

SPAIN

Population: 40 Mio

Area: 505.992 km²

Part 1: Laws concerning Homosexuality

Forbidden by law: No

Registered partnership/marriage: No

In some autonomic regions there is a sort of partnership law. The first one was adopted in 1998.

Differences to heterosexual marriages: There is no inheritance legislation. Gays and lesbians are not allowed to adopt children, they do not have the right to tax reductions nor to pensions of their partners.

Anti-discrimination law, protecting lesbians/gays (L/G) against discrimination: Yes

At work: Yes

On the housing market: No

In other areas: Yes

Comments:

There's an anti-discrimination law to protect LGBT people from discrimination, hate crimes or violence directed against them, but also from the diffusion of homophobic information. Every discrimination on the grounds of their sexual orientation (in administrations, shops, business, etc.) is also forbidden.

Part 2: Situation in the Church(es)

Open L/G welcome to

Eucharist: Yes/No

Comments: It depends on the priest. If one knows them and has got a good relationship with them, it is not a problem. If you are closeted it is, of course no problem either.

Do volunteer work: Yes/No

Commentary: *If the rest of the community knows it and accepts the person, it is ok.*

Work as ordained ministers: No

Comments: Only if they are closeted.

Other employment in church(es): No

Only if they are closeted.

Partnership blessing possible: Yes/No

Comment:

It depends on the priest. Officially, however, it is not allowed in the Catholic Church.

Incidents/outspoken attitudes that briefly describe the situation of L/G in the churches

The influence of the Roman Catholic Church in terms of moral issues is still quite strong in Spain. Thus, the attitudes of the Vatican shape the thoughts and positions in society about homosexuality considerably. However, there are also many liberal and open people in and outside the church who do not oppose LGBT people and their lifestyles.

Part 3: Christian Lesbian/Gay Networks

Network name: *Cristianismo y Homosexualidad*

Number of members: *About 15-20*

Year of foundation: *1995-1996*

Web page/contact address: *None, but you can find information at:*

www.cristianoshomosexuals.org

Network name: *Associacio Cristiana de Gais i Lesbianes (ACGIL)*

Web page/contact address: www.cogailes.org/acgil/ , acgil@cogailes.org

Network name: *Cohesion*

Web page/contact address: grupocohesion@yahoo.es

Questionnaire filled in by Maria from ACGIL