

St. Kitts and Nevis

Stakeholder Report for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review: LGBTIQ+ Rights

Submitted by The Advocates for Human Rights,

a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

and

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The Advocates for Human Rights (The Advocates) is a volunteer-based non-governmental organization committed to the impartial promotion and protection of international human rights standards and the rule of law since its founding in 1983. The Advocates conducts a range of programs to promote human rights in the United States and around the world, including monitoring and fact finding, direct legal representation, education and training, and publication. The Advocates is the primary provider of legal services to low-income asylum seekers in the Upper Midwest region of the United States, including LGBTIQ+ individuals who have experienced discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. This report addresses the human rights situation in St. Kitts and Nevis since 2021. While the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court ("ECSC") declared criminalization of consensual same-sex private activity unconstitutional in 2022, the Government has failed to adopt any legislation or implement any policy focused on the protection of LGBTIQ+ individuals from discrimination to date.
- 2. Due to State and non-State actors' violence toward and discrimination against LGBTIQ+ individuals in St. Kitts and Nevis, LGBTIQ+ people who experience violations of their human rights often refrain from reporting violent or discriminatory incidents to the police. This is compounded by the fact that LGBTIQ+ topics are still perceived as taboo and against cultural norms, as a result, law enforcement agencies do not treat reports of said acts of violence against LGBTIQ+ people seriously.
- 3. In this report, we use the acronym LGBTIQ+ to refer to individuals who self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, and other sexual and gender minorities. These terms necessarily do not include everyone who may experience violations of their human rights on the basis of their real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and/or sex characteristics ("SOGIESC"), which is why we also include a "+" with the acronym. Any use of a modified acronym is intentional in that we are speaking only about certain members of the LGBTIQ+ population.

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS

Constitutional and legislative framework

Status of Implementation: Not Accepted, Partially Implemented

- 4. During its third-cycle UPR, the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis received and noted all 12 recommendations related to the implementation of constitutional or legislative protections for members of the LGBTIQ+ community¹ and five recommendations related to the decriminalization of consensual same-sex activity between adults.²
- 5. The St. Kitts and Nevis Constitution does not recognize sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or sex characteristics as protected categories and they are therefore not constitutionally protected from discrimination.³
- 6. In 2022, the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court declared sections 56 and 57 of the Offences Against the Person Act, which criminalized buggery and indecent assault against men, unconstitutional in the landmark case of *Jamal Jeffers et al v. the Attorney General of Saint Christopher and Nevis.* The ECSC held that both sections of the Offences Against the Person Act violated the rights to privacy and freedom of expression and that increased protection of LGBTIQ+ rights was in line with Inter-American standards. The Court stated that Section 56 of the Offences Against the Person Act should be read so as not to apply to consensual sexual acts between adults in private. The Court also stated that Section 57 of the same act should be read as to provide an exception for consensual sexual acts between adults in private.

