



Australian Government
Refugee Review Tribunal

Country Advice

Indonesia

Indonesia – IDN38250 – Lesbians –
Homosexuals – Legal Status – Jakarta –
Attacks – Family Violence – State Attitude
– Protection
28 February 2011

1. What is the current legal status of lesbians in Indonesia?

Being a lesbian in Indonesia is permitted under national law as homosexuality is not illegal under the current Penal Code.¹ Referring to the legal status of homosexuals in Indonesia, a 2008 report from the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada reports that:

The International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) provides the following information in a May 2008 report on state-sponsored homophobia: Same-sex relations are not prohibited according to the national Penal Code. The only provision to deal with such relations is article 292 which prohibits sexual acts between persons of the same sex, if committed with a person under the legal age.²

A national *Pornography Law* enacted in 2008, however, bans gay and lesbian sex and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) claim that this law is occasionally used by police and authorities to harass and intimidate lesbians and gay people.³

While homosexuality is permitted under existing law on a national level, some areas and provinces have enacted legislation at the local level specifically targeting the activities of homosexuals. For example, on 14 September 2009, the local legislature in the province of Aceh, which has an autonomous regional government, passed a law referred to as the *Qanan Jinayat*, which calls for 8.5 years in prison and 100 lashes by cane for homosexual acts. The law was promoted by conservative Islamic legislators, who further broadened the law to prohibit lesbian sexual activity. The governor of Aceh has refused to sign the law into effect and it has been condemned by officials in Jakarta.⁴ Under peace agreements signed with Aceh

¹‘Lesbian Couple Forced to Marry in Sumatra’ 2010, *Jakarta Globe* 13 February <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/home/lesbian-couple-forced-to-marry-in-sumatra/358262> - Accessed 28 February 2011- Attachment 1 & Human Rights Watch 2009, ‘Indonesia: New Aceh Law Imposes Torture’, 11 October <http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2009/10/11/indonesia-new-aceh-law-imposes-torture> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 2.

² Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2008, *IDN102828.E – Indonesia - The situation of homosexuals; state protection and availability of support groups*, 3 July http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/research/rir/index_e.htm?action=record.viewrec&gotorec=451966 - Accessed 12 August 2008 – Attachment 3

³ US Department of State 2010, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 2009 – Indonesia*, 11 March, Section 6 – Attachment 4.

⁴ Kurniawati, D. 2010, ‘Acehnese Gays Face a Climate of Fear and Abuse’ 18 August, <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/indonesia/acehnese-gays-face-a-climate-of-fear-and-abuse/391668> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 5.

separatists in 2005, the Indonesian government permitted Sharia law to serve as a basis for legislation in the largely conservative Muslim province. Despite these conservative leanings in the province, human rights organisations are able to actively protest and voice opposition to anti-homosexual laws. Indonesia's Human Rights Commission has strongly criticised measures in the *Qanan Jinayat* and Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) groups such as Violet Grey (established in 2007 in Aceh) and Arus Pelangi are working in the province with other human rights organisations to amend the laws.⁵

2. What is the level of tolerance shown to lesbians in Indonesia generally, and in Jakarta, Bogor and Depok in particular?

The level of tolerance shown to lesbians Indonesia can be generalised as mixed; ranging from indications that lesbians are tolerated illustrated by the fact that they are openly pursuing political agendas and operating support organisations, to reports that lesbians are discriminated against and hide their sexuality from family and community. Many reports indicate that homosexuals are openly tolerated and even thriving in many modern and urban communities, but they may also be subjected to prejudice and discrimination depending on their personal situation and location. Some reports indicate being lesbian may be less acceptable than being a gay man.

One source was located discussing the situation of lesbians specifically. A 4 October 2010 article in the *Jakarta Post*, entitled *Lesbians Face Double Discrimination*, reported that lesbians are less acceptable in Indonesian society than male homosexuals and transgender persons. Sri Agustine, a sexologist and Director of the Arhanary Institute was interviewed about discrimination against lesbians. She reported that the lesbian movement in Indonesia is more discreet and less explicit than the gay (male) and transgender movement. She attributed this distinction to the patriarchal nature of Indonesian society and the cultural pressure on women to bear children in traditional roles. The article also reported that recent positive developments for lesbians include a burgeoning support network, higher education levels for the younger lesbian generation, productive political alignments with women's rights movements and other associations, and an active political movement to introduce legislation specifically protecting rights of sexual minorities.⁶

Several sources report that the gay rights movement has been active in Indonesia for over three decades producing a society that is somewhat tolerant of gays even though instances of violence and discrimination do sometimes occur.⁷ Many report that Indonesia has an unusual reputation for tolerance, especially considering that the nation is a Muslim majority. Gays and lesbians, in general, are tolerated even though they are not yet accepted by all sectors of

⁵Indonesia: Activists Fight to Overturn Oppressive Law in Aceh' 2009, International Gay And Lesbian Human Rights Commission, 25 September <http://www.iglhrc.org/cgi-bin/low/article/takeaction/resourcecenter/975.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 6.

