Violence in the Homosexual Population: A Social Problem

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Commentary

Homosexuality is a sexual orientation in which two people of the same gender maintain a psycho-affective relationship, which in traditional society is seen as something incorrect, thus provoking violent behavior towards people of that sexual orientation.

It is important to mention that violence is the intention of a person to cause harm to an individual or group [1]. At the same time, the frequency of such violence remains high in the homosexual population; where society expresses itself in a discriminatory manner towards them, and that undoubtedly all these aggressions of all kinds can alter their health.

When talking about violence against the homosexual population within society; different types of violence can be identified such as physical violence, economic violence, sexual violence, psycho-emotional violence and verbal violence, whose origin is precisely due to sexual orientation, since it breaks with the norms established by society in psycho-affective relationships between men and woman.

Psycho-emotional violence is those aggressions that include continuous harassment, stigmatization, discrimination and even marginalization by society. In turn, verbal violence is those aggressions in the form of mockery, with hurtful words and denigrating qualifiers that are directed at the homosexual population. So the rejection of this population is presented through discrimination, rejection attitudes in all areas, which attempt against the homosexual person affecting it psychologically and emotionally [2,3].

The results of a research by the Benemérita University of Puebla showed that the homosexual community suffers more from psycho-emotional and verbal violence, categorizing them as “meaningless jokes”. In addition to verbal aggressions, they suffer from psycho-emotional aggressions, since in the environment they develop, they are forced to minimize demonstrations of affection towards their partners, that is to say, they do not feel comfortable holding hands in front of other people, since they perceive certain disapproving and offensive attitudes that are manifested through pointing out, isolation, disapproval and discrimination due to their sexual orientation, by social groups [4].

In Mexico, a culture dominated by heteronormativity is maintained, with machismo and homophobia persisting. As a result of this situation, homosexuals are negatively categorized, ridiculed, and violated, which can be called stigmatization, which is the disqualification of the person from full social acceptance, and as a result originates homophobia, which as such is considered a mental illness, and which presents itself in daily life and in any sphere of society. The National Council for the Prevention of Discrimination conceptualizes homophobia as rejection, discrimination, invisibility and mockery that are direct manifestations of psycho-emotional and verbal violence [5-7].

Therefore, the importance of this topic lies in making society aware of this phenomenon called violence, which is suffered by young homosexual adults who live it in silence, and who, when living it, do not report it, which generates disinformation about such a problem.

In view of this reality, it can be concluded that violence against this homosexual population is much more complex than it is possible to identify, record and analyse together whether the homosexual person suffers discrimination within the family unit. It is therefore necessary to promote a culture of sexual diversity, respecting the rights of both the homosexual and heterosexual populations.

References

