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REPORT ON VIOLENCE AND VIOLATIONS BASED ON REAL OR PRESUMED SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2025

15th July 2025

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1. Introduction

This is the 25th monthly report on violence and other forms of human rights violations on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity/expression since the Anti-Homosexuality Act (AHA) came into force on 30th May 2023. The report discusses cases in which known or suspected LGBTIQ persons were targeted for violence and violations purely on the basis of their SOGIE as reported in the month of June 2025, and a comparison is made with the month of May 2025. This report builds on the reports produced earlier in this series and therefore seeks to build on the data available about the enforcement of the AHA 2023 from 30th May 2023 to date.

2. Methodology

This report provides an overview of cases of violence and human rights violations on the basis of SOGIE that were reported to the HRAPF legal aid network during the month of June 2025. Quantitative data for this report was obtained from a review of case files for data on the number of cases handled and the number of cases in which acts of violence or other human rights violations were identified. The data was then subjected to a qualitative analysis to ascertain the circumstances under which the incidents occurred, in order to ensure that only cases in which such acts were perpetrated purely or primarily on the basis of real or presumed SOGIE are included in the report. All data reported has been independently verified to ensure its accuracy.

The data presented in this report is limited by the fact that it covers only cases reported through the HRAPF legal aid network. The report presents a fair picture of the situation for LGBTIQ persons across the country as reported to HRAPF's countrywide network of community paralegals, regional legal aid centres, specialised community legal aid desks and the main legal aid clinic, but it may not be representative of all LGBTIQ persons' lived realities during the month, as we acknowledge that not all cases that occurred in June 2025 were reported to HRAPF's network.

3. Nature and number of cases reported

HRAPF handled a total of 57 cases in the month of June 2025, a slight increase from the 51 cases handled in the month of May 2025. Out of the 57 cases handled, 19 cases involved actions that directly targeted people for negative treatment on the basis of their SOGIE, representing 38.0% of all the cases handled during the month of June 2025. This represents a slight increase from May 2025, where 16 cases were registered where people were targeted for negative treatment on the basis of their SOGIE. A total of 60 persons were affected by the violations in June 2025 as compared to 19 people in May 2025. Out of the 19 cases in which LGBTIQ people were specifically targeted for violent or otherwise detrimental treatment during the month of June 2025, 7 were eviction cases, 6 cases involved arrests for sexuality related reasons, 5 cases involved violence and threats of violence against victims due to their actual or presumed SOGIE while 1 case involved confiscation of the client's property due to their SOGIE.

This section of the report provides detailed data on these cases.

3.1. Evictions

There were 7 cases of evictions on the basis of sexuality in June 2025, affecting 8 persons, reported in the districts of Kampala (4) and 1 case each in the districts of Mbale, Masaka and Mbarara. The evictions were executed by the clients' landlords in 4 cases, family members in 2 cases and the landlord in collaboration with the local area leadership in 1 case.

No.	Case code	Date of reporting	District	Perpetrator	Brief facts	No. of Victims
1.	HRAPF/PA/845 /25	30/06/25 /25	Kampala	Landlord, Community Leaders	On the 29th day of June 2025, the client hosted a new friend, who decided to stay overnight as it was getting late when they finished drinking. However, this guest went out of the house at about 2.00am and started shouting for help, claiming that the client had been trying to seduce him into having anal sex. The neighbours gathered into a mob that threatened to beat up the client, forcing him to flee the scene. The following morning, the local council leaders ordered his landlord to evict him immediately, and the landlord did as requested, evicting the client without notice. The local area leaders also demanded that the client find another area to live in.	1
2.	HRAPF/PA/846 /2025	16/06/25	Kampala	Landlord	The clients in this case are a couple who were living together. At the beginning of June, they were attacked in their home by some people whom they did not know. These people caused a scene, shouting at the clients and calling them homosexuals, and demanding that they change. When the landlord heard about this incident, he asked the two to leave his premises, insisting that he could not let his premises to suspected homosexuals.	2