⁶ Sabrarini, P. 2010, 'Lesbians face double discrimination' *Jakarta Post*, 4 October <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/04/10/lesbians-face-double-discrimination.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 7.

⁷ Sabrarini, P. 2010, 'Lesbians face double discrimination' *Jakarta Post*, 4 October <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/04/10/lesbians-face-double-discrimination.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 7 & Sabarini, P. 2010, 'LGBT rights: A test for Indonesian democracy' *Jakarta Post*, 29 June <http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:CdSMOe2IXmAJ:www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/06/29/lgbt-rights-a-test-indonesian-democracy.html+LGBT+rights:+a+Test+for+Indonesian+Democracy&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=au&source=www.google.com.au> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 8.

society. A June 2010 *BBC News* article, for example, reports that gays and lesbians ‘...are able to live comfortably and without prejudice – as long as they do not go out of their way to attract attention to themselves.’⁸ The situation and rights of lesbians and other groups of different sexual orientations is regularly reported and discussed in various news media, and the community is supported by numerous internet and community organisations, indicating a fairly high level of tolerance in part of the population.

A LGBT rights activists commented on the acceptability of gay and lesbian women in Indonesian society for a June 2010 article in the *Jakarta Post* newspaper. He stated that in modern urban areas (this would include Jakarta and surrounding greater metropolitan areas of Bogor and Depok) that gays and lesbians are becoming more visible in the workplace and acceptable in friendship circles. Families are becoming more accepting of gay and lesbian orientations for children, and popular culture is becoming more inclusive; the article highlighted the example of the *Q Film Festival*, which for over nine years has featured films with homosexual themes and draws larger audiences each year.⁹

The 2009 US DOS report acknowledges that lesbian and other gay and transgender organisation operate openly in Indonesia, indicating a level of tolerance. However, the same report also cautions that NGOs report that lesbians and homosexuals are subject to prejudice, discrimination, and marginalisation within Indonesian society. The report states:

According to NGOs, lesbian, gay, transgender, and bisexual (LGBT) issues were characterized as socially taboo. The government took almost no action to prevent discrimination against LGBT persons or to spur action by the police in investigating societal abuse against LGBT persons. Police corruption, bias, and violence caused LGBT individuals to avoid interaction with police. NGOs reported that LGBT individuals were socially ostracized by family members and the general public.¹⁰

Lesbians and gays are visible in the workforce and despite increasing acceptance there are some complaints and indications of discrimination and prejudice. A December 2010 article hosted by the IGLA website on gays in the Indonesian workforce reported that homosexuals are more accepted in private industry than in government positions. Despite reports of some harassment in the workforce, some openly gay people report that they are hired specifically based on their knowledge of homosexual marketing and advertising skills, and some activists are planning to challenge legal barriers to same sex marriages and partner benefits.¹¹

Amnesty International reported in November 2010 noted that radical groups may be producing a trend toward more conservative attitudes toward lesbians and homosexuals. In the article *Left with No Choice: Barriers to Reproductive Health in Indonesia*, AI reports:

⁸ Vaswani, K. 2010, ‘Gay and Transgender Struggle for Acceptance in Indonesia’, *BBC News*, 19 June <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10349050> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 9.

⁹ Sabarini, P. 2010, ‘LGBT rights: A test for Indonesian democracy’ *Jakarta Post*, 29 June <http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:CdSMOe2IXmAJ:www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/06/29/lgbt-rights-a-test-indonesian-democracy.html+LGBT+rights:+a+Test+for+Indonesian+Democracy&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=au&source=www.google.com.au> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 8.

¹⁰ US Department of State 2010, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 2009 – Indonesia*, 11 March, Section 6 – Attachment 4.

¹¹ Hapsari, A. 2010, ‘In workplace, LGBTs face discrimination’ *Jakarta Post*, 17 December <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/12/17/in-workplace-lgbts-face-discrimination.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 10.

