VIOLENT DEATHS OF LGBT+ IN BRAZIL

2021 Report
300 LGBT+ people suffered violent death in Brazil in 2021, 8% more than the previous year: 276 homicides (92%) and 24 suicides (8%). Brazil continues to be the country in the world where most LGBT people are murdered: one death every 29 hours.

These data are based on news published in the media, being collected and analyzed by the Gay Group of Bahia, which for 40 years has publicized these sad statistics, demanding from the government public policies that eradicate this killing that goes far beyond these numbers, because they represent only the tip of an iceberg of hate and blood.

National Overview

The Northeast was the region where most LGBT people were violently killed, 35% of the cases, followed by the Southeast (33%). It is the first time that the Southeast concentrates so many deaths: more than the total sum of the other regions, South, North and Center-West. There is no sociological regularity that explains this and many other occurrences, such as, for example, the reduction of deaths in the spring months.

São Paulo is the state where the highest number of deaths occurred, 42 (14%), followed by Bahia with 32, Minas Gerais with 27, and Rio de Janeiro, 26. Acre and Tocantins reported only one murder and Roraima was the only state with no record. The most dangerous capital for the LGBTI+ segment in 2021 was Salvador.
(12 deaths), followed by São Paulo, with 10 occurrences. Salvador, with approximately 3 million inhabitants, registered two more deaths than São Paulo, with 12 million. According to Prof. Luiz Mott, founder of GGB: "We always say that Bahia should rhyme with joy and not with homophobia! Such a joyful, hospitable people, who applauded when Daniela Mercury and Mãe Stela de Oxossi came out as lesbians, but who at the same time is capable of so much violence against LGBT people. Sad Bahia!"

**Profile of the victims**

With the exception of 2020, when for the first and only time transgender violent deaths surpassed those of gay men, also in 2021, as in the last four decades, gay men are in absolute terms, the group most affected by lethal violence. In 2021, male homosexuals again took the first place in the ranking of LGBTI+ deaths: 153 gay men (51%), followed by transvestites and transsexuals with 110 cases (36.67%), lesbians with 12 cases (4%), bisexuals and trans men 4 cases (1.33%), one occurrence of a non-binary person and one heterosexual, the latter mistaken for a gay man.

As for the color of the victims of violent deaths, 28% were white, 25% were brown, 16% were black, and only one was indigenous. Regarding age, the youngest victim was a 13-year-old transvestite and the oldest, a 76-year-old gay man. 47% of the LGBT people were in their prime, between 20-39 years old.

According to Prof. Domingos Oliveira, responsible for the collection and systematization of these data, "the negligence of the police and the negligence of journalists in accurately recording the basic information
indispensable for the identification of murdered LGBT people, is an aspect of the cultural homotransphobia that tarnishes our society, besides hindering a deeper and more complete analysis of these violent deaths."

In all, 44 professions were cited, including virtually every economic sector, demonstrating the presence of LGBT individuals in all social classes and income levels, from self-employed professionals to recyclers, with transvestites sex workers and gay men teachers, students, and hairdressers predominating.

In terms of cause of death, 276 homicides (92%) and 24 suicides (8%) were documented. We registered 34 gay men (11%) who suffered a robbery, a more serious criminal offense than homicides, since in these cases the murderers killed to steal the victim's belongings. As for the place of the murders, 36% occurred at the residence of the LGBT person, 32% in public places, but also in commercial establishments, in isolated places, on the seashore and in the woods. As a rule, gays and lesbians are killed in the home while transvestites and transsexuals are killed on the street.

In these bloody and cowardly executions, 28% were perpetrated with bladed weapons (knife, machete, scissors, hoe - up to 95 stab wounds!), then 24% with firearms, 21% by beating and strangulation, including asphyxiation, torture, and felonious hit-and-run. For Dr. Toni Reis of the National LGBTI+ Alliance, GGB's partner in this research, "the cruelty of how many of these executions were committed demonstrates the extreme hatred of the criminals, who are not content with killing, disfigure the victim washing their murderous homophobia in the spilled blood."
In the conclusion, the Gay Group of Bahia indicates five short-term proposals for the eradication of violent deaths of LGBT people in Brazil, highlighting the urgency of sexual and gender education in all school levels, exemplary application of the legal provisions of criminalization of homotransphobia racism, public policies that guarantee the full citizenship of this segment and an appeal for the victims of such violence to react and always denounce all kinds of discrimination. Prof. Marcelo Cerqueira, President of GGB emphasizes: "it is vital that all LGBT people follow carefully the tips suggested in the attached text, "Gay alive does not sleep with the enemy", practical suggestions, a true survival manual so as not to be the next victim."

The full report can be found at https://grupogaydabahia.com

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Acervo Pessoal

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1. LGBTI+ : Violence : Sociology 305,381
Homophobia is a deadly tragedy present in the daily life of Brazilian society, and its most perverse face is suicide. Among the victims is the dentist Gustavo dos Santos Lima, 27, found dead on October 14, 2021, in Campo Grande (MS). His death occurred days after a mother refused to allow her daughter to be vaccinated "by a faggot", when the victim was volunteering for the Covid-19 vaccination.
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Introduction

Social isolation due to measures to contain the advance of Covid19 suggested the hypothesis of a retraction in the numbers of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in Brazil, as the Gay Group of Bahia (GGB) reported in last year's report for 2020. However, months after this release, when we concluded the collection of data on homicides and suicides recorded in 2021, we jumped from 237 to 300 violent deaths, an increase of 8%, part of these oscillations are due to the lack of effort of public security agencies in monitoring such deaths, as part of actions to implement public policies to contain the advance of violence and homophobic crime on Brazilian soil.