- 7. As of the date of submission, there are significant areas in which LGBTIQ+ people and those suspected of being LGBTIQ+ do not receive adequate protections and/or equal treatment. For example, the Government does not permit transgender people to change their legal gender (see paragraph 16 below), nor does it recognize non-binary gender identities, meaning that individuals are only ever recognized as their sex assigned at birth, regardless of their gender identity or expression.
- 8. The Government also does not recognize same-sex marriage. 9 Society is generally conservative and only 8.6% of people supported same-sex marriage in a 2017 poll. 10
- 9. There are no laws in Saint Kitts and Nevis to protect against discrimination towards LGBTIQ+ individuals in the provision of goods and services, in employment, in education, in housing, or protections from incitement of violence or harassment ¹¹ Protections against employment discrimination only apply when individuals are fired on the basis of their race, place of origin, being birthed out of wedlock, political opinions and affiliations, color, sex or creed, marital status, or family responsibilities. ¹²
- 10. The Government has sought to justify its failure to amend constitutional protections to explicitly include sexual orientation by asserting that sexual orientation is a private matter and that LGBTIQ+ individuals purportedly enjoy the same rights as other nationals. ¹³ This position fails to acknowledge, however, that the absence of explicit constitutional protection leaves LGBTIQ+ people vulnerable to discrimination, violence, and exclusion, and undermines their ability to seek effective legal remedies when their rights are violated
- 11. Since September 2020, the Government has recognized that if an individual commits a murder "motivated by hatred for or prejudice against a group of people to which the offender believed the victim belonged (e.g. ... sexual orientation)," the seriousness of that murder "could be considered exceptionally high." This heightened seriousness does not apply to gender identity, gender expression, or sex characteristics, nor does it apply to any other kind of offense motivated by a victim's real or perceived SOGIESC.
- 12. The Saint Kitts and Nevis Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan ("GEPAP") 2022-2027 is the Government's plan to achieve gender justice and provides a plan for achieving gender equality across ten areas including LGBTI individuals. ¹⁵ There are four goals in GEPAP related to LGBTI individuals. ¹⁶ These goals are: work with the public and private sector as well as civil society to end discrimination, violence, and prejudice against LGBTI people; update education to protect individuals from homophobic and transphobic violence; create a zero-tolerance approach to cruel treatment of LGBTI people; and safeguard freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly for LGBTI people. ¹⁷ It is unclear, however, how the Government has begun to implement this plan.
- 13. While the period covered by the GEPAP is nearing its end, to date there have been no clear or concrete measures or steps taken towards implementing these goals. Despite the existence of GEPAP on paper, there is little evidence that the Government has operationalized its commitments in a way that meaningfully improves the lives of LGBTI individuals in St. Kitts and Nevis. The lack of implementation signals that the mere adoption of policy documents is insufficient without measurable action, accountability, and regular engagement with LGBTI civil society. As a result, while "progress" may exist in formal documents, the reality is that the status quo of discrimination, stigma, and lack of legal protections for LGBTI individuals is preserved in practice.

- 14. As of the date of this report, the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis has failed to establish a formal, independent national human rights institution (NHRI) in line with the Paris Principles. While the Government has implemented an inter-ministerial, Cabinet-approved mechanism known as the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-Up (NMRF), this body is primarily tasked with coordinating reporting to international human rights bodies and monitoring the Government's own efforts to promote human rights. It is neither structurally nor functionally independent, lacks investigatory powers, and has no mandate to receive complaints or provide effective remedies for individuals whose rights have been violated. The absence of an independent NHRI means that victims of human rights violations, including LGBTI individuals, have no accessible, impartial domestic mechanism (beyond the courts) through which they can seek redress or accountability. This contributes to a culture of impunity, undermines trust in State institutions, and leaves systemic human rights issues unaddressed in practice. ¹⁸
- 15. Due to pervasive stigma, discrimination, and a lack of legal gender recognition, transgender individuals face ongoing and daily challenges that their cisgender counterparts do not. Transgender individuals cannot change their gender markers on official documents, leading to misgendering in healthcare, education, and daily interactions, while the absence of anti-discrimination laws exposes them to harassment and exclusion without legal recourse. Many face family rejection and are pushed out of formal employment opportunities, forcing some into informal or survival economies, including sex work, which increases their vulnerability to violence and exploitation. ¹⁹
- 16. Fear of discrimination and mistreatment by healthcare providers often deters transgender people from seeking medical care, compounding risks to their physical and mental health. Experiences of harassment and threats are common, and due to a lack of trust in law enforcement, many incidents go unreported, reinforcing a cycle of impunity. Despite the decriminalisation of consensual same-sex activity in 2022, the lack of progress on transgender-specific protections means that "progress" remains largely symbolic while systemic barriers persist in daily life. ²⁰

Access to Health-care (General)