3.	HRAPF/PA/847 /2025	5/06/25	Mbale	Landlord	The client was first evicted by his father from their family home in 2024 on suspicions that he was gay. His mother helped him to rent a house in a nearby village, but his landlord later started to suspect that he was gay, primarily because all his friends were male or transgender women, and the neighbours had complained about this and even threatened to beat him up. The landlord reacted by demanding that he leave the premises immediately.	1
4.	HRAPF/PA/848 /25	24/06/25	Kampala	Landlord	The client organised a birthday party and invited several friends to celebrate with him. When the neighbours saw his friends, they reported to the landlord that the client had invited several homosexuals to the premises, based on the fact that many of them appeared gender non-conforming to the neighbours. The neighbours demanded that the client be evicted as they could not stay with a homosexual, and the landlord agreed, thus ordering the client to vacate the premises.	1
5.	HRAPF/PA/849 /25	2/06/25	Masaka	Family	The client's parents suspected him of being queer due to the kind of friends he used to closely associate with. They beat him badly in an attempt to 'discipline' him and when this did not appear to have any effect, they ordered him to vacate their home and never to return unless he changed his behaviour.	1
6.	HRAPF/PA/850 /25	16/06/25	Mbarara	Family	The client and his mother shared a close relationship, and she knew about his sexuality and often protected him from attacks by the extended family. In June 2025, his mother passed away and immediately after the funeral, his siblings demanded that he leave the family home as they would not tolerate a homosexual any longer.	1

7.	HRAPF/PA/851 /25	26/06/25	Kampala	Landlord	The client's neighbours continuously harassed and heckled him because they suspected that he was gay, and reported to the landlord that he was a bad influence on their children. In June 2025, one of the neighbours attacked and physically assaulted him, and the landlord reacted to this by asking the client to relocate, claiming that the client had failed to get along with the other tenants and was causing strife.	1
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3.2. Arrests

There was an increase in the number of arrests for sexuality related reasons registered in June 2025, at 6 cases affecting 44 persons, as compared to May, where 3 cases were registered, affecting 5 persons. The drastic increase in the number of persons affected by the arrests was as a result of a police raid at a popular gay-friendly bar along Entebbe Road during which over 50 revellers were arrested on suspicions of homosexuality.

In 3 cases, the clients were charged with homosexuality under the Anti- Homosexuality Act; in 1 case, the client was charged with aggravated homosexuality (and eventually arraigned in court); in one case, the client was charged with being a common nuisance under the Penal Code Act while in 1 case, no charges were preferred against the victims at all, and they were released unconditionally. Five of these cases were closed at police and one case proceeded to court. 5 of these cases were registered in Kampala and 1 was registered in Wakiso.

No.	Case code	Date of reporting	District	Charges preferred	Brief facts	No. of victims
1.	HRAPF/PA/852 /2025	22/06/25	Kampala	No charges preferred	On 22 June 2025 at around 2:00am, police officers from Najjanankumbi police station raided a popular gay-friendly bar in along Entebbe Road and arrested more than 50	38

					revellers who were found in the bar. The Officer in charge of the station stated that she had been reliably informed that all the people who were in the said bar were homosexuals, and that this was the reason why she had ordered the operation in which they were arrested. Many of the suspects were forced to pay a bribe to be released, and those who could not pay were also later released unconditionally upon HRAPF's intervention.	
2.	HRAPF/PA/853 /2025	27/06/25	Kampala	Common Nuisance	On 26 th June 2025, the client, a transgender woman, was detained by boda boda riders at a stage as she was walking past. The boda boda riders assaulted her and then called police officers from Kikaaya Police Station to arrest her, insisting that they could not let a homosexual go scot free. The client was thus arrested and detained on charges of homosexuality, which were later amended to being a common nuisance. She was released on 27 th June 2025 upon being cautioned by police officers to dress 'properly' as a man.	1
3.	HRAPF/PA/854 /2025	7/06/25	Kampala	Homosexuality	On 6 th June 2025, the client was arrested by the LC chairperson of his place of residence and he was forwarded to Katwe police division for detention on charges of homosexuality. The LC chairperson was acting on a complaint from a friend of the client, with whom the client had had a dispute. The client was released on 13 th June 2025 after the	1

