



DUGA Association 7 oktobra br.1 Jevremovac 15000 Šabac, Serbia
Phone: 015/386-297, 064/25-29-181, e-mail: vavilon@gromnet.net

ILGA-Europe Pilot Human Rights Violations Documentation Fund Guidelines for activity reporting for the grantees - 2007

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1. Organizational details

Name of the organization: DUGA Association
Name of the contact person: Vladimir Veljkovic
Postal address: 7 oktobra br 1 Jevremovac 15000 Sabac
Phone: 015/386-297 064/14-30-737
Fax: /
E-mail: vavilon@gromnet.net
Web-site: /

Number of people working on the project (staff and volunteers): 2:
Changes in the project leadership (if different from the application): No changes

Report:

„Documentation of LGBT persons’ human rights violations“

Introduction:

In private and public spheres, constantly and continuously are passing by and imposing some values which are denying the existence of LGBTTIQ persons and which have ground on unacceptability, the language of hate and are leading to discrimination, molesting and disregard of LGBTTIQ persons. These values are supported by the system which is built on ignorance, fear, limiting of your own freedoms, gender/sex stereotypes and heteronormative and patriarchal system. This goes to a serious breaking of the civil rights and freedoms.

The discrimination based on sex, gender, gender identity and/or expressing the sexual orientation, sexual identity and (inter)sexual characteristics is common and constant. With this are denied and broken the most basic civil rights of lesbians, gay, bisexuals, transgender, transsexual, intersexual and queer persons and their families and friends no matter of age or other status.

Civil rights in Serbia have not totally succeeded to live because they are opposite of the social rules, traditions and religion extremism which are reproducing social rules and not individual rights, freedoms and possibilities of choice which is coming out of those same rules and rolls. These civil rules have made impossible the total respect of the social, economical, political, sexual and reproductive rights and freedoms of all individuals.

LGBTTIQ persons are discriminated not only on ground of national identity, religion, language, skin color, age, political belief and/or some other physical or social status but also because of his/hers individual conception of sex and gender, sexual orientation and (inter)sexual characteristics.

The everyday homophobia, biphobia, Trans phobia and gender phobia, violence and discrimination are leading to a bigger level of wound ability, marginalization and totally (self) elimination from the society. The language of anger and crimes in anger are also everyday cases which are totally discriminating and eliminating the LGBTTIQ persons from the society and are leading to further marginalization and self elimination.

Because of the situation in the society and state institutions the LGBTTIQ persons are on the target of constant violence as from the citizens so as from the official. A research conducted by DUGA association (with the support of ILGA-Europe) shows that 81,8% of the interviewed LGBT persons has experienced some form of violence. In the same research was established which types of violence are the LGBTTIQ persons in Serbia suffering from.

Those are the following:

Economic violence- unequal control over the access to common incomes, withholding control to access to money, obstruction from getting employment or education or obstruction to the right of possession.

Psychological violence- mockery, threats, isolation, contempt, mistreating, public attack, rejection, making them worthless, ignorance, scaring, blackmail.

Physical violence- pushing, twitching, kicking, beating, burning, biting, strangling, stabbing, genital mutilation, murder, attempted murder.

Sexual violence- rape, attempted rape, bringing on to prostitution, trafficking, taking advantage of sexuality in pornographic causes, sexual disturbance.

Articles from the criminal law which are applying to the cases of the upper written criminal acts committed over LGBTTIQ persons are the following:

Against life and act of murder art.113, first degree murder art.114, bringing on to suicide and helping commit suicide art.119, heavy body injure art.121, light body injure art.122, threatening with dangerous tools in quarrel and fight art.124, letting out into danger art.125, not giving help art.127.

Against freedoms and rights of the citizens: violation of equality art.128, getting off freedom against rights art.132, violation of freedom of movement and settling in art.133, kidnapping art.134, constraint art.135, abusement and torturing art.137, endangering the safety art.138, disturbing the safety of the apartment art.139, illegal search art.140, unauthorized publishing and showing other peoples portraits and photos art.145, violation of freedom of speech and public speech art.148, obstruction of public speech art.151.

Against marriage and family: violence in family art.194, extortion art.214, blackmail art.215.

Against honor and reputation: insult art.170, calumny art.171, saying out loud personal and family things art.172.

Against sexual freedom: rape art.178, violation on a weak person art.179, violation with misuse of position art.181, illegal sexual relations art.182, misleading and enabling a sexual intercourse art.183, interference in prostitution art.184, showing pornographic material and abuse of children for pornography art.185.