The data for 2021, calculated by GGB, with the support of research in news sites, newspapers, magazines and TV news, blogs and other expedients present in the World Wide Web, in addition to the help of Google Alert, without counting the efforts of friends and collaborators from all over Brazil, especially Toni Reis from the LGBTI+ National Alliance, the result is a quantitative of 300 documented violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in Brazil. Shocking numbers, one homicide or suicide of an
LGBTI+ every 29 hours, highlighting that this death toll is only the tip of an iceberg of hate and blood, since our figures are under-reported due to the inexistence of governmental criminal statistics.

Unlike in 2020, where exceptionally gays stopped leading this bloody statistic, last year homosexual men again figure, as documented in the last four decades, with the highest number of casualties: 153 cases (51%), while transvestites/transsexuals/transgender women appear with 110 occurrences (37%).

It is worth mentioning that, unfortunately, this Violent Deaths of LGBTI+ 2021 Report continues to be carried out without any financial support, being released thanks to the persistent good will of a few heroic activists who continue to believe that denouncing and publicizing these homicides and suicides is a crucial strategy to warn the LGBTI+ themselves that every care is needed to ensure our own survival, thus avoiding becoming the next victim.

The trail of LGBT+ blood spilled on national territory is undeniable, to the point that our country appears to be the world leader in such crimes, without there being any sign on the part of the Brazilian State regarding
short-term emergency measures to eradicate such killings.

The daily survey of these violent deaths of LGBT people allows us to identify several types of violence, perpetrated in different environments (domestic, public, prison, work, etc.), from verbal aggression, refusal to provide services, attempted murder, physical aggression with death, among others.

A scenario always marked by much humiliation, denials of rights, disregard of the State in attending to the specificities and complaints of this segment, registering many discriminatory speeches from authorities, contempt for our just battle flags, including the cancellation of LGBT+ leaders from councils with Federal Administration bodies, deliberate acts of denial of claims to fight homotransphobia intolerance.

The stance of the Federal Government is perhaps the most dramatic element in the relationship between the LGBT+ population and society, as it signals disdain and disregard for the fact that at least 10% of the Brazilian population is made up of "faggots, toadies and transvestites," according to popular derogatory terminology. President Bolsonaro himself, when he was a congressman, assumed that he had the right
and parliamentary protection to be homophobic, labeling Brazil as a "country of faggots".

By denying the urgency of implementing basic and specific public policies for the LGBT+ population, and by practicing an aggressive and irrational crusade against what they call "gender ideology," the government stumbles in its own discourse, demonstrating inability even to build a proper positive agenda in favor of the poorest and most disadvantaged of our society.

What we hope to demonstrate with this report is how much violence against the LGBT+ population is diffuse and hides different nuances of structural homotransphobia; therefore, not always the cases registered here have explicit hatred personalized as the immediate mobilizing element of the aggressor, but conditions of physical and social vulnerability of the victims due to their sexual orientation and gender identity. Such fragilities propitiate systemic and individualized conditions for the occurrence in our country of a violent death, homicide or suicide, every 29 hours.
1. Research Methodology

The present dossier is part of the series Reports produced by GGB, under the coordination of Prof. Dr. Luiz Mott, over four decades, material widely documented in the Bulletin of the Gay Group of Bahia and in various publications such as books, scientific articles, interviews in various media (newspapers, radio, television, internet), in Brazil and abroad. For decades the GGB was the main source, widely cited in the annual reports on Human Rights of the U.S. Department of State and by the world's leading agency for information on violent deaths of transsexuals and transvestites, Transgender Europe, as well as by our National Secretariat for Human Rights, which through careful comparison of our statistics between 1963-2011, came to the conclusion that: "Brazil registers one death by homophobia every 16 hours!"1

This series began in 1963, and over a long period of time, the Gay Group of Bahia has been improving

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its methodology and dynamics in the collection and systematization of data, with a daily search for information about cases of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in Brazil, always taking care to review the key words in the internet search sites, because there is a new dynamic going on by journalists, radio broadcasters and bloggers in naming the people inserted in the categories studied here. Thus, we included new concepts, such as "trans woman", "trans man", besides continuing with the ethnics "gay", "homosexual", "bisexual", "lesbian", "suspicious death", "found dead", "state of putrefaction", "dead teacher", among others, besides the Google Alert, especially for the case of suicides.

The data collected was systematized in an Excel spreadsheet, in use and improved every year of research, and the information was copied and inserted in a Word file, following the chronological order of the claims, to facilitate comparison and further studies. To complement such information, it was often necessary to contact police stations, research on Public Safety websites in the states, identify cases in death lists of funeral services, and contact with family and friends in social networks, especially through Facebook and Instagram.
The general goal of this initiative is to register and denounce the very serious human rights violations against LGBTI+ people in Brazil, year after year, without respite, always denouncing the total absence of effective actions by the state power to build policies to prevent violence and crime against this social segment.

It is worth noting that in the last three years the Federal Government has systematically adopted the fight against the ideas of what it mistakenly labels gender ideology and, not by chance, has started to include the LGBTI+ community in the list of enemies of the conservative society model advocated by the Head of State, an ideology ratified in his recent and criticized visit to Russia. The most perverse effect of the logic of exclusion of this segment in public policies is the dismantling of the few governmental agencies that promote affirmative policies, such as the advisory boards of the Ministry of Health and the Presidency of the Republic.

Even recognizing and suffering the perverse effects of this unfavorable scenario for dialogue with the public sphere and the absence of conditions for monitoring lethal violence under discussion here, GGB kept up its work of collecting news and sparse information on cases of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in Brazil last year, always facing the problematic phenomenon of underreporting, since in some cases the number of cases of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in
of underreporting, since in many cases with evidence of hate deaths, the journalist, the police officer and the delegate or even the citizen who reported the death, omits the motivation of the crime and shuffles the sexual orientation and/or gender identity of the victims.

Without precise information about such violence, we do not have the necessary conditions to dimension precisely this serious criminological phenomenon, and the data collected by the GGB as well as by the Transvestite and Transgender Association (Antra), constitute the only possible sources amidst a denialist discourse about the brutal violence against this social segment that must represent more than 20 million individuals, whose identification continues to be denied by the demographic censuses of the IBGE.