					complainant went to the police station and noted that he had no interest in the case and did not wish to pursue the issue any further.	
4.	HRAPF/PA/855 /2025	15/06/25	Kampala	Homosexuality	The clients were arrested and all their personal communication devices as well as an organisation laptop and camera confiscated on the suspicion that they were lesbians. They had been followed by a police officer from a bar in Kitintale up to Bugolobi because the officer in charge of Kitintale Police Station, who had been seated at a table next to them in the bar, had eavesdropped on their conversation and inferred that the two were in a relationship. They were charged with homosexuality, and extorted heavily by the police officers before being released on bond.	2
5.	HRAPF/PA/856 /2025	14/06/25	Wakiso	Homosexuality	On 14 th June 2025, the client was arrested and detained at Zana Police Station on charges of homosexuality. His mother had reported to the police that he and his friends were engaging in homosexuality, and it was on these grounds that he was arrested. He was released after apologising to his mother and promising to stop associating with suspected homosexuals.	1
6.	HRAPF/PA/857 /2025	29/06/25	Kampala	Aggravated homosexuality	The client had a consensual relationship with a colleague from work which ended on bad terms. His ex then reported to the police that the client had 'sodomised' him, and he was detained at Jinja Road Police Station before being transferred to Wandegeya Police	1

					Division. He was detained for 9 days before he was arraigned in court on charges of aggravated homosexuality after it emerged that he was 'in a position of authority over the victim' at work.	
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3.3. Cases involving actual violence and threats of violence

A total of 5 cases involving violence and threats of violence were registered in June 2025, affecting 7 individuals. 4 of the cases reported in June 2025, involved actual violence being directed towards the victims due to their SOGIE while 1 case involved threats of violence as opposed to May 2025, where all cases involved physical violence.

Cases involving actual violence

There were 4 reported cases of actual violence in June 2025, affecting 6 individuals. 3 of these cases involved physical assaults and 1 involved a rape. 2 of the cases were reported in Gulu, 1 case in Kampala and 1 in Mukono. All these incidents were perpetrated by unknown persons.

No.	Case code	Date of reporting	District	Nature of Violence	Perpetrator	Brief facts	No. of Victims
1	HRAPF/PA/858/25	20/06/25/25	Gulu	Physical violence/ Rape	Unknown persons	On 19 th June at about 8.00pm, while the client was walking back home from work, she was attacked by unknown men who accused her of being a lesbian. One of the men commented that this was probably the reason why she had refused to have intimate relations with many men who had asked her, and then proceeded to push her down, forcefully undressed her and raped her while his friends looked on.	1
2	HRAPF/PA/859/2025	12/06/25	Mukono	Physical violence	Unknown persons	The client was attacked by persons unknown to him on 11 th June 2025 at about	1

						9.00pm. the client was walking home when a group of people attacked him and beat him severely, warning him to either stop being gay or leave the village. He sustained serious injuries during the attack.	
3	HRAPF/PA/860/25	27/06/25	Gulu	Physical violence	Unknown persons	The client in this case is the team leader at an organisation working with intersex persons in the region. On 27 th June 2025, she was in her office doing her usual work when a man she did not know barged in and started punching her in her face and upper body, accusing her of spreading homosexuality in their area. Her left eye was badly injured in the process, and she also sustained other injuries in the chest, head and upper back.	1
4	HRAPF/PA/861/2025	20/06/25	Kampala	Physical violence	Unknown persons	The clients were walking together along the road when a group of people started heckling them, calling them lesbians and joking that one of them was the husband to the other two. One of the clients stopped to demand that they stop accusing them baselessly, which angered the group. They started an argument which escalated quickly into a physical altercation and all three clients were badly beaten, and one suffered a dislocation in the ankle.	3

Threats of violence

There was one reported incident of a threat of violence in the month of June 2025, affecting 1 person. This case was reported in Kampala district, and involved a threat of lynching, perpetrated by the victim's neighbours.

