

Legal Survey On The Countries In The World Having Legal Prohibitions On Sexual Activities Between Consenting Adults In Private

Researched information consists of first hand sources of legal texts, and second and third hand sources from Government and non-governmental organizations, if legal texts have not been obtained and if the sources have been found trustworthy.

The research was performed during the year 2005, and early spring in the year 2006.

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Illegal	=	Prohibition exists
Legal	=	No prohibition exists
Not illegal as such	=	No outright prohibition exists, however, other legislation is used against sexual activities between persons of the same sex
Unclear	=	There are questions whether prohibition exists or not

Pre-Informational Notes

Cape Verde decriminalized sexual activities between consenting adults of the same sex by the adoption of a new Penal Code in 2003, in force July 1, 2004. The new code only criminalize sexual activities with a minor between twelve and fourteen years, regardless of sex. Prior to the new Penal Code, the Penal Code of 1886 from the Portuguese Colonial Era was in force, criminalizing habitual practice of acts against the order of nature.

Puerto Rico decriminalized sexual activities between consenting adults of the same sex by the adoption of a new Penal Code - Penal Code Law No. 149 of June 18, 2004.

No information regarding the legal situation of sexual activities between consenting adults of the same sex have been obtained on Chad and Comoros. The ILGA World Legal Survey states that there is no mention on homosexual activities in the Penal Codes of these countries, but it have not be verified. The Penal Code of Comoros is based on Civil law and Islamic Shariah legislation, and adultery (fornication) is prohibited, so there might be also a ban on sexual activities between members of the same sex. As Chad is a mainly muslim country, this might be the situation also i Chad.