In recent years, conservative attitudes to issues of sexuality have become more prevalent in some parts of the country, sometimes as a result of pressure from radical groups. The human rights of women and lesbian, gay, bisexual/pansexual and transgender people have been particularly restricted as a result, sometimes in a violent way.¹²

The contradictory nature of the situation for lesbians and homosexuals in Indonesian society is well illustrated by a 28 September 2010 article in the *Jakarta Globe*. The article reviews a movie that highlights lesbian and gay themes and celebrates the fact that this movie reflects positive trends, and illustrates degree of tolerance in contemporary society. But at the same time, the article also comments that the lesbian and gay community has not yet been accepted by the mainstream, conservative Indonesian society.¹³

Aceh

The Province of Aceh in Indonesia is renowned for its level of intolerance of homosexuals and other LGBT persons. The semi-autonomous province has passed several laws directly influenced by strict Muslim Sharia laws and moral codes which prohibit any tolerance of homosexual activity.¹⁴ Homosexuals face greater discrimination, prejudice, ill treatment, and pressure to conform to communal values. Indonesian human rights and LGBT organisations are present in the province offering support to homosexuals and denouncing opposing oppressive legislation.¹⁵

Depok

The *Jakarta Post* reported on 2 December 2010 that an event organised by a gay men association in Depok was 'attacked' by public order officials. The event was to raise awareness of safe sex practices and advocating the use of condoms. No details were included about the 'attack' and it is likely that the event was the target of public harassment and intimidation and did not include acts of violence.¹⁶

Bogor

No reports of negative lesbian or homosexual activities were located for Bogor. Several internet sources were linked to Bogor and indicated the presence of individual personal gay websites, the operation of gay organisations, and advertisements for activities for homosexuals and personal relationships.

¹² Amnesty International 2010, *Left with No Choice: Barriers to Reproductive Health in Indonesia*, 4 November 2010 p. 17, <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ASA21/013/2010/en/e0a63801-83d1-46b6-bc37-7cde2aa74daa/asa210132010en.pdf> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 11.

¹³ Madame X's Super LGBT Mission' 2010, *Jakarta Globe* 28 September <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/entertainment/madame-xs-super-lgbt-mission/398489> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 12.

¹⁴ 'Indonesia: Activists Fight to Overturn Oppressive Law in Aceh' 2009, International Gay And Lesbian Human Rights Commission, 25 September <http://www.iglhrc.org/cgi-bin/low/article/takeaction/resourcecenter/975.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 6.

¹⁵ Simanjuntak, H. 2010, 'Gays, lesbians face discrimination in sharia Aceh', *Jakarta Post*, 20 January <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/01/20/gays-lesbians-face-discrimination-sharia-aceh.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 13.

¹⁶ Bagus, J., Saragih, B. 2010, 'LGBT feel alone in facing violations', *Jakarta Post*, 20 December <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/12/20/lgbt-feel-alone-facing-violations.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 14.

3. Are there any recent reports on attacks on homosexuals in general and on lesbians in particular?

No recent reports were located indicating that violent attacks on homosexuals or lesbians are currently occurring with regularity. While homosexuals and lesbians may deal with varying levels discrimination and acceptability in their communities, no indications of systematic violence were located in the past two years. Recent reports of ‘attacks’ on homosexuals are largely confined to public statements, protests, occasional threats, and political or religious expressions of intolerance. The conservative Muslim group Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) has disrupted some public LGBT events over the past year using pressure and intimidation, but these events are sporadic and have not involved significant violence. Lesbians may be vulnerable to violent attacks by family members and this occurrence may be under-reported. See Question Four below for further information on this issue.

In March 2010, the Muslim group Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) forced the cancellation of a gay and lesbian conference in Surabaya. Eyewitnesses accused police of colluding with FPI members (sharing meals) and police were accused of encouraging participants to cancel the conference rather than providing adequate protection. After protestors forced their way into a hotel where delegates were staying, the conference officially closed, though conference meetings continued in other locations. Conference participants had earlier obtained proper police permits to hold the conference, but claim the police revoked the permit due to political pressure from the FPI.¹⁷

The Jakarta Globe reported on 3 December 2010 that FPI members forced their way into hall where 50 transgender people were preparing to compete in a drag queen pageant to mark World AIDS Day. The transgender group abandoned the hall when the FPI leaders began making speeches condemning transgenders for being immoral and violating Islamic law.¹⁸

