

Young Queer Faith and Sexuality Camp

Yulia Dwi Andriyanti

Areas of activism

Inter-identity Dialogue among youth, especially among young lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/transsexual (LGBT) and young people from faith communities

Vision

To build mutual understanding and trust between young people in Indonesia about different identity, especially related to faith and sexuality, as part of celebration of diversity both in public and personal life

context of the issue

- Indonesia is a diverse country, with various race, culture, ethnic, and religion. On the other hand, LGBTIQ (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Transeksual Interseks and Queer) people are also exist from their subculture and also social movement to struggle for their rights but they are excluded from diversity discourse just because of their non-normative sexual orientation and gender identity. This movement get reaction from religious mass organization and institution. These were shown by some activities, such as the cancellation of ILGA conference in Surabaya (March 2010), IDAHO (International Day Against Homophobia) in Yogyakarta, Q! Film Festival
- YIFoS (Youth Interfaith Forum on Sexuality) activities since 2010 as a space to dialogue about non-normative sexuality with young people from faith communities. From the dialogues that YIFoS has been conducted, there are still stereotypes on LGBTIQ people - that LGBTIQ people will only talk about their sexual life, but not their faith. This project will provide space to discuss and share experiences on sexuality and faith among young LGBT and young people from faith communities so that they can interact and communicate to each other about their identity and understand that they can live and work together to celebrate the diverse identity; both faith and sexuality in their society and surrounding, started from themselves, their family, friends, school/college, and communities.

context of the issue

- On the other hand, there has been already effort, from Muslim figure (Siti Musdah Mulia) and Christian figure (Rev. Ester Mariani and Rev. Stephen Sulaeman) who try to reinterpret sacred texts on homosexuality and also establishment of Pondok Pesantren Waria in Yogyakarta

Objectives

1. Participants understand diverse faith and sexuality as two things that should be celebrated in Indonesia
2. Participants understand on how power relation exercises, within society, religion and also state institution which shape knowledge on 'normal' and 'abnormal' sexuality and faith
3. Participants can implement the strategies on how to build inter-identity dialogue, on faith and sexuality, in their surrounding
4. To establish inter-identity youth movement based on dialogue to spread the message of diverse faith and sexuality in their society, without giving prejudice, hatred speech, and stereotypes to certain identity.

Activities in the Camp

Based on Dance of Liberation by Fiorenza

1. Reflection on experience and systemic analysis oppression (hermeneutics of experience)

Process : exploring how gender and sexuality socialized through family, friends, education and religious institution

2. Social – Cultural analysis (hermeneutics of domination and social location)

Process : realizing that a person has multiple identities and each identity has consequence of power relation

3. Critical evaluation and proclamation (hermeneutics of critical evaluation)

Process : evaluating text – cultural and religious, about sexuality

4. Historical symbolic and conceptual reconstruction through creative imagination

Process : doing the reconstruction through art – creative writing or forum theatre

5. Social transformation

Process : a collaborative work between those identities

Target

- 30 LGBT young people and 30 young people from faith communities
- Located in Java Island and Eastern Nusa Tenggara

Partners that has been approach

1. Anna Marsiana (Director of AWRC – Asian Women Research Centre)
2. Rev. Yeanne (STUBE Hemat)
3. Farsijana Adene Risakotta (Indonesia Woman Coalition of Yogyakarta)
4. Nursyahbani Katjasungkana (Coordinator Kartini Asia Network)
5. Victoria Rue (Roman Catholic Pastor)
6. Rev. Ester Mariani
7. British Council

Local and National Potential Partner

1. Elsa Sarapung (Director of Dian Interfidei)
2. National Human Right Commission
3. Titik (Center for Security and Peace Studies University of Gajah Mada Yogyakarta)
4. Musdah Mulia (Director of Indonesia Conference Religious and Peace)
5. Abdullah Zain (Director of Cross Cultural and Religious Studies)
6. Woman Human Right Commission
7. Garasi art and laboratory (for facilitating the forum theatre)
8. Independence Youth Alliance

yulia.dwi.andriyanti@gmail.com