Status of Implementation: Not Accepted, Partially Implemented

- 17. St. Kitts and Nevis noted two recommendations related to the rights of LGBTIQ+ people and accessing healthcare.²¹
- 18. St. Kitts and Nevis does not have laws prohibiting discrimination against members of the LGBTIQ+ community within healthcare contexts.²²
- 19. LGBTIQ+ people in the Caribbean region generally report having poor mental health as well as difficulty accessing healthcare services.²³ Mental health also continues to be under resourced across the Caribbean and has only recently started receiving attention from governments as a "real" issue.
- 20. The National HIV/AIDS Coordinator in the Ministry of Health in St. Kitts and Nevis has stressed the importance of the equal ability to access healthcare in the context of fighting

- HIV. ²⁴ They further noted that it is important for healthcare professionals to treat LGBTIQ+ people equally and ensure equal access to healthcare. ²⁵
- 21. Recent Government data highlight a rise in HIV cases in St. Kitts and Nevis. Between late 2022 and early 2024, reported HIV cases increased from 213 to 267 cases within one year. Health authorities also reported that 14 of the new infections in 2023 occurred among adolescents and young adults aged 15 to 24, and seven people died from AIDS-related complications during the same period. Despite a universal access-to-treatment policy, the surge has raised concerns that preventative efforts including public education, youth-targeted awareness, screening programs, condom distribution, and access to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) may be failing. Stigma and discrimination remain significant barriers, deterring many individuals from testing and treatment. ²⁶
- 22. Previous criminalization of consensual same-sex sexual activity deterred members of the LGBTIQ+ community from accessing sexual health services, including HIV testing.²⁷ In the Caribbean, most individuals diagnosed with HIV are members of the LGBTIQ+ community who have historically had their rights violated and had limited access to healthcare.²⁸
- 23. As of the date of submission, the Government has not banned non-medically necessary surgeries on intersex infants for the sole purpose of "correcting" ambiguous genitalia. ²⁹
- 24. Nor has the Government banned so-called "conversion therapy." 30
- 25. Ther persists considerable social stigma against gender diversity and many transgender individuals do not identify as being transgender, including within healthcare settings.³¹ Across the Caribbean, there are reports that doctors often discriminate against transgender people, including refusing to treat transgender patients.³²
- 26. The GEPAP has a goal of providing targeted programs for groups of men in same-sex relationships through reviewing health services so that they are appropriate for all groups, providing health visits to support healthy outcomes in LGBTIQ+ populations, and developing a public education that is more appropriate for all users.³³ Despite this, it is unclear whether the Government has taken concrete steps toward implementing these programs.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 27. This authors of this stakeholder report suggest the following recommendations for the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis:
 - Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that explicitly prohibits discrimination by State and non-State actors on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics in all areas of life, including employment, education, housing, healthcare, and access to goods and services.
 - Amend the Constitution of St. Kitts and Nevis to include sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics as protected categories, ensuring that LGBTIQ+ individuals are constitutionally protected from discrimination and can seek effective remedies.
 - Adopt legislation permitting same-sex marriage.

- Annually publish data on progress made toward the goals related to LGBTI rights within the GEPAP and frequently reassess GEPAP goals in collaboration with LGBTIQ+ civil society organizations.
- In collaboration with LGBTIQ+ civil society organizations, draft and enact legislation that bans non-medically necessary surgeries or medical interventions on intersex infants.
- In collaboration with LGBTIQ+ civil society organizations, draft and enact legislation allowing for legal gender recognition.
- Develop, implement and report on the use of public education and anti-stigma campaigns to address homophobia, transphobia, and discrimination against LGBTIQ+ persons, fostering a culture of respect and inclusion in wider society.
- Train law enforcement, judiciary, and public officials on LGBTIQ+ rights and sensitivity, ensuring effective, non-discriminatory handling of complaints and reports of violence against LGBTIQ+ individuals to break the cycle of impunity.
- Undertake public education campaigns designed to address and mitigate prejudice, stigma, harassment, discrimination, and violence directed at LGBTIQ+ individuals.
- Formally implement a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles with independent powers of investigation and redress, and that has a mandate to receive complaints; investigate human rights violations, including those based on SOGIESC; and provide effective remedies.
- Criminalize the promotion and use of "conversion therapy" programmes.
- Strenghten healthcare protections by adopting policies that prohibit discrimination based on SOGIESC within healthcare settings, training healthcare providers on LGBTIQ+ sensitivity in collaboration with civil society organisations, and ensure access to gender-affirming care.
- Implement a revised, targeted HIV-prevention, -education, and -treatment program that addresses the specific needs of LGBTIQ+ people with a focus on young people and address the stigma deterring individuals from accessing testing and treatment.