Against the law in the matter of work: violation of rights by employment and in time of unemployment art.164.

Against people health: transferring infections and HIV art.250.

Against public peace and order: violent behavior art.344, taking part in a group which is committing a crime act art.349.

Against humanity and other well beings protected by international law: racial and other discrimination art.387, trading people art.388.

Opposite to the results from the same research 0,2% of the questioned people have reported the experienced violence to the police, and the other criminal acts are not reported. This small number of reported criminal acts done to the LGBTTIQ persons, only because of their sexual orientation, is a result of discrimination in the whole society and is resulting with encouraging for further violence. LGBTTIQ persons are not reporting these criminal acts because of the fear of: discrimination, indiscretion and violence from the employees at the MIA which are not trained for work with the LGBTTIQ community.

Aim and the goal of the project:

Documenting and disseminating the information on LGBT persons' human rights violation we will get an important document which can be used for lobbying for legal changes as well as for advocacy, in order to protect human rights of LGBT persons. Document will be useful both to the LGBT NGO's and state institutions as an indicator for the gaps in legislative and for the needs of both LGBT persons/community and institutions. Furthermore, it will help LGBT NGO's and state institutions to develop services and mechanisms for protection of LGBT persons' human rights.

This approach will change the present situation in which violations of human rights perpetrated towards LGBT persons are invisible and without response from the state institutions.

Short overview on the project implementation:

In the period of 6 months we have realised following activities: interviews with LGBT persons who have experienced violence; research made by anonymous questionnaires and meetings with local chiefs of the police in a 20 local police secretariates. Project has been realized in 20 municipalities in serbia: Belgrade, Kragujevac, Jaogdina, Nis, Zajecar, Smederevo, Pozarevac, Valjeov, Sabac, Kraljevo, Krusevac, Cacak, Uzice, Novi Sad, Sombor, Subotica, Zrenjanin, Kikinda, Pancevo and Sremska Mitrovica.

In total we have interviewed 34 LGBT persons who were the victims of the human rights violations, and we did the survey with 431 LGBT persons. We have also made 20 meetings with the police and led the conversation on the issues of violence towards LGBT persons in Serbia. All of these activities have been made by a team consisted of two members.

Interviews:

The interviews were made in accordance to a form for violence monitoring provided by ILGA – Europe. Data gathered through the interviews are presented below.

Personal data:

Age	< 18	18 – 30	30 – 40	40 – 50
persons	2	26	3	3

Sex	M	W
persons	27	7

Sexual orientation	lesbian	gay	transgender
persons	6	27	1

Social identity	pupil	NGO activist	employed	unemployed	student
persons	1	2	15	9	7

Extent of being out	To LGBT persons	To a family	Totally out	Only to partners
persons	27	9	6	1

Human rights violations:

Types of violations:	YES	NO
1. Name calling directed at you	24	10
2. Threatened with physical violence	30	4
3. Personal property damaged/destroyed	15	19
4. Objects thrown at you	16	18
5. Chased or followed	21	13
6. Spat at	19	15
7. Been left out or ignored deliberately	14	20
8. Punched, hit, kicked or beaten	25	9
9. Assaulted or wounded with a weapon	3	31
10. Sexually assaulted	10	24
11. Sexually harassed (without assault)	5	29
12. Raped	3	31
13. Harassed by the police without assault	10	24
14. Beaten or assaulted by the police	5	29
15. Refused housing	4	30
16. Refused access to healthcare and services (for example, not treated because perceived or identified as LGBT)	2	32
17. Refused a job / fired	4	30
18. Refused commercial services (e.g. not allowed into/asked to leave a restaurant/bar/taxi etc)	6	28
19. Detained by the police without being given clear reasons	11	23
20. Other form of physical / verbal violence or social / economic discrimination	6	

Related to the point 20. ('other types of violence'), the most of the interviewees stated that those were blackmail and economical violence. We had two cases of blackmail, where the interviewees were asked for money or commercial services. Such acts of blackmail were perpetrated by LGBT persons towards other LGBT persons. There are also four cases of economical violence towards LGGT persons, perpetrated by their parents who have deprived their children of education and means for existance.

According to the information provided by 30 interviewees, they were exposed to threats of phisycal violence, while in the 25 cases among them the threats have been fulfilled.

It is also significant to mention the findings acording to wich the most of the interviewed LGBT persons are least discriminated in the health services.