Note that even though an old Penal Code/Criminal Code may be in force, it has probably been amended several times. The articles/sections in this survey are the last amended available ones.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Afghanistan	Illegal	Illegal	<p>The Penal Code of 1976 was reinstated after the American invasion in 2003.</p> <p>The Penal law is interpreted together with Islamic Shariah law, which could mean that death penalty could be handed out for homosexual relations. No reported cases of such penalty have, however, occurred after the fall of the Taliban Regime.</p> <p>Article 427 of the Code prohibits Adultery and Pederasty with long imprisonment. No amount of years is stipulated – it is to the discretion of the judge in matter. It is considered an aggravating factor if the act was committed against a person under the age of 18.</p> <p>This article applies to homosexual activities between consenting adults in private among other.</p>
Algeria	Illegal	Illegal	<p>Penal Code of 1966, as amended:</p> <p>Article 338 prohibits homosexual acts with a penalty between 2 months and 2 years imprisonment, and a fine of 500 to 2000 Algerian Dinars. If committed against a person under the age of 18, the punishment for the adult can be raised to 3 years imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 dinars.</p>
Angola	Illegal	Illegal	<p>The Penal Code of 1886, inherited from the Portuguese Colonial Era, is in force.</p> <p>Article 71 prohibits habitual practice of acts against the order of nature.</p>
Antigua and Barbuda	Illegal	Illegal	<p>Sexual Offences Act of 1995 (Act No. 9):</p> <p>Buggery is prohibited, with a penalty of up to 15 years imprisonment if committed by a male on a male or female, or with up to life imprisonment if committed by an adult man on a person under the age of 18, or up to 5 years imprisonment if committed by a minor on an adult.</p> <p>Sexual Indecency is also prohibited, and defined as an act other than sexual intercourse (natural or unnatural) with a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment. This section is applied also to lesbian acts.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Bahrain	Illegal	Legal	Penal Code of 1976: The code prohibits buggery between men, with a penalty of up to ten years imprisonment.
Bangladesh	Illegal	Legal	Section 377 of the Penal Code prohibits consensual carnal intercourse (anal intercourse) against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal, with a penalty of imprisonment for life or a prison term which may extend to 10 years, and a fine.
Barbados	Illegal	Illegal	The Sexual Offences Act of 1992 (Act No. 3): Part I – article 9, prohibits buggery, with a penalty of life imprisonment. Serious indecency, defined as an act other than sexual intercourse (natural or unnatural) is prohibited with a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment if both parties are over the age of 16, and if committed on a minor, up to 15 years imprisonment. This section applies also to lesbian acts.
Belize	Illegal	Illegal	Criminal Code as revised in 2003: Section 45 prohibits indecent assault upon a male or female person together with other sexual assaults, with a penalty of 2 years imprisonment. If committed against a minor or woman the penalty is 3 years imprisonment. Section 53 on “Unnatural Crimes” prohibits carnal intercourse (anal intercourse) against the order of nature with any male, female or animal, with a penalty of 10 years imprisonment.
Benin	Illegal	Illegal	The Penal Code of 1996: Article 88 prohibits acts against nature between individuals of the same sex, with a penalty of 1 to 3 years imprisonment and a fine of 100,000 to 500,000 francs.
Bhutan	Illegal	Illegal	Article 213 in the Penal Code prohibits unnatural sex, which is defined as sodomy or any other sexual conduct against the order of nature. Article 214 prescribes the crimes as a petty misdemeanour.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Botswana	Illegal	Illegal	Section 164 on "Unnatural Offences" in the Penal Code, prohibits carnal knowledge (anal intercourse) against the order of nature, any animal, or consenting to another person performing such act on one self, with a penalty of up to 7 years imprisonment. Attempts of such act is punished with up to 5 years imprisonment according to section 165. Section 166 prohibits sexual assault upon a male of 14 years or younger, with a penalty of up to 7 years imprisonment. Section 167 prohibits gross indecency by a male upon a male person or attempts of such, and is guilty of an offence. All these sections were made gender-neutral in 1998, now applying also to lesbian acts in the sections 166 and 167.
Brunei	Illegal	Legal	Penal Code of 1951 (Act No. 16), as revised: Section 377 prohibits consensual carnal intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal, with a penalty of a prison term which may extend 10 years, and a fine.
Burma (Myanmar)	Illegal	Legal	Penal Code of 1860 (Act No. 45) as amended: Section 377 prohibits consensual carnal intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal, with a penalty of life imprisonment or a prison term which may extend to 10 years, and a fine.
Cameroon	Illegal	Illegal	Penal Code, as revised: Article 347 bis prohibits sexual intercourse between persons of the same sex, with a penalty of between 6 months and 5 years imprisonment, and a fine of 20,000 to 200,000 francs.