Added to such difficulties in the systematization of these data is the fact that a considerable part of the reports collected in the media and other sources do not bring basic information to compose the demographic profile of the victims and, even less frequently, information about the aggressors, about the place of the crime and its circumstances and motivations are rare.

In relation to the works published in the last two years, this 2021 report shows significant progress in the collection and systematization of one of the tabooest subjects in our society.
taboo in our society, the cases of suicides, which, in the case of the LGBT population, the sexual and gender status of the victims are crucial variables in identifying their motivation, a consequence of the ego dystonic homotransphobia that affects a large part of this segment. International research confirms that especially LGBT youth have two to seven times more risk of suicide than heterosexuals.

The data collected was categorized in an Excel spreadsheet, where it contains the registration number, date, city, state, region, name, nickname/social name, sexual orientation and gender identity, age, color, profession, type of death, cause, number of perforations or shots, place, circumstances, source, and link. Besides this data, we organized a dossier of all the cases by month and Federal Unit, composed of reports, photos and videos about each of the victims, in a Word file.

A challenge to be better worked on in the next report is the application of the concept of structural homotransphobia, even because if a state agent were faced with the obligation of registering a case as a crime of homophobia, he would have to take into consideration some aspects of the aggression that go beyond the simple sexual orientation and/or gender identity.
It should also be clarified how the headlines have changed over time, and the jocular and even insulting names that belittled the victim have become progressively rarer. The publication of photos of the bloodied victim at the scene of the crime has also been observed in smaller numbers.

It is also necessary to mention the growing presence of crimes related to drug trafficking and the violence of the militias, present in this illicit activity, which has claimed the lives of many Brazilians in the last two decades, and often including deaths of LGBTI+ people. We insist, however, that due to structural, systemic and cultural homotransphobia, especially professional transvestites of sex are pushed to the "track", marginalized by heteronormativity, getting involved with delinquents where drugs and other illicit activities are part of this problematic daily life.
2. Violence against the LGBT+ population in Brazil

The episodes of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in Brazil, monitored by the Gay Group of Bahia, since 1980, account more than six thousand deaths, of which 300 cases occurred only in 2021.

The idea of a racial democracy, of religious freedom and peaceful coexistence with differences has not been possible to confirm in face of so many deaths and cases of violence reported by the media and widely disseminated in social networks and WhatsApp groups.

The scenario of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people is shown in Chart 1, with Brazil maintaining an average of 243 deaths per year in the last two decades, without an effective response from public power in benefit of this social segment still exposed to extreme violence and lethal criminality. In these last two decades, 2021 registered more deaths than in the previous 13 years, including the year 2020, which surprisingly registered a 17.67% decrease in lethal violence.
The decision of the Federal Supreme Court (STF) to equate homophobia to the crime of racism was right and necessary, but the effects of this new posture will be more effective when the Executive implements monitoring actions, accountability of aggressors and policies of respect to differences, among which social actions to combat the vulnerabilities of the LGBT segment. It also depends on the translesbigay community's own awareness and pressure to demand and make effective the application of the law. It is also important to consider the application of severe penalties to those who commit the crime of homotransphobia racism.

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2 Homophobia was equated to racism through the judgment of the Direct Action of Unconstitutionality by Omission - ADO 26, by the Supreme Court on June 13, 2019.
Table 1 – Number of LGBT+ violent deaths, Brazil, 1963-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>N. Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1963-1969</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-1979</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-1989</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-1999</td>
<td>1.256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-2009</td>
<td>1.429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2019</td>
<td>3.029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.691</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: GGB, 2022.

The fact that there is a notable variation in the number of deaths over the years remains a sociological unknown and also reflects the absence of official monitoring, making the GGB hostage to news published in the media or information provided by collaborators and even then, suffers with the difficulties to prove, in some cases, the nature of the fact and its direct relationship to homotransphobia. This is one of the great challenges of this research, when some critics suggest that it is not possible to identify immediately obvious homotransphobia aspects in all the deaths.
In these cases, our conduct has been similar to that of militants of the black, feminist, and indigenous movements, nationally and internationally: many of these crimes are explained by structural, systemic, institutional, or cultural homotransphobia. And certainly, the doubtful cases are much lower than the number of underreported deaths. We also affirm that all of the 300 cases of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people mentioned here were carefully reviewed and checked with several sources of information, including by calling the delegates of the interior cities to make sure that the victims were indeed LGBT. We also remember that the cases of robbery, especially against gay men, and the violent deaths of transvestites and transsexual sex professionals on the "runway", including intentional killings, have always been and should be included as hate crimes, since they reflect the systemic homotransphobia that makes gay men more vulnerable to the violence of truculent males, and transvestites are also more victimized due to socio-spatial apartness and marginalization to which they were pushed by the heteronormative mainstream. Transvestites killed in the prostitution scene should, therefore, always be included in these hate statistics, as well as gay men who were victims of robbery whose killers felt
the assumption of the social vulnerability of "faggots". In doing so, we are following the same methodological procedure applied by governmental and non-governmental entities in the investigation of lethal crimes against the human rights of other social minorities.

The increase in violent deaths over the decades is naturally explained not only by the worrying and uncontrolled growth of criminality in general in Brazil in recent times, but also by the greater access to information due to information technology and social networks.

Source: GGB, 2022.
Having followed the evolution of violent deaths of LGBT+ people in Brazil for more than 40 years, there were very few sociological regularities observed in the higher or lower number of these crimes throughout this long period. Regarding seasonality, the months in which the highest number of such deaths occurred were April, August and January, respectively, inexplicably distributed in the fall, winter and summer seasons. There is no cause-effect relationship for such frequencies, nor why in the spring such rates decrease significantly.