Speaking of acts of rape, 2 out of 3 cases of rape were perpetrated by other LGBT persons, while there is one rape of a lesbian woman perpetrated by a heterosexual man.

Question: Do you know anyone else who experienced such violence?	YES	NO
persons	24	10

Perpetrators of violence	Private individuals	Officials	Parents	Skinheads	Family member (other than parents)	Police	Partner
persons	16	4	3	4	1	4	2

Question: Did you report the case to anyone?	YES	NO
persons	5	29

Two out of five reported cases were reported to the police, while others were reported to the workers of health institutions.

Only one of the interviewed persons says they were provided with adequate assistance in a health institution, while four out of them were not satisfied with the treatment.

Short descriptions of the human rights violations (from the interviews):

1.

He/she was refused for ranting a flat several times, he/she has been insulted on the street and in his home, and forbidden to access certain public places. In 2006th at 4:35 PM he/she was attacked by his pupil physically (he was beaten up) and with insults related to his sexual orientation. He/she ended up with serious injuries of head and with broken nose. The case has been reported to the police, but they have treated it as insults and physical attack of the professor by his pupils. The only outcome of the trial was that the pupil has been noticed by the Municipal court of Sabac for what he has done.

2.

He was sexually harassed several times and raped by other gay person from the town of Sabac. Sexual harassment has occurred during private gatherings at his gay friends, while raped happened in the apartment of his friend after the party, in 2006.

3.

I experience physical and psychological violence since I was twelve years old; I have been molested on the basis of my sexual orientation and gender expression during the primary school mostly by my class mates; I had been kicked, beaten, slapped in the face, pushed and insulted. I have never reported what was happening to anyone, neither I have got any help from those who already knew about this. After the primary school, I had been discriminated against, on the same basis, in my place of living. I wouldn't point out on any concrete situation, because every day was a nightmare for me at the time.

At the present I am situated here, in the prison hospital in Belgrade and I may say I haven't been mistreated nor molested in any sense. My life has been much worse before the imprisonment.

4.

Since the moment they find out I was gay, my parents didn't want to provide me financial help, so I was obliged to leave the home. I also couldn't stand constant quarrels and accusations. I have moved to the bigger city (Novi Sad) where the community has not been aware of the fact that I was gay. Before I moved to Novi Sad, I had been beaten twice by the familiar persons from my home town, in the late evening.

5.

She has been deprived of free movement and financial means by the parents since March 2007. They stalk her, slap her in the face and psychologically blackmail her. She has left her home in May 2007, and tried to hide at her lesbian friend's apartment. Her parents succeeded to find her with the help of the police. Police officers returned her to the home regardless of what she told them about her mistreatment by the parents.

6.

I have been attacked by the group of four young men, on the cruising area of Nis' fortress. It was April 2007, 10 PM. The perpetrators have beat me and then the one of them put the knife beneath my throat, letting other three to rob my wallet, jacket, mobile phone and watch. I have heard from other lgbt persons that I am not the first victim of the gangs like this in the area. They know very well why we gather here, as well as the fact that we are not able to report them to the police".

7.

In 1983 his uncle had strong suspicion that he was gay and was somehow obsessed with this. His father died when he was 6, while his mother decided to move to Germany. She left him at her brother's family. His uncle took advantage of the situation and sexually harassed him and also punish him for nothing by depriving him of food. One day, he was raped by his uncle and after that incident he was thrown out of uncle's home without any financial means. The victim was obliged to work in order to earn enough for a food, while he had to live and sleep in the basements and abandoned buildings, until he was able to find better job and earn enough to rent the room. He have finished primary school only, because he couldn't afford secondary education.

He lost the contact with his mother and the rest of the family, because they didn't wanted to stay in touch with him.

8.

The incident took place on Decembar 30th, 2006, 10 PM in the cruising area in Novi Sad – it is a park between bus and railway station. He met a guy he was attracted to, and they sit on the bench to talk. Suddenly they heard something like movements and rumors in the nearby bushes. Very soon a group of 8 men approaches from the central green area of the park and surrounds them. The two guys were frightened. Somebody from the group asks them loudly what were they doing there. They tried to reply that they were just sitting and talking, but the person from the group said that they were observing them and that they were seen before on this cruising area and that they know that gay people are gathering here, and that they are fighting against faggots. After this, some persons from the group started to insult two gay guys and some of the others started to push them and kick them while those two were still sitting on the bench. Suddenly somebody caught one of them and thrown him on the ground, while the other one (the interviewed) suddenly felt strong punch in the head made with some object (later it was indentified that the object was a bottle) and he felt blood over his face. At this moment all 8 members of the gang started to leave the place, while the other guy stood up from the ground and escaped. He seamed frightened to death.