No	Case code	Date of reporting	District	Nature of violence	Perpetrator	Brief facts	No. of victims
1.	HRAPF/PA/862/25	29/06/25	Kampala	Physical violence	Neighbours	The client reported that his neighbours were threatening to hurt him physically due to suspicions that he is a homosexual. Due to the sustained and very specific nature of the threats, the client was forced to report the matter to the police but did not receive any help.	1

3.4. Other forms of discrimination

During the month of June 2025, one case of deprivation of property was recorded in Wakiso district, perpetrated by the victim's landlord.

No.	Case code	Date of reporting	District	Nature of case	Brief facts	No. of victims
1.	HRAPF/PA/863 /2025	22/06/25	Wakiso	Confiscation of property	The client in this case is a transgender woman who had been previously assaulted and undressed in the neighbourhood, forcing her to temporarily leave the neighbourhood for her safety. She left her property in the custody of the landlord on the understanding that she would pick her items once she settled. When she contacted the landlord to arrange for the properties to be picked up, the landlord	1

					informed her that he would not give her anything, and she could not do anything about it because she is a known homosexual. When the lawyers reached out to the landlord, he threatened to report to the police that the client is a homosexual so that the police arrest her if she comes by to pick up her property.	
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4. Comparison with May 2025

There was a slight increase in the overall number of cases reported in June 2025, from 51 cases in May 2025 to 57 cases in June 2025. The number of cases involving actions that deliberately targeted persons for negative treatment on the basis of their real or presumed SOGIE also increased from 16 cases in May 2025 to 19 cases in June 2025, and the number of victims increased from 19 persons in May 2025 to 60 persons in June 2025. Eviction cases were the highest number of cases registered in both months, at 9 incidents in May and 7 in June 2025. Cases of violence and threats of violence slightly increased from 4 cases affecting 4 individuals in May 2025 to 5 cases affecting 7 individuals in June 2025. Arrests on sexuality related charges doubled from 3 cases affecting 5 persons in May 2025, to 6 cases affecting 44 persons in June 2025. The drastic increase in the number of persons affected by the arrests for sexuality related reasons was the raid at a gay-friendly bar in which more than 50 people were arrested on suspicion that they were LGBTQ persons.

5. Comparison with June 2024

In June 2024, HRAPF handled a total of 81 cases involving LGBTIQ persons. Out of these, 32 cases involved actions that directly targeted people for negative treatment on the basis of their SOGIE, representing 39.5% of all the cases handled during the month of June 2024, and 34 persons were affected by the violations. Out of the 32 cases in which LGBTIQ people were specifically targeted for detrimental treatment during the month of June 2024, 15 cases involved violence and threats of violence against persons on the basis of their SOGIE, 12 were eviction cases while 5 cases involved arrests for sexuality-related reasons.

In June 2025, a total of 57 cases were handled affecting LGBTIQ persons. Of these, 19 cases involved actions that directly targeted people for negative treatment on the basis of their SOGIE, representing 38.0% of all the cases handled during the month of June 2025. Out of the 19 cases in which LGBTIQ people were specifically targeted for violent or otherwise detrimental treatment during the month of June 2025, 7 were eviction cases, 6 cases involved arrests for sexuality related reasons, 5 cases involved violence and threats of violence being targeted against victims due to their actual or presumed SOGIE while 1 case involved confiscation of the client's property due to her SOGIE.

6. The implementation of the AHA 2023 from 30th May 2023 to 30th June 2025

As the implementation of the AHA marks the 25 months, a total of 1,800 cases involving LGBTIQ persons have been handled across the HRAPF legal aid network, of which 863 cases (48.4%) involved actions that specifically targeted LGBTIQ people on the basis of their sexuality, affecting a total of 1,134 persons.