The International Federation for Human Rights (IFHR) reported in December 2010 that political pressure and threats have, on occasion, forced some gay and lesbian events to relocate to other venues. The IFHR accuses police of not actively preventing protesters from intimidating LGBT members at such public events and that police often fail to vigorously investigate and make arrests when individuals report receiving threats or being stalked.¹⁹

4. What are the levels of family violence against lesbians?

The level of family violence against lesbians is difficult to pinpoint as the occurrence is likely to be underreported by victims fearing further repercussions and stigmatisation. Several

¹⁷ Sabarini, P. 2010, ‘LGBT rights: A test for Indonesian democracy’ *Jakarta Post*, 29 June <http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:CdSMOe2IXmAJ:www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/06/29/lgbt-rights-a-test-indonesian-democracy.html+LGBT+rights:+a+Test+for+Indonesian+Democracy&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=au&source=ww.google.com.au> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 8.

¹⁸ Rahmat 2010, ‘FPI Pulls Plug on Makassar Drag-Queen Pageant to Mark AIDS Day’ *Jakarta Globe*, 3 December <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/home/fpi-pulls-plug-on-makassar-drag-queen-pageant-to-mark-aids-day/409817> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 15.

¹⁹ International Federation for Human Rights 2010, *Shadows and Clouds: Human Rights in Indonesia—Shady Legacy, Uncertain Future*, December 2010 pp. 50-51, UNHCR website <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,,IFHR,,IDN,,4d53eb522,0.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 16.

reports were located generally discussing the issue of family violence directed at lesbian and gay children. Some of these reports indicate that individuals may be subjected to significant violence and harassment in some circumstances. Other reports indicate that lesbians may be forced to hide their sexual orientation to avoid ill treatment, and one report indicated that families in metropolitan areas are more accepting.

Sri Augustine, a sexologist and Director of the Arhanary Institute, was interviewed about discrimination against lesbians in a 4 October 2010 article in the *Jakarta Post*. The Arhanary Institute is a lesbian, bisexual, transgender research and advocacy organisation in Indonesia. While most of the article described the situation and prejudicial treatment and harassment of lesbians in society Augustine also reported that several cases of serious family abuse of lesbians have been reported to the Institute. These include male siblings forcing their lesbian sisters to perform oral sex acts in order to 'set them straight', mothers hiring gigilos to convince them to feel pleasure from men, and families forcing lesbian daughters into marriages that they did not want. All of these acts were undertaken to avoid the stigma these families perceived was attached to having a lesbian daughter. The article did not report on the prevalence of these reports. These incidents are likely underreported and Augustine also commented that police are often insensitive toward such victims and victims may report a crime of rape to police without revealing the sexual orientation component to the crime.²⁰

A LGBT rights activist commented on the acceptability of gay and lesbian women in Indonesian society for a June 2010 article in the *Jakarta Post* newspaper. He stated that in modern urban areas (this would include Jakarta and surrounding greater metropolitan areas of Bogor and Depok) that gays and lesbians are becoming more visible in the workplace and acceptable in friendship circles. He also remarked that families are becoming more accepting of gay and lesbian orientations for children.

While individual circumstances will vary with regards to treatment by family members, sources indicate that not all families react with violence to news of a family being gay or lesbian. A 23 February 2011 article in the *Jakarta Post* described the experience of one person who grew up in Aceh, which is one of the least tolerant provinces in Indonesia. The individual reports that most gay sons and daughters will attempt to hide their sexual orientation from the family. He reported that when he told family members, they attempted to take him to a psychiatrist and tried to 'force' him to play soccer and other masculine activities. He reported that he experienced discrimination and was ostracised from the community, but did not report being the victim of violence.²¹

The 2 December 2010 International Gay And Lesbian Human Rights Commission *Report On Violence Against Women In Asia* addressed the issue of violence against lesbians in Indonesian society. The report stated that violence against women in general is under-reported and is further marginalised for lesbians. The report corroborated information above that lesbians are subjected by family members (usually parents) to physical violence, forced marriages, and forced institutionalisation for psychiatric evaluations. The report also noted that rape does occur to 'convince' lesbians to correct their sexual orientation. It also stated that prevention of violence is especially difficult for younger lesbians who are dependent on

²⁰ Sabrarini, P. 2010, 'Lesbians face double discrimination' *Jakarta Post*, 4 October <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/04/10/lesbians-face-double-discrimination.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 7.