Chechen Republic (Russia)	Illegal	Unclear	Penal Code of 1996: Article 48 prohibits sexual intercourse by two men or between a man and a woman outside of marriage, with a penalty of a caning on the first conviction, and death on the third conviction. It is unclear if lesbian acts are prohibited.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Cook Islands	Illegal	Legal	Crimes Act of 1969: Section 154 prohibits indecency between males, with a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment. Section 155 prohibits sodomy, with a penalty of up to 7 years imprisonment, and up to 14 years imprisonment if the male committed on is under the age of 15 and the committing male is over the age of 21.
Djibouti	Illegal	Illegal	Penal Code of 1995: Articles 347 to 352 prohibits impudent sexual acts. No details have been obtained, however, other sources state that sexual intercourse between persons of the same sex are illegal in Djibouti.
Dominica	Illegal	Illegal	Sexual Offences Act (No. 1 of 1998): Article 59 prohibits buggery with a man or a woman is also prohibited, with a penalty of up to ten years imprisonment for adults, and up to 25 years imprisonment if committed on a minor, and up to 5 years imprisonment if committed by a minor on an adult. The court may also commit the offender to a Psychological Hospital. The act also prohibits gross indecency between consenting adults, with a penalty of 5 years imprisonment.
Egypt	Not illegal as such	Not illegal as such	Sexual intercourse between consenting adult persons of the same sex in private is not prohibited as such. However, Law 10/1961, aimed to combat prostitution, stipulating penalties for "habitual debauchery", has recently been used against gay men for arrests, prosecutions and convictions.
Eritrea	Illegal	Illegal	The Penal Code of 1957 inherited from Ethiopia is in force. It prohibits "Unnatural Carnal Offences" and other indecent sexual act between persons of the same sex in articles 600 and 601. Article 105 stipulates a penalty of imprisonment from ten days to 3 years for such acts.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Ethiopia	Illegal	Illegal	<p>A new Penal Code was adopted in 2005. No details on the chapters on Sexual Offences have been obtained. It has, however, not decriminalized homosexual activities.</p> <p>The Penal Code of 1957 prohibited “Unnatural Carnal Offences” and other indecent sexual act between persons of the same sex in articles 600 and 601. Article 105 stipulated a penalty of imprisonment from ten days to 3 years for such acts.</p>
Fiji Islands	Unclear	Legal	<p>Criminal Code, as amended:</p> <p>Articles 175-177 prohibits sodomy and gross indecency between men.</p> <p>Article 175 defines sodomy as carnal knowledge against the nature, and the penalty for such acts is 14 years imprisonment, with or without corporal punishment.</p> <p>Article 176 prohibits attempts to commit sodomy or indecent assault upon a male person, with a penalty of imprisonment for 7 years, with or without corporal punishment.</p> <p>Article 177 prohibits gross indecency between men in public or private, with a penalty of imprisonment for 5 years, with or without corporal punishment.</p> <p>These provisions were declared unconstitutional by High Court Justice Gerard Winther on August 5, 2005, but it is unclear if this verdict has any legal impact.</p>
Gambia	Illegal	Legal	<p>Criminal Code of 1965, as amended:</p> <p>Article 144 on “Unnatural Offences” prohibits carnal knowledge (anal intercourse) against the order with any person or animal, with a penalty of 14 years imprisonment.</p>
Ghana	Illegal	Legal	<p>Criminal Code of 1960, as amended:</p> <p>Article 105 in chapter 6 prohibits unnatural carnal knowledge with person or animal without consent, being guilty of a first class felony, or if with consent being a misdemeanour.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Grenada	Illegal	Unclear	The Criminal Code prohibits unnatural connection (anal intercourse) between two persons or with an animal, with a penalty of 10 years imprisonment. It is unclear if there is any law on gross indecency, which would apply to lesbian acts.
Guinea	Illegal	Illegal	Article 325 of the Penal Code prohibits indecent acts and acts against nature between individuals of the same sex, with a penalty of 6 months to 3 years imprisonment, and a fine of 100 000 to 100 0000 Guinean Francs.
Guyana	Illegal	Legal	Section 352 of the Criminal Law (Offences) Act prohibits gross indecency between men, with a penalty of 2 years imprisonment. Section 353 prohibits attempts to buggery or indecent assault upon a male by a male person with ten years imprisonment. Section 354 prohibits buggery with mankind or beast with a penalty of life imprisonment.
India	Illegal	Legal	Penal Code of 1860 (Act No. 45) as amended: Section 377 prohibits consensual carnal intercourse (anal intercourse) against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal, with a penalty of imprisonment for life or a prison term which may extend to 10 years, and a fine.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Iran	Illegal	Illegal	<p>The Islamic Penal Code of 1991:</p> <p>Articles 108-126 prohibit sodomy (sexual intercourse) between men, and articles 127-134 prohibit lesbianism.</p> <p>The provisions on sodomy stipulates death penalty, with the the discretion of the Judge deciding which method should be used. Death penalty is only carried out if the act was done by mature men of sound mind and free will, and if there have been confessions on four occations, or if the act have been witnessed by four righteous males. If not, a lesser punishment of lashing and imprisonment is proscribed. If a mature man of sound mind commits sodomy on an immature man, the penalty is death for the active part and 74 lashes for the passive one, and if two immature men commits sodomy, both will be subject to 74 lashes.</p> <p>Rubbing of the thighs or buttocks of a man on another man is punished with 100 lashes, and on the fourth conviction the penalty is death, and kissing with lust is punished with 60 lashes.</p> <p>Lesbianism between mature women of sound mind and free will subject to 100 lashes, and on the fourth conviction, death penalty is handed out. The way of proving lesbianism is the same as for sodomy between men.</p>