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¹ Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Saint Kitts and Nevis*, (Mar. 30, 2021), U.N. Doc. A/HRC/47/7, ¶ 130.54 Pass anti-discrimination legislation in order to prohibit discrimination on grounds of gender identity and sexual orientation (Germany); ¶ 130-56 Enact Comprehensive legislation to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of gender identity and sexual orientation (Ireland); ¶ 130.57 Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that will specifically prohibit discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); ¶ 130.58 Reinforce its commitment to the principles of equality and non-discrimination, both in legislation as well as in practice, by decriminalizing consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex (Uruguay); ¶ 130.60 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation to include prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland); ¶ 130.61 Decriminalize consensual same-sex conduct and take concrete legal and policy measures to eliminate all

forms of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Portugal); ¶ 130.66 Decriminalize same-sex conduct between consenting adults by repealing sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Person Act (United States of America); ¶ 130.67 Decriminalize same-sex conduct between conse4nting adults, in particular by repealing sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Person Act (Denmark); ¶ 130.68 Decriminalize same-sex consensual relations in all provisions of legislation, especially sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Person Act (Netherlands); ¶ 130.69 Decriminalize consensual adult same-sex relations by amending sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Person Act (Ireland); ¶ 130.70 Repeal all provisions of law criminalizing sexual activity between consenting adults, including those of the same sex, and take legislative and other measures to protect victims of violence based on their sexual orientation or gender identity (Australia); Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Saint Kitts and Nevis, Addendum*, (April 23, 2021), A/HRC/47/7/Add. 1, p. 3-4.

² Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Saint Kitts and Nevis*, (Mar. 30, 2021), U.N. Doc. A/HRC/47/7, ¶ 130.59 Decriminalize consensual same-sex relations and adopt the necessary measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination or violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Mexico); ¶ 130.62 Decriminalize same-sex consensual relationships to prevent discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Italy); ¶ 130.63 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between persons of the same sex (Spain) (Timor-Leste); ¶ 130.64 Decriminalize consensual relationships between persons of the same sex and age (Costa Rica); ¶ 130.65 Decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual relations (Canada); ¶ 130.71 Eliminate legal provisions punishing consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and promote a public policy aimed at putting an end to violence and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Chile); ¶ 130.73 Decriminalize same-sex consenting relations and work with civil society organizations and international partners to educate the public on non-discrimination and inclusiveness (Luxembourg); Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Saint Kitts and Nevis, Addendum*, (April 23, 2021), A/HRC/47/7/Add. 1, p. 3.

³ THE SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS CONSTITUTION ORDER 1983, S.I. 1983/881 § 15(5) (Stating protected groups include those relating to race, place of origin, birth out of wedlock, political opinions or affiliations, color, creed or sex).

⁴ Jamal Jeffers v. The Attorney General of St. Chirstopher and Nevis, Claim No. SKBHCV2021/0013 Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (2022).

⁵ Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, *IACHR welcomes decision declaring criminalization of LGBTI consensual sexual activity unconstitutional in Saint Kitts and Nevis*, accessed Jun. 7, 2025, https://www.oas.org/en/iachr/jsForm/?File=/en/iachr/media_center/preleases/2022/198.aspn of LGBTI consensual sexual activity unconstitutional in Saint Kitts and Nevis.