²¹ Simanjuntak, H. 2010, 'Gays, lesbians face discrimination in sharia Aceh', *Jakarta Post*, 20 January <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/01/20/gays-lesbians-face-discrimination-sharia-aceh.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 13.

their family for their livelihood and they are also less able to relocate or seek out assistance from organisations that protect their interests.²²

5. What is the attitude of the authorities towards lesbians and levels of state protection provided?

The state and authorities provide sufficient protection for lesbians to organise support groups, promote rights and political agendas in the media and through other channels, and to sustain community support groups and networks. On occasion, some functions organised by lesbian and other homosexual rights organisations are not provided adequate protection and threats of harm or harassment have forced their closure to prevent violence. Several sources of information indicate that in some circumstances, individual lesbians are not afforded adequate protection from authorities. Many times, these are due to personal situations, status, and location. Many sources indicate that there is a perception among lesbians that their sexual orientation is publicly tolerated by authorities, but not supported. It is likely that in some instances that police withhold adequate protection when lesbians are threatened and/or ignore appeals for protection.

The *Jakarta Post* reported in June 2010 that the LGBT movement increasingly is pushing an agenda for more rights and visibility within society which will expose members to threats and violence coming from hard line Muslim religious groups. In this context, the article warned that: ‘...the state apparatus does nothing to protect the movement’s right to freedom of expression’. The article presented as an example, the actions by the Muslim group Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) to force the cancellation of a gay and lesbian conference in Surabaya in March 2010. Eyewitnesses accused police of colluding with FPI members and encouraging participants to cancel the conference rather than providing adequate protection. Participants had earlier obtained proper police permits to hold the conference, but claim the police revoked the permit due to political pressure from the FPI. While violence did not occur at the conference attendees were intimidated, harassed and feared for their safety despite the presence of police.²³

The 2009 USDOS report states that NGOs are particularly critical of the government’s attitude toward lesbians and homosexuals. The report states that their view is as follows::

The government took almost no action to prevent discrimination against LGBT persons or to spur action by the police in investigating societal abuse against LGBT persons. Police corruption, bias, and violence caused LGBT individuals to avoid interaction with police.²⁴

But, the same report also notes that government authorities and police issued permits and provided protection for LGBT organisations to hold gay pride marches on 16 May 2009 in

²² International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission 2010, *Violence On the Basis of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression Against Non-Heteronormative Women in Asia*, February, pp.3-4 <http://ilga.org/ilga/static/uploads/files/2010/2/12/Report%20on%20Violence%20Against%20LBT%20People%20in%20Asia.pdf> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 17.

²³ Sabarini, P. 2010, ‘LGBT rights: A test for Indonesian democracy’ *Jakarta Post*, 29 June <http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:CdSMOe2IXmAJ:www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/06/29/lgbt-rights-a-test-indonesian-democracy.html+LGBT+rights:+a+Test+for+Indonesian+Democracy&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=au&source=w> www.google.com.au - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 8.

²⁴ US Department of State 2010, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 2009 – Indonesia*, 11 March, Section 6 – Attachment 4.

Jakarta, Surabaya, Yogyakarta, Makassar, and even in Banda Aceh, commemorating the International Day Against Homophobia.²⁵

The International Federation for Human Rights (IFHR) reports that political pressure and threats have, on occasion, forced some gay and lesbian events to relocate to other venues. The IFHR accuses police of not actively preventing protesters from intimidating LGBT members at some public events and that police often fail to vigorously investigate and make arrests when individuals report receiving threats or being stalked.²⁶

In June 2010, the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission issued a report accusing Indonesian police of refusing or failing to provide adequate protection for several LGBT events. The report alleges that lapses in police protection occurred several times in 2010, including disruptions to events: ‘...in Surabaya during the ILGA Asia Conference in April, in Depok during a human rights training for waria [transgenders], and in Bandung prior to a seminar on HIV/AIDS in May’. Even though the IGLHRC states that ‘...police have failed to live up to the national police mandate to protect marginalized groups,’ the report characterises some of these incidents as ‘lapses’, which may be characterised as a fairly moderate term.²⁷

²⁵ US Department of State 2010, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 2009 – Indonesia*, 11 March, Section 6 – Attachment 4.

²⁶ International Federation for Human Rights 2010, *Shadows and Clouds: Human Rights in Indonesia—Shady Legacy, Uncertain Future*, December 2010 pp. 50-51, UNHCR website <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country..IFHR..IDN..4d53eb522.0.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 16.