The next table, n. 2, identifies the northeast region with the highest number of LGBTI+ deaths in Brazil, 35.33%, followed by the southeast region, with 33.7%, and the center west with 11%. Important data to be analyzed regarding the peculiar dynamics of the three regions and the socioeconomic and cultural circumstances that motivate these deaths, not forgetting the greater or lesser relationship of the victims with points of prostitution, involvement in trafficking, the increased risk of making appointments with strangers through hookup apps, characterizing surreptitiously conducts that qualify such occurrences as hate crimes.
Table 2 – Cases of violent deaths of LGBT+ people by region in Brazil, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>35.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>33.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center-West</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No information</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>300</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: GGB, 2022.

Considering the proportions, the Northeast and Southeast regions may be considered technically even, but when we observe the distribution of cases by state unit, in a process of building a ranking, we conclude that São Paulo, Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro concentrated 33.7% of the cases of violent deaths under study here.

It is worrisome that Bahia concentrated 32 deaths of LGBT people (10.7%) of the cases of violent deaths identified on Brazilian soil, despite the efforts of the Gay Group of Bahia, together with the security agencies of the state, in favor of actions in defense of this population. These numbers reflect the same tendency observed throughout the state, which according to the
state, which according to the Map of Violence, leads Bahia in such indexes throughout the national territory. Here are the ten states with the highest recurrence of cases of homotransphobia lethal violence: São Paulo, Bahia, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, Paraná, Ceará, Pará, Pernambuco, Mato Grosso, and Alagoas, four of them in the Northeast region.

The most unsafe capital for LGBTI+ people in 2021 was Salvador (12 deaths), followed by São Paulo, with 10 occurrences, Curitiba, Manaus and Rio de Janeiro, with seven (7) cases each, Belém appears with six (6) cases and Recife with five (5), João Pessoa (4), Campo Grande, Cuiabá, Maceió and Natal (3) and Aracaju with two cases. That is, Salvador, with approximately 3 million inhabitants, registered two more deaths than São Paulo, with 12 million inhabitants. Sad Bahia, as GGB always warns: "Bahia should rhyme with joy and not with homophobia!"
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th>States</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1º</td>
<td>São Paulo</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2º</td>
<td>Bahia</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>10,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3º</td>
<td>Minas Gerais</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4º</td>
<td>Rio de Janeiro</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5º</td>
<td>Paraná</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6º</td>
<td>Ceará</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7º</td>
<td>Pará</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8º</td>
<td>Pernambuco</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9º</td>
<td>Mato Grosso</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10º</td>
<td>Alagoas</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11º</td>
<td>Espírito Santo</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12º</td>
<td>Amazonas</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13º</td>
<td>Goiás</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14º</td>
<td>Maranhão</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15º</td>
<td>Mato Grosso do Sul</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16º</td>
<td>Paraíba</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17º</td>
<td>Santa Catarina</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18º</td>
<td>Distrito Federal</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19º</td>
<td>Rio Grande do Norte</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20º</td>
<td>Sergipe</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21º</td>
<td>Piauí</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22º</td>
<td>Rondônia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23º</td>
<td>Rio Grande do Sul</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24º</td>
<td>Amapá</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25º</td>
<td>Acre</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26º</td>
<td>Tocantins</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>No information</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>300</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>99,61</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: GGB, 2022.
Roraima appears as the only state with no record of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in 2021; at least the GGB did not find any note in the media and was not even informed of the occurrence of cases of this nature through militancy, as can be seen in a report from 02/03/2022, from the newspaper Folha BV (RR..., 2022).

An important fact to be considered in a study of this nature is the day of the week with the highest number of episodes of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people, as can be seen in Table 4.

**Table 4** – Day of the week with recorded violent deaths of LGBT+ people in 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day of the Week</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>11,67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>12,67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>13,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>18,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>300</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: GGB, 2022.*

Saturday takes the first position with the occurrence of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in Brazil in 2021, with
18.33% of the cases. In general, it is the day of the week with the highest propensity for fun, leisure and, denoting the time of the week for rest and the possibility to flirt, date or even find someone for a casual relationship, although Sundays and Mondays present a rate of 14% for both, while Wednesday reaches 16% of the cases and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays stay between 11 and 13%.

It is also important to emphasize that 45.66% of the cases of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in Brazil in 2021 occurred on weekends (Friday, Saturday or Sunday), hence the high number of deaths on these days in residences and spaces of prostitution.
3. Victim Profile

In 2021, gay men again ranked first in LGBTI+ deaths by sexual orientation, with a total of 153 cases (51%), while transvestites, transsexuals, and transgender women accounted for 110 cases (36.67%), lesbians 12 cases (4%), bisexuals and transgender men 4 cases (1.33%), and heterosexuals and nonbinary men 1.33%.

Source: GGB, 2022.

With the exception of the year 2020, when for the first and only time the violent death of transgender people surpassed that of gays,
also in 2021, as since 1963, gays are in absolute terms, the group most affected by lethal violence. It is estimated that homosexual males represent around 10% of Brazilians, more than 22 million individuals, while transvestites and transsexuals would number between 1 and 4 million people. We insist that these are estimates, since there are no official demographic data on the so-called sexual minorities. Thus, in proportion to the total population, transsexuals are much more murdered than the other categories, and this greater incidence is due to their modus vivendi predominantly linked to the provision of sexual services on the dance floor, a place traditionally marked by much intergroup and police violence. Lesbians are always much less murdered than the other categories (4%), repeating the same tendency observed in the general population, since according to IPEA, women represent 8% of homicides in our country.

With regard to the age of the victims, the data collected shows a higher occurrence of cases in the 20 to 49 age group, with 59.32% of the cases of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people in Brazil in 2021. This is an age group in the fullness of adulthood and of greater productivity, the moment when citizens usually leave the family home for their own property, a range of factors to be
of factors to be crossed to better understand the circumstances of assaults and deaths within this age group.

**Table 5** – Age range of LGBT+ victims of violent deaths - Brazil, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 to 19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>25,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>22,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>11,66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0,67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No information</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>300</strong></td>
<td><strong>99,98</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: GGB, 2022.*

Between the ages of 20 and 39, there are 143 deaths, which is the age group with the highest incidence of deaths of transvestites and transsexuals, or of gay men with greater buying power.