⁶ Jamal Jeffers v. The Attorney General of St. Chirstopher and Nevis, Claim No. SKBHCV2021/0013 Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (2022).

⁷ *Jamal Jeffers v. The Attorney General of St. Chirstopher and Nevis*, Claim No. SKBHCV2021/0013 Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (2022).

⁸ Equaldex, "LGBT Rights in Saint Kitts and Nevis," accessed Jun. 12, 2025 https://www.equaldex.com/region/saint-kitts-and-nevis.

⁹ ILGA World, "Saint Kitts and Nevis," accessed Jun. 6, 2025, https://database.ilga.org/saint-kitts-and-nevis-lgbti. ¹⁰ Civicus, "Another Breakthrough for LGBTQI+ Rights in the Caribbean: Saint Kitts and Nevis latest country to decriminalise same-sex relations" accessed Jun. 16, 2025, https://lens.civicus.org/another-breakthrough-for-lgbtqi-rights-in-the-caribbean/.

¹¹ ILGA World, "Saint Kitts and Nevis," accessed Jun. 6, 2025, https://database.ilga.org/saint-kitts-and-nevis-lgbti.

¹² Protection of Employment Act, Cap. 18.27 (St. Kitts & Nevis), available at https://lawcommission.gov.kn/wp-content/documents/Act17TOC/Ch-18 27-Protection-of-Employment-Act.pdf.

- ¹⁵ Government of St. Kitts and Nevis, National Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2027 To accompany the Saint Kitts and Nevis Gender Equality Policy (2022), accessed Jun. 3, 2025, https://www.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/SKN-National-Gender-Equality-Action-Plan-2022-
- $2027.pdf\#:\sim: text=LGBTI\%20 people\%20 Strategic\%20 Goal\%3 A\%20 To, of\%20 the\%20 Gender\%20 Equality\%20 Policy.$
- ¹⁶ Government of St. Kitts and Nevis, National Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2027 To accompany the Saint Kitts and Nevis Gender Equality Policy (2022), accessed Jun. 3, 2025, https://www.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/SKN-National-Gender-Equality-Action-Plan-2022-
- $2027.pdf\#:\sim: text=LGBTI\%20 people\%20 Strategic\%20 Goal\%3A\%20 To, of\%20 the\%20 Gender\%20 Equality\%20 Policy.$
- ¹⁷ Government of St. Kitts and Nevis, National Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2027 To accompany the Saint Kitts and Nevis Gender Equality Policy (2022), accessed Jun. 3, 2025, https://www.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/SKN-National-Gender-Equality-Action-Plan-2022-
- $2027.pdf\#:\sim: text=LGBTI\%20 people\%20 Strategic\%20 Goal\%3 A\%20 To, of\%20 the\%20 Gender\%20 Equality\%20 Policy.$
- ¹⁸ Government of St. Christopher and Nevis, *Comprehensive National Level Review: The Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis*, (St. Kitts and Nevis, 2024), 42, accessed July 15, 2025, https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/st-kitts-and-nevis-national-report.pdf.
- ¹⁹ Pan Caribbean Partnership Against HIV/AIDS, "Experiences of Caribbean Transgender People Part 2," accessed Jun. 12, 2025 https://pancap.org/experiences-of-caribbean-transgender-people-part-2/.
- ²⁰ Pan Caribbean Partnership Against HIV/AIDS, "Experiences of Caribbean Transgender People Part 2," accessed Jun. 12, 2025 https://pancap.org/experiences-of-caribbean-transgender-people-part-2/.
- ²¹ Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Saint Kitts and Nevis*, (Mar. 30, 2021), U.N. Doc. A/HRC/47/7, ¶ 130.114 Ensure free and timely access to appropriate health care for all, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, children, and adolescents where the young person has sufficient maturity to provide informed consent (Iceland); ¶ 130.72 Decriminalize homosexuality and combat discrimination and obstacles to access to health for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (France); ¶ 130.74 Harmonize national legislation in line with international law and with the Yogyakarta Principles on the Application of International Human Rights Law in relations to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity by decriminalizing consensual sexual relations between adults whose gender expression is not heteronormative (Panama); Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Saint Kitts and Nevis, Addendum*, (April 23, 2021), A/HRC/47/7/Add. 1, p. 3, 5.
- ²² Human Rights Watch, "Human Rights Watch Submission to the Universal Periodic Review of Saint Kitts and Nevis," accessed Jun. 6, 2025, https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/01/21/human-rights-watch-submission-universal-periodic-review-saint-kitts-and-nevis.
- ²³ Arlette Henry, Danielle Greer, Breneil Malcolm, and Sangster Elizabeth, "'Yes, We Exist!': Lived Experiences from a Caribbean Transgender & Gender Nonconforming Group," 15 *Sage Journals* 1 (2025) https://doi.org/10.1177/21582440251326635.
- ²⁴ SKNVibes, "Reducing HIV/AIDS Stigma and Discrimination is Everybody's Business, Say St. Kitts and Nevis Health Officials," accessed Jun. 6, 2025, https://www.sknvibes.com/news/newsdetails.cfm/120694.
- ²⁵ SKNVibes, "Reducing HIV/AIDS Stigma and Discrimination is Everybody's Business, Say St. Kitts and Nevis Health Officials," accessed Jun. 6, 2025, https://www.sknvibes.com/news/newsdetails.cfm/120694.

