;

(e) Ensure that victims of harmful practices can file complaints without fear of retribution or stigmatization and that they have access to effective remedies and victim support, such as legal, social, medical and psychological assistance and shelters.

39 (d) End discrimination by health-care providers against Dalit women, indigenous women, women with disabilities, lesbian, bisexual and transgender women, **intersex persons** and women in prostitution, by raising awareness among providers, with the support of female community health volunteers, of the rights of those groups and encouraging reporting.

# Challenges faced by intersex people in Nepal

## Social Challenges:

- Abandoned by family
- Deprived of love and affection
- Bullying and prejudice from the society because of lack of knowledge
- Deprived of proper education
- Lack of support from family and friends
- Bullying in Schools
- Under-representation, even among the LGBTIQ+ movement and other human rights movements.
- Lack of visibility
- Forced marriage of intersex adolescents

# Legal challenges

- Lack of legal provision on the birth registration of intersex child .
- Lack of legal provision to amend all legal documents including citizenship, passport, and educational certificate.
- Laws and policies are discriminatory against intersex people.
- Family Rights, Marriage and inheritance rights



# Medical challenge

- Unnecessary Harmful medical practices
- Deprive of essential health services
- Mental health
- Health insurance
- Lack of awareness, even among the medical practitioners

# Current activities of Campaign for Change

- Lobby and advocacy
- Knowledge building
- Economic empowerment of community
- Education support to Intersex people

## We call for

- Adopt correct terminologies and definitions of intersex in practice,
- Support and implement awareness-raising activities on intersex issues.
- Adopt legislation to ban non-consensual, medically unnecessary, and harmful “normalizing” surgeries.
- Take legal measures to combat infanticide and abandonment of intersex children; forced marriage of intersex adolescents; massive bullying and abuse of intersex children and adult
- Research that addresses the needs and circumstances of people with innate variations of sex characteristics.
- Require all schools and other education providers to adopt anti-bullying policies to protect Intersex students, and ensure teachers receive training on how to respond to interphobic, and transphobic bullying.
- adolescents with access to accurate information about the diversity of sexualities, gender identities, and sex characteristics variations.

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- Implement the recommendation made by the CRC and CEDAW committee on intersex issues to the Nepal government in 2016 and 2018 respectively.
- Provide health, education, and employment access to intersex people based on the "principle of inclusion"
- Ensure that medical professionals receive training on the health care needs and human rights of intersex people
- Ensure data collection and monitoring of Intersex Genital Mutilation (IGM) practices.
- Ensure the provision of health counseling and support to intersex people and their families
- Address human rights violations and abuses against intersex persons by policymakers, government bodies, and state governments in public.
- Educate media and formulate laws to avoid picturing a negative image of intersex people.
- Integrate education on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics into school curricula in age-appropriate ways.
- Provide non-discriminatory sex education to address taboos surrounding adolescent sexuality, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression and provide



**Thanks for your  
listening!**

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