The numbers are impressive, but the images and reports published in the press and in the notes obtained by the Gay Group of Bahia tell of a very sad personal, family, and social drama to be better understood, because of the cruelty, when taking a human being to death due to disagreement with his or her sexual orientation or gender
identity. As is the case of this transgender child Karon, 13, murdered by a 17-year-old teenager, with sticks, kicks and punches, in Camocim (CE), on January 04, 2021, execution even more shocking when we know the reason: the collection of a debt of R$ 50, due to a sexual program unpaid by the aggressor, who, without the resources to pay the agreed upon, slaughtered her.
Karon, trans, 13 years old, Camocim, Ceará
Photo: Personal collection.

Facts of this nature expose the seriousness of the transphobia problem, not only in the fact of death itself, but in the social conditioning that pushes children and young people to prostitution as the only option for survival, in the face of the dilemmas experienced in family and school. Hence the importance of the discussion about
the concept of homotransphobia and its application to cases of this nature, whether in relation to seeking punishment, preservation of life, and the construction of public policies to respond to the social vulnerabilities experienced by the LGBTI+ population in Brazil.

The Karon case illustrates part of the drama evidenced in this report, through disconcerting images, leading GGB to adopt a new strategy, abandoning photos of bloodied victims from the last reports, opting in this edition to bring alive bodies, wide smiles, lives in full exuberance, generally broadcast on social networks or obtained from personal files, to demonstrate how homotransphobia takes our lives in the full splendor of existence.
Another category considered important in the analysis of violent deaths of LGBT people is color, although there is a need for clarification here. The fact that there is no access to information of this nature through official data forces GGB to identify the color of the victims based on the images published in the notes in the media and social networks, or even through their photos published in the periodicals. For this reason, 30% of the cases appear without information and even though 28.67% of the victims are considered white and 41% are attributed to brown and black people, this should not be taken as indisputable data, it only serves as a first contribution for future verifications.
It is also worth mentioning that in relation to occupation/profession, there is a great lack of documental information about this category, 51% of the cases, and in the remaining cases, there are still some doubts about the information provided and the real work and income strategies developed by these LGBTI+, even though we recognize that we are facing important data to discuss citizenship, exposure to social vulnerabilities and their relationship or not with aggression and death.

Source: GGB, 2022.
Table 7 – Profession/Occupation of LGBT+ victims of violent death in Brazil in 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sex Professional</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>10,66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>8,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hairdresser</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBT Activist</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Servant</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiter</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>15,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Information</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>51,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>300</strong></td>
<td><strong>99,98</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: GGB, 2022.

In all, 44 professions were cited among the victims, including practically all economic sectors, demonstrating the presence of LGBT individuals in all social classes and income levels. In addition to these most frequent professions, one or two deaths of LGBT individuals were registered in the following occupational categories: lawyer, attendant, actor, singer,
lawyer, attendant, actor, singer, commercial worker, cook, entrepreneur, nurse, former councilman, circus artist, blogger, pimp, carnival worker, recycler, real estate agent, dentist, unemployed, day laborer, foreman, industrialist, store manager, community leader, telemarketer, journalist, saint father, personal trainer, military police officer, psychologist, bar owner, homeless, rural worker, human resources technician, nursing technician, security technician, and salesperson of beauty products. Here, too, the leadership of this sad professional ranking of LGBT victims of violent death varies from year to year, with sex workers remaining, however, generally at the top of the occurrences, vying with hairdressers for such leadership.

The data on the cause of death helps to understand part of the dynamics of such crimes, especially when the fact is attributed to the occurrence of latrocínio, robbery with result of death (art. 157, CP), that is, the aggressor killed because his intention was to ensure the robbery and in this penal typification, he ends up being taken to a technical trial, with a much higher penalty, when compared to homicide.
Among the criminal types listed here, there is one in particular, suicide, considered taboo by society and little studied by the LGBTI+ movement in Brazil. First, it is not a crime for a person to attempt suicide, denoting a health problem to be promptly treated, and there is the Center for the Appreciation of Life (CVV), with a free phone line available to guide people to seek meaning for their existence and thus give up committing suicide.
According to international literature, the suicide of LGBTI+ people is directly related to social disapproval of their sexual orientation or gender identity, as can be seen in the death of Luís Carlos Souza de Almeida, 19, on June 4, 2021, in Porto Franco (MA), victim of mockery after walking naked through the city, when he was filmed and ridiculed. A death that could have been avoided, if the population or the health and social assistance services had welcomed him, in an act of recognition that a psychotic break was occurring there. It is impressive that the victim wandered around the city and no one took any action to help him.

A very sad and emblematic case of suicide was played by the son of the singer Walkyria Santos: the teenager Lucas Santos, 16, posted a video on social networks, in a joke insinuating a kiss and/or affection with a classmate, however, the aggressive negative reactions of Internet users on social networks and the fear of family repression led this young man to suicide. His death on 08/03/2021, measures the weight of social disapproval on the unconscious and self-esteem of the people who are victims of homophobia in this country, and some of them have not been able to bear the pain caused by the look and criticism, to the point of taking their own lives. What matters here is not whether
It is important to know how painful and difficult it is to deal with sexuality outside the heteronormative scheme, in a sexist society. The same decision was taken by Pheterson Gustavo Amâncio da Silva, 19, on 08/13/2021, in Cuiabá (MT) after facing homophobia in the social networks.

Pheterson Gustavo Amâncio da Silva, Cuiabá, MT. Photo Personal collection.

³ Walkyria..., 2022.
If the cases of suicides shock by their nature, and even more because there is enough evidence that homophobia was the cause of these voluntary deaths, it is repugnant to know the existence of aggression promoted with the intention of correcting or punishing the victim's behavior, as occurred in relation to the transvestite Hevelyn Montine Santos, 30, killed on September 4th in Rio Verde (GO). The aggressor beat her and then killed her with three shots.