The interviewed remembers very well that the most of the persons from the gang had their head shaven and he remembers they wore a boots, so he thinks it was a group of skinheads which is very familiar for such kind of activities such as beating gay or Roma persons, in Novi Sad.

The interviewed called the ambulance which took him to the hospital where he had his head sewed with 8 clasps. It was identified that he had several injuries on the body and a slight brain shock.

9.

On May 2007, me and my heterosexual female friend went to the gay club Floyd in Belgrade. It was around 4.00 AM when we decided to leave the club and go home. As soon as we left the club and tried to get to the other side of the street, the four men started to yell referring to us with assaults related to the sexual orientation. It was obvious they have noticed were we have been that night. They approached very close and started to interrogate us about who we are and what have we did that night, and afterwards they threaten us physically. We tried to justify our presence in the area and we said they took a wrong impression about us, but this resulted even worse – one of the guys started to yell at us, and he slap me in the face twice. I started to cry and they said they have finished with us for this time. They also told us they don't want to see us here ever. Finally they let us go. Me and my friend decided not to say a word about this to anyone. We were filled with anger and shame.

10.

My girlfriend and I have decided to go for a lunch in a Belgrade's restaurant. After we made order, we entered into personal conversation and we started to exchange signs of affection. We had very emotional continuous eye contact and in a certain moment I touched her hair. After two minutes someone of the restaurant's personnel came at our table to warn us that the restaurant is crowded with other people and that it is not respectful from our side to act like this. He asked us to pay the bill and leave the restaurant. Since we have not finish our meal, we refused to do so. The man from the personnel said that we can stay under the condition of not repeating the same mistake. But, we were very angry because of his attitude and we refused to accept these conditions. After this, he called a guy from security who have shown us the exit from the restaurant and said that we must leave immediately. We were obliged to leave the restaurant at this point.

11.

Since he is married and has a kids, he makes sure that nobody knows he is gay, except his friends. He keeps contact mostly with people from other cities. During certain period of time he was in relationship with guy from Sabac and in the time he was in contact with people who used to gather at his boyfriend's place. In October 2006. he receives a phone call in which an unknown man says that he owns photographs of victim's intimate moments with his boyfriend and he demands to be paid with 5 000 euros, otherwise he will send the photographs to the victim's wife. First, he thought that guy is lying because he knew he didn't make any photograph of him and his boyfriend, but it turned out that the photographs were made with the hidden camera. The victim says that he had no other choice except to pay 3 500 euros, because it was all money he had. After this, the perpetrator never called him again.

12.

In the May of 2007. he was having a walk in the gay cruising area with his 22 years old friend. Suddenly, two policemen in the uniform approached to them and asked for the documents. While analyzing the documents, a policeman asked two guys about the purpose of their presence in the area such a late in the night. Two guys tried to give some kind of neutral answer. The policeman wrote down the data from their ID cards and the other one performed a rough checking of their pockets and clothes. After this, one of the policemen said to the victims that they know they are "faggots" and that now when they have their personal data, they should be very careful not to come to this cruising area anymore, or otherwise they could announce to other people in the city that they are gay. The policemen also suggested them that they should be cured from the homosexuality and that they will be arrested if they appear in the area again.

13.

He has been blackmailed for 20 months by his ex-partner, so he had to give him 100 euros per months because of the threat that he will prove to the victims family and army authorities that he is gay, using their photographs and recorded phone calls. He had to give him money because he didn't wanted to take a risk and

ruin his parent's career, and he in particular couldn't let his army authorities to find out that he is gay because he was afraid that he would immediately fired or even prosecuted.

14.

In the September 2007. during the period of several days he was harassed by a person he has once refused to have sexual contact with. This person tried to trick him through a common friend who invited the victim to his apartment to a phony party. When the victim arrived to the apartment, he met with two guys who beat him up and ripped off his clothes. They didn't rape him, but his body and face were bruised. Later he found out that he was not the first one that was punished for refusing to have sex with the guy.

15.