²⁷ ‘Indonesia: Police Allow Fundamentalists to Disrupt Another LGBT Event’ 2010, International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission, 6 August <http://www.iglhrc.org/cgi-bin/iowa/article/takeaction/resourcecenter/1140.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011 – Attachment 18.

Attachments

1. 'Lesbian Couple Forced to Marry in Sumatra' 2010, *Jakarta Globe* 13 February <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/home/lesbian-couple-forced-to-marry-in-sumatra/358262> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
2. Human Rights Watch 2009, 'Indonesia: New Aceh Law Imposes Torture', 11 October <http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2009/10/11/indonesia-new-aceh-law-imposes-torture> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
3. Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2008, *IDN102828.E – Indonesia - The situation of homosexuals; state protection and availability of support groups*, 3 July http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/research/rir/index_e.htm?action=record.viewrec&gotorec=451966 - Accessed 12 August 2008.
4. US Department of State 2010, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 2009 – Indonesia*, 11 March, Section 6.
5. Kurniawati, D. 2010, 'Acehnese Gays Face a Climate of Fear and Abuse' 18 August, <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/indonesia/acehnese-gays-face-a-climate-of-fear-and-abuse/391668> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
6. 'Indonesia: Activists Fight to Overturn Oppressive Law in Aceh' 2009, International Gay And Lesbian Human Rights Commission, 25 September <http://www.iglhrc.org/cgi-bin/low/article/takeaction/resourcecenter/975.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
7. Sabrarini, P. 2010, 'Lesbians face double discrimination' *Jakarta Post*, 4 October <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/04/10/lesbians-face-double-discrimination.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
8. Sabarini, P. 2010, 'LGBT rights: A test for Indonesian democracy' *Jakarta Post*, 29 June <http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:CdSMOe2IXmAJ:www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/06/29/lgbt-rights-a-test-indonesian-democracy.html+LGBT+rights:+a+Test+for+Indonesian+Democracy&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=au&source=www.google.com.au> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
9. Vaswani, K. 2010, 'Gay and Transgender Struggle for Acceptance in Indonesia', BBC News, 19 June <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10349050> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
10. Hapsari, A. 2010, 'In workplace, LGBTs face discrimination' *Jakarta Post*, 17 December <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/12/17/in-workplace-lgbts-face-discrimination.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
11. Amnesty International 2010, *Left with No Choice: Barriers to Reproductive Health in Indonesia*, 4 November 2010 p. 17, <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ASA21/013/2010/en/e0a63801-83d1-46b6-bc37-7cde2aa74daa/asa210132010en.pdf> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
12. Madame X's Super LGBT Mission' 2010, *Jakarta Globe* 28 September <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/entertainment/madame-xs-super-lgbt-mission/398489> - Accessed 28 February 2011.

13. Simanjuntak, H. 2010, 'Gays, lesbians face discrimination in sharia Aceh', Jakarta Post, 20 January <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/01/20/gays-lesbians-face-discrimination-sharia-aceh.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
14. Bagus, J., Saragih, B. 2010, 'LGBT feel alone in facing violations', Jakarta Post, 20 December <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/12/20/lgbt-feel-alone-facing-violations.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
15. Rahmat 2010, 'FPI Pulls Plug on Makassar Drag-Queen Pageant to Mark AIDS Day' *Jakarta Globe*, 3 December <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/home/fpi-pulls-plug-on-makassar-drag-queen-pageant-to-mark-aids-day/409817> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
16. International Federation for Human Rights 2010, *Shadows and Clouds: Human Rights in Indonesia—Shady Legacy, Uncertain Future*, December 2010 pp. 50-51, UNHCR website <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,,IFHR,,IDN,,4d53eb522,0.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
17. International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission 2010, *Violence On the Basis of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression Against Non-Heteronormative Women in Asia*, February, pp.3-4 <http://ilga.org/ilga/static/uploads/files/2010/2/12/Report%20on%20Violence%20Against%20LBT%20People%20in%20Asia.pdf> - Accessed 28 February 2011.
18. 'Indonesia: Police Allow Fundamentalists to Disrupt Another LGBT Event' 2010, International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission, 6 August <http://www.iglhrc.org/cgi-bin/iowa/article/takeaction/resourcecenter/1140.html> - Accessed 28 February 2011.