Sometimes the local population took to the streets asking for justice against such barbarism, like the funeral procession of the teacher Rinaldo de Lima Araújo, 39, on January 07, 2021, in Nazaré da Mata (PE): here the banner: "Lives matter", regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim, draws attention.
We point out that there are some cases of deaths that are tangentially related to homophobic motivations, such as the murder of Lupita, 20 years old, on 07/01/2021, in the municipality of São João do Arraial (PI), executed by her stepfather with a knife while trying to defend her mother. Their inclusion in this report helps us to better understand the situations of social vulnerability of LGBT people, especially when we see the

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4 Corpo..., 2022.
living together in family environments marked by fear, exploitation, financial hardship, the absence of dignified living conditions and, in many cases, victims being subjected to abusive relationships. GGB has registered in previous reports several cases, such as this one, in which the stepfather executed his stepson for not supporting the presence of a "faggot" in his house.

Another episode also motivated by cultural or systemic homophobia included here is the death of Ramon Pereira dos Santos, 35, beaten with sticks by a transvestite, on 07/01/2021, in Belo Horizonte, after informing he could not afford the price of the sexual program. It is important to understand the dynamics of violence also in the spaces of prostitution and, a little discussed fact, the occasional deaths in which LGBTI+ people are the aggressors, whether in relation to the commission of homicides, robberies, attempted homicides, rape, robbery, extortion, among other criminal types.

We should consider, along the same interpretive line as the cases above, the death of Gleidson Felipe da Silva, 20, on January 8, 2021, in Corumbá (MT), after a disagreement,
killing him with knife blows, a case of toxic and lethal domestic violence in an LGBT household.

The execution of two transvestites in Mesquita, in Rio de Janeiro, on 16/01/2021, while riding on the same motorcycle, should also be noted. Yasmin and Letícia Lessa died in the middle of the street, and it is not possible to establish a direct relationship between their deaths and the degree of transphobia underlying this double homicide.

It is also striking how much the absence of the State leads to the recurrence of executions on Brazilian soil. This is evident in the death of the gay activist Fernando dos Santos Araújo, on 26/01/2021, in Pau D'Arco (PA), a militant of the landless movement (MST).
He was the only witness of a massacre that occurred in 2017, accusing police officers of having executed the victims. It is hard to imagine that his condition as an openly gay man did not have the slightest influence on his execution, since homosexuals are seen as more fragile victims due to their social vulnerability and homophobic rejection.

Another important aspect to be considered regarding the deaths of LGBTI+ people is the modus operandi, and here the weapon used by the aggressor against the victim is of interest. This information may indicate the degree of hatred.

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5 Aranha (2022).
towards the victim or even point to the absence or presence of premeditation.

Table 9 – Weapon used by aggressor in the execution of LGBT+ Brazil - 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of death</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White weapon (knives, machete, scissors, hoe)</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>28,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearm</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>24,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beatings (stabbing, stoning)</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>12,67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strangulation (asphyxiation, rear naked choke)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8,67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other causes</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: GGB, 2022.

The simple reading of the instruments used in the execution of LGBT people denounces the violence and sometimes the refinement of cruelty, including the practice of torture by some of the criminals, reflecting the hatred of such "macho men" against their victims. As observed in previous reports, the use of white weapons also predominates in 2021, followed by firearms. It differs, therefore, from the national pattern of violent deaths, which according to IPEA, firearms are responsible for 71% of the casualties. In our case, although perforating instruments predominate, it is still worrisome that 1
that 104 of the killers carried revolvers or pistols of different calibers in their erotic encounters or in the practice of robbery - suggesting that this population is quite familiar with the world of crime.

Among these cases, Márcio Velloso da Silva, 55, LGBTI+ rights activist, honored with his picture on the cover of this report, surrounded by rainbow-colored balloons, was shot to death on April 1, 2021, in the city of Maricá (RJ). His execution exposes a fact to be further explored in research on these violent deaths: the execution of leaders of the LGBTI+ movement. Because they expose themselves more, because they are fiercer in confronting homophobes, militant gays provoke even more the deadly wrath of bigots, as often happens with indigenous leaders.

On the other hand, especially when the crime, premeditated or not, was committed inside the victim's apartment or bedroom, the killer uses domestic objects to carry out the homicide, hammers, electrical wires, kitchen knives, pillows to muffle the screams and suffocate. Hence the constant campaign of GGB, training the LGBT public through the leaflet "Gay alive doesn't sleep with the enemy", available on Google and transcribed at the end of this
of this report, transmitting "tips" on how to avoid becoming the the next victim.

It is important to consider the number of perforations carried out with bladed weapons: in 2021, there is an occurrence of beheading, as it is an important indicator to identify more virulent cases of homophobia, since there are rarely records of the aggressor's speech. An emblematic case that adequately illustrates the relationship between the number of blows and the hatefulness of the criminal is the execution of the lesbian Gillimara Santos da Costa, 35, on March 20, 2021, in João Pessoa (PB), killed by Marilene da Silva Ramos, 45, with whom she had a stable relationship, killed with 95 stab wounds! Even though the aggressor justifies that she killed to avoid dying, the explanation does not seem reasonable, since they had been in a relationship for five years and only hatred can justify such an impetus for the annihilation of the other person. Toxic lesbophobia similar to feminicides committed by heterosexual partners.

On October 18, 2021, the press in Varginha (MG) reported the death of José Wilton Andrade Junior, 52, a university professor, who was stabbed 54 times and had his house turned upside down and his belongings stolen, clearly configuring a robbery. An unnecessary detail, however, called the attention of the reporter of the newspaper O Tempo, of 19/10/2021, when he printed
the headline: "Professor is found dead wearing only a torso in Varginha" (OLIVEIRA, 2022), that is, the most important thing was to expose the intimacy of the dead man than to emphasize the fifty stab wounds inflicted. Fortunately, the Civil Police of Minas Gerais elucidated the case, arrested the criminal when he was trying to sell a laptop and the victim's vehicle, and sentenced him to 33 years in prison. (SUSPECT..., 2022).