¹³ Confidential source on file with the authors.

¹⁴ Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (Sentencing Guidelines) Rules 2019, Practice Direction 8E, No. 1 of 2020, Sentencing for the Offence of Murder §5(j) (2019). Also found online at https://cms.eccourts.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Practice-Direction-on-Sentencing-for-the-Offence-of-Murder-for-the-ECSC.pdf.

- ²⁹ Equaldex, "LGBT Rights in Saint Kitts and Nevis," accessed Jun. 12, 2025 https://www.equaldex.com/region/saint-kitts-and-nevis.
- ³⁰ Equaldex, "LGBT Rights in Saint Kitts and Nevis," accessed Jun. 12, 2025 https://www.equaldex.com/region/saint-kitts-and-nevis.

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- ³¹ Arlette Herry, Danielle Greer, Breneil Malcolm & Sangster Elizabeth, "Yes, We Exist!": Lived Experiences From a Caribbean Transgender & Gender Nonconforming Group, 15 SAGE Open, 1,2 (2025), https://doi.org/10.1177/21582440251326635.
- ³² Pan Caribbean Partnership Against HIV/AIDS, "Experiences of Caribbean Transgender People Part 2," accessed Jun. 12, 2025 https://pancap.org/experiences-of-caribbean-transgender-people-part-2/.
- ³³ Government of St. Kitts and Nevis, National Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2027 To accompany the Saint Kitts and Nevis Gender Equality Policy (2022), accessed Jun. 3, 2025, https://www.gov.kn/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/SKN-National-Gender-Equality-Action-Plan-2022-2027.pdf#:~:text=LGBTI%20people%20Strategic%20Goal%3A%20To,of%20the%20Gender%20Equality%20Police.

²⁶ ALARMING SPIKE: St. Kitts and Nevis Sees Dramatic Surge in HIV Cases!, Times Caribbean Online, Feb. 5, 2025, https://timescaribbeanonline.com/alarming-spike-st-kitts-and-nevis-sees-dramatic-surge-in-hiv-cases/.

²⁷ Ryan Thoreson, *Dignifying Queerness*, 46 Cardozo Law Review 63, 99 (2024).

²⁸ Adegbenro Fakoya, Angel M. Matos Lugo, David Adeiza Otohinoyi, and Ann Celestine, "Baseline HIV Stigma Index Survey for St. Kitts and Nevis, 7 *Juniper Online Journal of Public Health* 2, 9 https://doi.org/10.19080/JOJPH.2022.07.555707.