The breakdown of all the cases by month so far is as follows:

Nature of violation	June to December 2023	Jan to June 2024	July 2024	Aug 2024	Sept 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	March 2025	April 2025	May 2025	June 2025	Total number of cases
Evictions	164	132	10	9	2	4	6	7	6	3	5	8	9	7	372
Violence	137	121	14	10	9	9	14	3	8	7	6	6	4	5	353
Arrests	38	34	11	1	5	3	3	8	6	4	3	3	3	6	128
Other forms of discrimination	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	10
Total	345	287	35	20	16	16	23	18	21	16	16	17	16	19	863

The victims in these cases are:

Nature of violation	June to December 23	Jan to June 2024	July 2024	Aug 2024	Sept 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	March 2025	April 2025	May 2025	June 2025	Total number of victims
Evictions	204	162	11	10	4	4	7	8	6	3	5	9	10	8	451
Violence	171	142	15	12	14	10	16	3	10	11	7	8	4	7	430
Arrests	59	63	14	2	9	4	5	12	11	5	3	5	5	44	242
Other forms of discrimination	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	1	12
Total	440	367	40	24	27	18	28	23	28	19	19	22	19	60	1,135

7. Conclusion

The continued implementation of the AHA has negatively impacted on the rights of LGBTIQ persons. This has majorly been manifested through the increasing number of eviction cases for sexuality related reasons, arbitrary arrests for persons suspected to be homosexuals, violence and threats of violence directly being targeted against LGBTIQ persons and all the other forms of discrimination reported in these series. It is important that the AHA and all the laws which are aimed at curtailing the rights of LGBTI persons are nullified as a critical first step towards protecting the rights of LGBTQ persons in Uganda.

APPENDIX: Cases of arrest still pending before police stations and courts across the country at the end of June 2025

Currently, HRAPF is providing legal representation to a total of 16 individuals in 12 cases that are still pending actively either at various police stations or before various courts across the country. In 3 cases, 4 individuals are still reporting on police bond and answering various charges related to their sexuality and all the charges were preferred under the Anti-Homosexuality Act, specifically homosexuality. In 10 cases, 13 individuals are answering various charges, including homosexuality, promotion of homosexuality, aggravated homosexuality, indecent practices and having carnal knowledge against the order of nature/ indecent practices in the various courts of law. Of the 13 persons whose cases are pending before the courts, 6 are still on remand in the various prisons around the country. It is thus quite clear that the Uganda Police Force and the Office of the Director of Public

Prosecutions are still actively enforcing the Anti-Homosexuality Act, alongside the various provisions criminalizing same sex sexual behaviour in the Penal Code Act.

List of cases in which individuals are still reporting on police bond

No.	HRAPF Case Code	Nature of Charges	Brief Facts	District	Current status	Number of victims
1	HRAPF/PA /842/25	Homosexuality	On 3 rd May 2025, the clients were arrested on charges of homosexuality by police officers who barged into their home in the company of the area defence secretary, dragged them to the police station, charged them with homosexuality then released on police bond.	Wakiso	Clients released on police bond on 3 rd May 2025; still reporting on bond.	2
2	HRAPF/PA /822/2025	Homosexuality	On 11 th April 2025, the client was at a friend's home when the friend and two people started harassing him, asking him why he is gay and then assaulting him. The friend then called police officers who arrested him after they were told that he is a homosexual. He was held on charges of homosexuality before being released on bond	Wakiso	The client was released on police bond on 17 th April 2025 and he is still reporting on bond	1
3	HRAPF/PA /852/2025	Homosexuality		Kampala	The client is still in police custody	1