It is impressive that another similar case occurred, this time involving two gay men, in the city of Campina Grande
in Paraíba, on 06/06/2021, when João Victor Almeida, 23, was cruelly murdered by his partner with 23 stab wounds, even breaking the perforating instrument. Differently from what the common sense proclaims, the cases involving gay or lesbian couples are rare (6.67%), and even these are the consequence of toxic relationships involving unhealthy jealousy and possessiveness, repeating the same hatred observed among opposite-sex couples.

In some cases, cruelty is executed by different means, as can be concluded from the death of
José Aparecido Santana da Silva, 33, which occurred on April 8, 21, in União dos Palmares, Alagoas, where the aggressor hanged the victim with his pants, striking him in the neck and thorax with a machete.

We also pointed out the need for a more accurate investigation to explain the fact that photo weapons occupy the second position among the means used to kill LGBTI+ people in Brazil, with a percentage of 24.33%. Among these cases, Márcio Velloso da Silva, 55, LGBTI+ rights activist, executed by gunshot on April 1, 2021, in the city of Maricá (RJ). The execution of social movement leaders has been a sad constant in our country.

Márcio Velloso da Silva, Maricá, Rio de Janeiro
Photo: Personal collection.
The data in Table 9 show 5 occurrences of deaths of LGBTI+ activists in Brazil in 2021, including one trans man.

Table 9 – Cases of LGBTI+ activists violently killed in 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sexual Orientation</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/04/2021</td>
<td>Maricá</td>
<td>RJ</td>
<td>Márcio Velloso da Silva</td>
<td>Gay</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/04/2021</td>
<td>Salvador</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>Vida Bruno</td>
<td>Trans Man</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/09/2021</td>
<td>Guarapari</td>
<td>ES</td>
<td>Jilson Santos</td>
<td>Gay</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/11/2021</td>
<td>Juína</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>Rogério Diego dos Santos</td>
<td>Gay</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/12/2021</td>
<td>Curitiba</td>
<td>PR</td>
<td>Onírio Carlos Silvestre</td>
<td>Gay</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** GGB, 2022.

Teacher Onírio Carlos Silvestre, 59, was found in his apartment in downtown Curitiba (PR), on 19/12/2021, gagged and with a knife stuck in the left side of his chest. The Civil Police arrested her partner, with whom she had been living for three years, in the city of Ponta Grossa, where she fled after committing the crime. The professor worked in higher education and was one of the founders of the Grupo Dignidade, a group that defends the LGBTI+ cause in the state of Paraná, currently the most active entity in Brazil.
The case of Bruno Vida, 44, a trans man from Bahia, had a fall as the official cause of death, contested by his family, in claiming that there was homicide, after suffering aggression in a restaurant in Salvador. The victim was the coordinator of the LGBT Citizenship Center of the Salvador (BA) City Hall. His death occurred on 06/04/2021, after two months of hospitalization at the Hospital Teresa de Lisieux. The family attributes his death to head trauma suffered inside the restaurant.
Cases of death by stabbing weapon take first place in the ranking of instruments used to kill LGBTI+ people in Brazil, with 85 occurrences among the 300 deaths. The reason for the use of a sharp instrument may indicate mainly deaths in homes, as this type of utensil is easily found by the aggressor in the kitchen.
Knife blows by the hands of two 18 year old young men took the life of the Secretary of Culture of the municipality of Campo Limpó de Goiás, Wagner Braz de Matos, 46, on 04/07/2021. The crime was committed with cruelty because they disfigured the gay man's face to avoid his recognition. The objective was to take possession of the victim's vehicle to make money. The assailants had already gone out with the victim on other occasions.

One of these deaths had particular repercussions because of its drama and inestimable loss in the university and cultural universe of Alagoas and Brazil. The execution by asphyxiation of university professor José Acioli Filho, 59,
former director of the Theo Brandão Museum, Maceió, sculptor and choreographer, beaten to death by two young men who entered his home on September 16, 2021.

Acioli's death is a wake-up call to the LGBTI+ community when it associates the deaths to misfortune, misinformation or lack of care when taking strangers home: social relations do not have an ideal prescription as to the care to be observed to ensure physical integrity, since the cited guidelines of the GGB in the text "Gay alive does not sleep with the enemy!", strongly advise against introducing strangers into the house, advice that is not always observed, suggesting that such occasional relationships be held in a hotel or motel, less dangerous spaces, but not totally exempt from the occurrence of aggressions and deaths even in these places.
The place of death constitutes important information in the categorization of lethal crimes against the LGBTI+ population.
The fact that an LGBT person brought a stranger inside his residence may have facilitated the execution of the crime, although it also denotes a reflection of structural homophobia that generates fear of public exposure of a still taboo sexuality.
of a still taboo sexuality kept hidden due to public scorn.

The deaths in public places are more related to transvestites and transsexuals, although there are also gays in this situation, and it is not only an indicator of social vulnerability.

It is also necessary to recognize the deaths of LGBTI+ people that occur in the Brazilian prison system, despite the lack of statistics and studies capable of pointing out the causes and extent of these casualties, since they include both homicides and suicides: in 2021, there were six records of this nature, making up 2% of all deaths.