In the March of 2007. he met a guy from the town of Kraljevo, through the internet. They exchanged few e-mails and he decided to go to Kraljevo and visit the guy. Even though the guy from Kraljevo told him he is 25 years old, when he met him, he realized that he is actually 40 years old. Given that the victim came to Kraljevo late in the evening, planning to stay there during the night, there was no bus to return back to his town the same day. The only solution was to overnight at the guy's place. After they came to the guy's apartment, he constantly wanted to take advantage of the situation and tried to make him to have sex with him. The victim was constantly refusing to have sex with the guy. Soon, the perpetrators 60 years old friend comes to the apartment. They sit together for some time and afterwards they started to get closer to the victim and also started to sexually harass him. After the victim refused to have sex with them, he was raped firstly by 40 years old guy, and then by his friend. After this, they threw him out of the apartment and threaten him to be silent about all this.

16.

Since her parents found out that she is a lesbian, in 2005, they started to molest her. Her father is a priest in the Serbian orthodox church and he and her mother put a big pressure on her to influence some change concerning her sexuality. They even locked her in the room several times and insulted her. They didn't leave her constantly locked in the room because of the neighbors, but they have constantly fallowed her. At the end of 2005 she run away from home, but she had to return soon after being that he hadn't any financial sources except her parents. The harassing by her parents continued in the certain level as it was before, until the January 2007, when she finally succeeded to find a job and move away. Since then, she has no contacts with the parents.

17.

It was 2 hours AM in May 2007, when she was coming back home from the apartment of her girlfriend. When she was passing through a park, she came across few drunk men who started to make vulgar comments on her. She started to walk faster, but they followed her and made a circle around her. One of them asked her why does she ignores them. She supposes it was her gender expression, her clothes that provoked them. They ask her if she is lesbian. She was very angry because of their rude behavior and she confirmed she is a lesbian and that she would never be with a men. After this, they started to insult and push her. One of them said: "Let's show her what men can do, so she would probably like it". They pushed her on the ground beside the banch. Two of them hold her, while the third guy sexually harassed and raped her. She says it is most likely that others would take part in this act, but in a certain moment they noticed somebody is approaching them, so they run away.

18.

His parents and a brother found out he was gay, in 2001. Since then, he experiences different sorts of molesting (from psychological violence to physical maltreatment), on daily basis. They even threaten him with deprivation of food, and they tried to keep him locked in the room. They followed him for a period of time, and his brother, who had the greatest problem with his sexuality, attacked him with a knife twice, even though he didn't succeed to hurt him. He says he was obliged to live with them during that period of time because he was without job.

19.

In the December 2006 she broke up with a girl she was in relationship with for four years. Her girlfriend was very aggressive during last year of their relationship. She was very jealous and she slap her in the face few times, she threw objects on her and destroyed some of her personal things. When she admitted her she doesn't want to be with her anymore because of such behavior, she got mad and beat her up. She says she was whole bruised and she lost two teeth. She chased her for two next months and she disturbed her with telephone calls. In the time she have lived and worked in the city of Nish, the hometown of her girlfriend, but she had to move back to the town of Cacak because of her ex-girlfriend's threats that she will announce her sexual orientation in her working place.

20.

In 2001 his parents found out that he was gay and since then he had been experiencing problems on daily basis, until 2005. At first, his parents cut off financing his studies in the capital and he was forced to come back home. At that time he couldn't find a job to support himself, as he also cannot now. His parents used to took him to psychiatrists and then to various pseudo-therapists in their attempt to 'cure' him. Since these plans failed, they started to molest him both physically and mentally. They used to beat him, destroy his personal belongings and quite often they used to lock him in his room. Later, they used to follow him out. He never wanted to fulfill their demands to get married and have children, so in time molesting slowly begun to happen less often.

21.

Since she is completely out, she often experiences different types of violence such as: physical, emotional and financial deprivation. Since she cannot afford to move to another town, she is forced to suffer abovementioned violence. In March 2007, while she was going home back from work at 11 PM, she stumbled upon her brother's acquaintance who knew I was a lesbian. He was accompanied with two of his male and one female friend. As they noticed her, they started to call her names and offend her on the ground of her sexual orientation. She tried to pass by, but they wouldn't let her. One of the guys slapped her face and the others joined him, pushing and hitting her. When I fell down, they finally stopped and went their way, cursing.

22.

He works in a public institution and has a high position within it. He is married and has children, but occasionally he is having sex with men (he meets them through the personals). In May 2006 he met a guy who was 33, from the same town, who lives by himself. They had sex at his place several times, but when the interviewee wanted to brake the relationship, he threatened he would tell interviewee's wife and boss about his orientation if they stop their sexual relationship. It's been more than a year since then and he is still having sex with this person against his will, in order to save his private and professional life. He considers this as a form of rape.