Cases currently pending before courts

No.	HRAPF Case code	Offence in charge sheet	Brief facts	Status	Number of victims
1.	HRAPF/PA /857/2025	Aggravated homosexuality	The client had a consensual relationship with a colleague from work which ended on bad terms. His ex then reported to the police that the client had 'sodomised' him, and he was detained at Jinja Road Police Station before being transferred to Wandegeya Police Division. He was detained for 9 days before he was arraigned in court on charges of aggravated homosexuality after it emerged that he was 'in a position of authority over the victim' at work.	The client in this case was remanded pending committal to the High Court for trial.	1
2.	HRAPF/PA /808/2025	Homosexuality	The accused was arrested on 17 th March and detained. This was after a male friend came to visit him and his neighbors alerted the police alleging that the two were homosexuals. The prosecution alleges that he knowingly allowed the use of his house for purpose of undertaking activities that encourage homosexuality despite this not being an offence.	On 23 rd June 2025, the case had been scheduled for a ruling on bail or in the alternative a ruling on the dismissal application. Unfortunately, the magistrate was indisposed and the case was adjourned to 28 th July 2025.	1
3.	HRAPF/PA /775/25	Aggravated Homosexuality	On 9 th December 2024, the accused was arrested when coming from a bar after a group of men accused him of having had sexual intercourse with a man. He denied knowing the person who he was accused of having had sex with.	On 15 th May 2025, the client's charges were amended to Aggravated Homosexuality after the complainant alleged that he had been raped by the Accused. The client is yet to	1

				be committed to the High Court for trial.	
4.	HRAPF/PA /13/2023	Rape Aggravated Human trafficking	The accused states that he was arrested on 28 th July 2023 in Kanungu on allegations of homosexuality after the mother of a man with whom he had been in a relationship reported him to the police accusing him of sodomising her son. The police charged him with rape and aggravated human trafficking basing on the same facts and allegations that he had infected the partner with HIV.	Case pending hearing in the High Court. The accused is still on remand.	1
5.	HRAPF/PA /743/24	Trafficking in persons and Having carnal knowledge of a person against the order of nature	The accused states that in 2022 he was imprisoned after a man he had given shelter to reported him to the police for having 'sodomised' him.	The matter is pending judgement which is scheduled to be delivered on 14 th July 2025	1
6.	HRAPF/PA /144/2023	Unnatural offences	The prosecution alleges that the accused was found having sex with a disabled man at Soroti Sports field. The accused denies the allegations.	Accused released on bail on 30 th July 2024 after nearly a year. On 30 th June 2025, the matter had been cause listed for hearing but it did not	1

				proceed, the state attorney was indisposed.	
7.	HRAPF/PA /655/2024	Promotion of Homosexuality	The prosecution alleges that the accused had a video strip showing acts of homosexuality.	He was released on bail. The matter had been cause listed for hearing on 26/06/25 but it did not proceed as the chief magistrate was indisposed.	1
8.	HRAPF/PA /656/2024	Unlawful possession of government stores; Promotion of Homosexuality	The accused states that while celebrating the birthday of a colleague, the councillor of the area raided the party and had them arrested on allegations of promoting homosexuality. Prosecution alleges that they found them in possession of 3 boxes of male condoms, 26 six national IDs, one Kenyan ID, thirteen photographs, lubricants, covid-19 cards all meant for promoting homosexuality.	He was released on bail on 3 rd April 2025. The matter had been cause listed for hearing of the prosecution case on 26/06/2025 but the hearing did not proceed, the trial magistrate was indisposed	3
9.	HRAPF/PA /501/2024	Aggravated homosexuality	The accused was arrested on 7 th March 2024 on allegations of having sexual intercourse with another man. Later the charge was amended to aggravated homosexuality as the mother of the partner was insisting that the partner was 17 years.	The client is still in prison. The case is yet to be heard. The client's bail application has not yet been fixed.	1
10.	HRAPF/PA	Trafficking in persons, forgery	The suspects state that they brought a friend to go and work in Rwanda. After checking in at a	The file was sanctioned, one of the clients was re- arrested	2

	/774/25	and acts of sodomy	<p>lodge, the friend demanded for money and when it was denied, he accused them of demanding for sex from him and reported them to the police. They were arrested on 21st January 2025 and 23 January 2025 respectively.</p>	<p>on 29th May 2025, arraigned and remanded to prison.</p> <p>On 25th June 2025, the client was granted bail.</p>	
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