It is impressive the fact that the press reports omit exactly in which place the death occurred, as found for 43% of the sample, that is, data collection via messages in social networks, media in general and informants dispersed in the territory, does not help to minimize underreporting, thus contributing to increase the feeling of insecurity of members of the LGBT community.
It is important to emphasize the enormous suffering experienced by the victims of this lethal violence and how much needs to be done to seek justice and effective policies of respect for LGBTI+ life in our country. Therefore, by systematizing the data in this category, we seek to compose a synthesis, even acknowledging the difficulties in statistically pointing out how each type of weapon figured at the scene and execution of the crime, such as asphyxiation, because it implies circumstances only made explicit through a careful reading of the news article, the note on social networks or, more rarely, in the often-cynical testimony of the aggressor recorded in the records of the criminal proceedings.
As is made clear in Table 10, the data collected from the data shows deaths that occurred in residences, streets, roads, highways, hospitals, hotels, inns, motels, penitentiaries, bars, beaches, and parks, among others. An example is the death of the medical student Valmir Billy Marley Júnior Chaves de Lima, 23, killed on February 26, 21, in a public place, while returning from a party in the capital of Para, victim of a beating. The suspect was arrested two months later and the police identified him as a drug user who had killed to rob (latrocínio).

Valmir Billy Marley Júnior Chaves de Lima, Belém, Pará
Photo: Personal File.
Victtor Cauã Bianchini Silva, 17, murdered on March 14, 2022, in Rondonópolis (MT), in an Umbanda Center by the father of a friend who did not accept that his son participated in this religion of African matrix, but investigations have shown that there was also a homophobic motivation.

The drama experienced by Victtor Cauã exposes one of the perverse sides of homophobia, not always noticeable and debated in public, in the face of numerous situations experienced in the daily lives of many LGBTI+ Brazilians, exposed
to mockery, humiliation, speeches, and extreme violence.

It is for the right to exist, to maintain physical and mental integrity the engine of the actions of the Gay Group of Bahia throughout four decades of performance, in favor of LGBTI+ human rights in Brazil.
4. The Aggressors

The impunity of LGBT killers is a very serious problem and an aggravating factor for the repetition of those same crimes: only 95 out of 300 criminals were identified in the news and other sources, that is, only 31.67% of the cases were solved in the same year of the occurrence, which represents three out of every ten episodes of violent deaths of LGBTI+ people. As occurred in the death of the teacher Edson Carlos Coelho dos Santos, 41, in Araçuaí (MG), killed by a 17-year-old teenager with brick blows, stab wounds and blows with clubs. After this cruel execution, the young aggressor stole the victim's motorcycle, abandoning it in a forest and, in a statement to the police, said he exchanged messages with the teacher and went to his house, and on the day of the aggression there was a disagreement between them, without specifying the reason, killing him without compassion.
Such data, even though incomplete, offer some information about the demography of this segment of criminals and certain nuances of the relationship between the aggressor and the victim: in general, they are young people between 16 and 35 years of age, from low-income segments, with little schooling, without a defined profession and mostly occupied with casual work, some living off "gay clients". Nevertheless, we find some with a better position in the social structure and not always the aggressor is unknown to the victim (partner, boyfriend/girlfriend).
5. Conclusion

Regrettably, in 2021 we registered an increase from 237 to 300 LGBT+ deaths in Brazil, compared to 2020, an increase of 8%. Homophobic lethal violence did not follow, therefore, the same trend of 7% reduction in the total number of violent deaths in the general population of Brazil last year, as reported a few days ago by the Nucleus of Violence at USP and the Brazilian Forum of Public Safety. How to explain such an increase and statistical divergence?

Last year's statistics confirm the trend observed in the last decade, with more than 300 violent deaths of LGBTI+ people every year.

The Gay Group of Bahia insists on the same measures linked in the previous reports when demanding effective governmental actions against violence and discrimination towards the LGBTI+ population:

- Implementation of sexual and gender education at all school levels to teach youth and the population in general respect for human rights and citizenship of the LGBTI+ population;
Strict enforcement of court decisions favorable to the full citizenship of the LGBT population, especially in the recognition of homosexual marriage and the equating of homophobia and transphobia to the crime of racism;

Public policies in the areas of health, human rights, education, that contribute to the eradication of violent deaths and provide equal citizenship to the LGBT community;

Demand that the Police and Justice diligently investigate and punish with all severity homotransphobic crimes;

And a call on LGBT+ people themselves to avoid situations that risk their own vital safety and when victims of any threat or violence, to react and report it.

Therefore, reducing the current rates of violence against the LGBTI+ population requires a commitment from the State, society, and the general and specific population, because hate crimes tend to reflect the difficulty of living with the differences of the other, and only an education of respect and promotion of individual and collective freedoms can contain the toxic heteronormative culture, so harmful to a viable project of civility.
References


Appendix 1
Living gay men do NOT sleep with the enemy!

Homosexual Survival Guide

Tips to avoid anti-gay violence

1. Avoid taking strangers or male prostitutes home. Prefer to do it in hotels, motels, and saunas;
2. Investigate the life of the person you are going out with. Prefer people referred by friends;
3. Only make love affairs with them after you are sure that they are trustworthy;
4. Never drink liquids offered by an eventual partner. The drink may contain sleeping pills;
5. "Good Night Cinderella" In a bar, nightclub... if you need to go to the bathroom etc., take the glass with you, or make up an excuse and throw the liquid away;
6. If you take someone home, don't hide them from the doorman, or neighbors. They can help you in time of danger. It is always good to have a good relationship with these people. In times of trouble, they are always supportive;
7. If possible, don't hide that you are gay. This prevents blackmail and extortion;
8. Don't feel inferior. Don't show defenselessness, avoid showing passivity, fear, submission. Don't cultivate the macho type, or at least don't show that you value him so much;

9. Avoid having sex with more than one pussy. Before the sex, agree on all the details: price, duration, erotic preferences (if he accepts, for example, to be passive);

10. Do not humiliate your partner. Don't show off jewelry, wealth, or symbols of superiority that arouse greed. The sex worker is almost always of a lower class than you;

11. If the meeting is at your home, lock the door and hide the key. Do not leave weapons, knives, and dangerous objects in sight; you are the owner of the house and must dominate the situation;

12. If you are assaulted, go to the police, ask for a physical examination and report the case to LGBT activist groups. Remember that police stations are public. If you were mistreated by the officer, call the Chief of Police; if he is not there, call the duty officer. If you are still poorly treated, file a lawsuit against the police station. Don't be afraid!