23.

In the February 2006, in the late evening, he went to the town's biggest park to smoke a cigarette. He was sitting on the bench when he suddenly a person approaching to him from the dark. When he came to the interviewee, he said that he is a policeman and asked him why is he in the park? After the interviewee hesitated to answer for a while, the guy started to speak very loudly and he said that he knows that the interviewee was gay. He started to threat him to confess that he is gay or he will otherwise beat him. The interviewee admitted that he was gay and then the guy told him that he wants to have sex with him. The interviewee refused this proposal and tried to stand up and walk away, and when he stood up, the guy grabbed him from behind, broke his arm and thrown him to the ground. The interviewee started to call for help but the guy stayed beside him and said that he got what he has deserved. Suddenly, one older guy that was sitting in the car parked nearby all this time, approached to them. It turned out that the older guy is a friend of the perpetrator. He talked to the interviewee and also proposed sex, at his place. The interviewee was crying and asking for help, while lying on the ground. After some time the older guy suggested his friend to go and leave the interviewee alone. The perpetrator said few more threats to the interviewee and then they walked away.

24.

He was in the high school in 1999 and during the break between the classes he wanted to go to the supermarket to buy some food. The guy that was working at the entrance of the store stop him on the door and said that he cannot enter the store. When the interviewee asked for a reason, the guy said that the entrance is forbidden to the faggots. After a short discussion, the guy told to the interviewee that he is going to beat him if he don't go away. The interviewee had to walk away.

25.

The interviewee was standing in front of the building in which he lives, when his neighbor came and started to yell on him, giving the accusations that the interviewee damaged his car the day before. The interviewee says he knew that this false accusation was not the real motive of the perpetrator to act aggressively. After the interviewee entered into discussion with him, he started to beat him. He was beating him for few minutes and made him a lot of bruises and other injuries.

26.

He worked at the fast food restaurant in the night shift, when a guy from the neighborhood came into the store to ask for a sandwich. While the interviewee was making a sandwich, the customer started to make insulting comments on his gender appearance. After a while, the interviewee started to feel angry because of the customer's constant comments and insults and he returned the insult. The reaction of the perpetrator was very aggressive. He jumped behind the desk at which the interviewee worked and started to kick him and punch him until he was all bruised. After this, he broke few objects in the store and left.

27.

On 30th June 2001 he participated in a Gay Pride parade in Belgrade. He was among organizers. Soon after the manifestation has start, a group of 300 fascists, football clubs' supporters and right oriented persons marched into the square and started to yell and beat participants of the pride. Four of the fascists came to the interviewee, slapped him in the face and lift him from the ground and threw him into the nearby fountain.

28.

In 1997 he was having a relationship with a guy that was slightly younger than him. After some months of their relationship have passed, one day, an unknown person came to the interviewee and said that he owns secretly made photographs of him and his boyfriend and that he will use the photographs to show them to the community of their town and to their parents, if the interviewee does not obey his demands. The interviewee had to accept these terms because he knew he cannot sacrifice his own and his boyfriend's safety by letting others to find out of their sexual orientation and ruin his life, because he was from the family which was famous in the town. Unfortunately, the demands of the perpetrator of the blackmailing were that the interviewee had to participate in the bank robberies. After first action of such kind, on the interviewee's despair, the blackmailing continued for two years. He had to risk his life and to braking the law in the same time and he was still under huge pressure to protect his beloved one, due to the blackmail. One day, the police has caught him and he had to pass through the trial and spent 4 years in jail. He has experienced a lot of violence, pressure and blackmail in a jail itself.

29.

He was standing in the line at the entrance of the gay club in Belgrade called Floyd. When he was passing by a three men from the security, they stop him and started to search his pockets. They were very suspicious and rude to him, giving a discriminative comments on his sexual orientation. It is very common in Serbia that the clubs rented for gay parties on certain days usually have very homophobic staff. After the interviewee spent some time in the club he got drunk and felt sick. A guys from the security noticed that he was not feeling well and that he is about to throw up, and they came to him and started to insult him. Soon after he entered the discussion with them, they gave him few kicks and punches, after which he had to leave the club.

30.

It was in 2002. He was going to his friend's place in the late afternoon. He was wearing eccentric clothes and had a very androgynous appearance. While passing by a school yard, the group of young skinheads who were in the yard, started name calling and soon they approached from behind and kicked him in the back. He started to run and they followed him for a while and they gave up chasing.

31.

It was during the spring time in 2003. It was late at night at the city center. He was with two of his female friends and they were going to a club. He was wearing gothic make-up and gothic clothes. A group of a dozen teenagers was provoked by the interviewee's appearance, so they surrounded him and started to push him around. His friends started to scream and call for help, so the group got afraid and ran away.

32.

He participated a gay pride march in June 2001. He was one of the organizers of the pride. As soon as the manifestation has started, few hundreds of fascists run into the Republic square and violently broke up the gay parade, beating up the participants. The interviewee has been shot with the stone and few eggs, he was also insulted, pushed and jelled at. He was forced to leave the site.

33.

During his out-reach work at the gay cruising place in Belgrade (the toilet at the bus station), the guy for which the interviewee assumed he was his client (user of the out-reach services), because he was pretending that he is gay, started to chase him on the street and when he approached closer he presented himself as a policeman in civil clothes and showed something that looked as a document but the interviewee cannot be sure because it lasted only few seconds. The guy that presented himself a sa policeman started to interrogate the interviewee and to tell him that he chosen a wrong thing to do in life because it is not good to be gay, it is sick and it is even more sick to help such people through out-reach, as he said. The perpetrator continued to jell and started to threat to the interviewee that is going to take him to the jail and beat him together with his colleagues if the interviewee does not pay a penalty immediately. He said a certain amount of money that was huge and which the interviewee possibly could not have, and then the perpetrator said he can make a discount. The perpetrator said to the interviewee to go to the bank machine and to see how much money he has on his account. He advised him to sell his mobile phone to get enough money to pay for the penalty. He took all the money that the interviewee had on the account and asked for the interviewee's ID card. After he has recorded all the data from the ID card, he said that they should set a data to meet again in order to receive the rest of the amount requested for the total payment for the penalty, under the threats of physical violence.

34.

He participated in the action of putting a posters on the streets of Belgrade connected to the campaign of an LGBT ad hoc movement Gayrilla as a part of their team. The purpose of the campaign was to raise a conscious of the political parties' candidates to pay more attention to LGBT humn right.s During this action, the police car stop in front of the group of activists which the interviewee was a part of, and the police told them that they are under arrest and to get into car. The interviewee said that there is no enough place in the car for the whole group, but the policeman responded that there is enough place there for faggots because faggots like to be tight with each other, as he said. After they arrived to the police station they were detained there for 2 hours without explanation and the material they used for the campaign has been taken away. After those 2 hours, three policeman came and started to interrogate them, and to give them insulting comments related to their sexual orientation.

After one hour more, they finally let the whole group go home.

Results gathered through a survey conducted by anonymous questionarries:

In a period of three months we have realised research on human rights violations towards LGBT persons in 20 municipalities within Serbia. The research has been conducted by anonimous questionarries filled in in person by LGBT persons, during the visits of DUGA activists to the each of 20 municipalities. Some of the questionarries were filled in electronically with a help of our local colleagues. We also used internet out-reach to reach LGBT persons willing to state on their human rights' violations.

❖ Interviewed: 431 LGBT persons

- ❖ GAY / 47,1%
- ❖ LESBIAN / 30,8%
- ❖ BISexual / 21,8%
- ❖ TRANgender / 0,3%

1. Have you experienced any type of violence on the basis of your sexual orinetation? YES / 81,8%
NO / 18,2%

2. Type of violence (in percents) that the interviewees have experienced (having in mind that some of them experienced different types of violence in the smae time):

- physical - 41,9%
- sexual - 11,2%
- emotional - 57,8%
- social - 17,5%

3. The way in which the interviewees have responded to the experienced violence:

- Tried to settle down the situation - 32,6%
- Verbaly confronted the perpetrator - 19,2%
- Physically confronted the perpetrator - 4,2%
- Ignored the violence - 19,3%
- Escaped - 24,7%

4. Acquaintance with the perpetrators?

- Familiar perpetrator - 43,5%
- Unknown perpetrator - 21,3%
- Familiar and unknown perpetrators together - 35,2%

5. Which institution they refered to in order to report violence?

- Police - 0,2%
- Prosecutor - 0%
- Doctor - 17,1%
- Didn't refer to anybody - 82,7%

6. Which institutions the interviewees refered to and announced that they have experienced violence on the basis of their sexual orinetation?

- Police - 0%
- Prosecutor - 0%
- Doctor - 0%
- Nobody - 100%

7. Have the perpetrators been prosecuted? YES / 0,2% NO / 99,8%

8. Do they still experience some type of violence? YES / 7,1% NO / 92,9%

9. Do they know of any violence perpetrated towards non-heterosexual person on the basis of his/her sexual orientation? YES / 94,2% NO / 5,8%

10. Are they LGBTIQ activist? YES / 0% NO / 100%

11. Do you think that the LGBTIQ activism is necessary? YES / 87,9% NO / 12,1%

Conclusion:

After the analyze of the interviews and comparison with the data from the research on violence towards LGBT persons in 2005 implemented by LABRIS, we gained findings who shows that violence towards LGBT persons in Serbia increases. We will now specify the two most relevant findings from the interviews, relevant for the abovementioned conclusion:

- In LABRIS's research in 2005 the number of interviewees who said that they have experienced some type of violence on the basis of sexual orientation was 65.3%, while the research of DUGA association in 2007 shows that the number of people who gave the same answer on the same question was 81.8%.
- The number of interviewees who said that they have reported the violence to the police in the LABRIS's research in 2005 was 10% of the interviewees, while in the research of DUGA association from 2007 there are 0.2% of the interviewees who have reported violence.

Report on the meetings with the chefs of The Police Secretariates in Serbia

During the period from 1st September 2007. to 30th October 2007., Vladimir Veljkovic and Aleksandar Prica held a meetings in twenty police secretariates in Serbia.

During the meetings with the chefs of the police secretariates we have provided them with educational materials aimed for education of the workers of the police on the terminology that should be used in work with LGBT persons. This material also contains information on the societal prejudices and stereotypes towards LGBT persons that should be overcome during the work with the LGBT population. Beside this, educational material speaks about researches on different types of violence that LGBT persons in Serbia faces.

During the one-hour meetings with the chefs of the local police secretariates, we have exposed the most important issues concerning violence towards LGBT persons in Serbia, and we succeed to establish good cooperation with most of the chefs. We have used this opportunity to see what are their recommandations on how to establish cooperation with us as a group that represents LGBT population, in order to organise an education of the police workers which would meet their needs, and which are realistic to implement.

The conclusions from meetings that are relevant for the project „Documentation of LGBT persons' human rights violations“ are:

- Chefs of the local secretariates have no records on reporting of violence towards LGBT persons on the basis of their sexual orientation, during their work.
- Chef of the certain police secretariate stated that women are not capable of working in certain police services because of „their psychological and physical structure'. By his opinion, women who would have such capabilities would be probably too agresive, and it would be difficult to say if they are women or men.
- Chef of the certain police secretariate stated that the police regulary monitor gay web sites and forums to collect informations on what is going on in LGBT community.
- Chefs of two different police secretariates have stated that police regulary makes lists of LGBT persons and put them in the archive.
- Some LGBT individuals and activists from the city of Nis stated that police officers took advantage of the lgbt party organised in the city to ask visitors for their documents in order to collect their information for the lgbt persons' list they make.

Recommandations:

To decrease violence towards LGBT persons in Serbia in the future it is necessary to:

- Educate workers of the Ministry of the police on how to work with LGBT persons
- Provide workers of the Ministry of the police with the information on violence towards LGBT persons
- Educate state prosecutors on how to work with LGBT persons' issues
- Educate state prosecutors on how to recognize violence on the basis of sexual orientation
- Educate workers of the centers for social welfare on how to recognise and deal with violence based on sexual orientation, in order to provide a support and help to LGBT persons' who were victims of violence
- Adopt the anti-discriminational law
- Change the existing laws which do not recognize human rights violations on the basis of sexual orientation
- Adopt the article of the Criminal code which recognizes hate crime
- Promote violence recognition and reporting among LGBT persons
- Abolish registration of LGBT persons by state institutions (such as police)

Conclusion:

We can expect discrimination of LGBT persons to be decreased only through joint work of LGBT NGOs and state institutions, in order to recognise issues of violence towards LGBT persons and also to recognise the need for education and sensitisation of the workers of public institutions in order to ensure their appropriate approach to LGBT persons to provide them assistance.

It is equally important to work with LGBT community in order to raise their awareness on the importance of reporting the experienced violence to the public institutions. In order to encourage this, it is necessary to inform LGBT persons on existing legislative that protects them from discrimination and violence and provide them with assistance in the process.