Iraq	Unclear	Unclear	<p>Iraq reinstated the Penal Code of 1969, after the American invasion in 2003. The Penal Code does not prohibit sexual activities between consenting adults of the same sex. However, a new Family Law has been approved in December 2003 by the Interim Government Council, and it is unclear to date whether this law contains a legal prohibition of adultery and sexual activities outside of marriage.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Jamaica	Illegal	Legal	<p>Offences against the Person Act, as amended:</p> <p>Article 76 on in the Offences Against the Person Act, prohibits buggery (anal intercourse) with mankind or beast, with a penalty of imprisonment with hard labour up to ten years. Article 77 prohibits attempts to buggery or any other indecent assault upon any male, with a penalty of imprisonment with or without hard labour for up to two years.</p> <p>Article 78 stipulates proof of carnal knowledge (anal intercourse).</p> <p>Article 79 prohibits outrage on decency, defined as an act by a man committing, or procuring or trying to procure any other man into gross indecency, with a penalty of imprisonment with or without hard labour for up to 2 years.</p>
Kenya	Illegal	Legal	<p>Criminal Code, as amended:</p> <p>Sections 162 and 163 of the Criminal Code prohibits carnal knowledge against the nature, or attempts to, with a penalty of up to 14 years imprisonment,</p> <p>Section 164 aims to indecent assault with a male under 14 years, with a penalty of up to 7 years imprisonment.</p>
Kiribati	Illegal	Legal	<p>The Penal Code, largely revised in 1977, as amended:</p> <p>Section 153 prohibits "Unnatural Offences", defined as buggery with another person or animal, with a penalty of 14 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Section 154 prohibits attempts to mentioned offence, with a penalty of 7 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Section 155 prohibits gross indecency between men in public or private, with a penalty of 5 years imprisonment.</p> <p>These sections are equal to those in the Tuvalu Penal Code.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Kuwait	Illegal	Legal	The Penal Code of 1960 (Law No. 16): Article 192 prohibits sexual intercourse by an adult man on a male under the age of 21, with a penalty of up to ten years imprisonment. Article 193 prohibits sexual intercourse between men over the age of 21, with a penalty of up to 7 years imprisonment.
Lebanon	Illegal	Illegal	Penal Code of 1943, as amended: Article 534 has been amended not only to prohibit sodomy, but every sexual act against the order of nature, with a penalty of up to one year imprisonment.
Lesotho	Illegal	Legal	Buggery is prohibited as a common-law offence. Recent sentences have been handed out with penalties of 10 years imprisonment, against male same-sex activities.
Liberia	Illegal	Illegal	Criminal Code of 1976: Section 14.74 prohibits "Voluntary Sodomy", defined as deviate sexual intercourse, being a first degree misdemeanour.
Libya	Illegal	Illegal	Law on Sexual Offences 1973: Article 407(4) prohibits a person from having sexual intercourse with another persons consent, with a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment. Article 408 prohibits indecent acts with the consent of the partner, with a penalty of imprisonment. Both articles used the phrase "he" defining the partner, however, it seems as the law applies to both men and women.
Malawi	Illegal	Unclear	Section 153 of the Penal Code prohibits unnatural offences with up to 14 years imprisonment with or without corporal punishment. If the law is also applied to lesbian acts, is unclear.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Malaysia	Illegal	Legal	Criminal Code, as amended to 2002: Article 377, subparagraph A and B prohibits carnal intercourse (anal intercourse) against the order of nature, with a penalty of imprisonment for a term which may extend to 20 years and a whipping.
Maldives	Illegal	Illegal	Penal Code of 1960, as amended: Intercourse between men is prohibited, and along with amendments inserting Islamic Shariah provisions in the law, now also lesbian acts are banned. In October 2002, two lesbians were sentenced to whipping for sexual intercourse with each other. A revision of the Penal Code is currently being drafted.
Marshall Islands	Illegal	Illegal	Criminal Code, revised in 1988, as amended: § 153 prohibits sodomy, defined as unlawful and consensual sexual acts in a unnatural manner, with a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment.
Mauritania	Illegal	Illegal	The Penal Code of 1983 is in force. It is based on Islamic Shariah law and criminalize adultery and homosexual activities between consenting adults in private. Maximum penalty is death.
Mauritius	Illegal	Unclear	Section 250 of the Criminal Code prohibits sodomy and bestiality, with a penalty of imprisonment up to 5 years.
Morocco	Illegal	Illegal	Penal Code of 1962, as amended: Article 489 prohibits lewd or unnatural acts with an individual of the same sex, with a penalty of 6 months to 3 years imprisonment, and a possible fine of 120 to 1000 dirhams.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Mozambique	Illegal	Illegal	The Penal Code of 1886, inherited from the Portuguese Colonial Era, is in force. Article 71 prohibits habitual practice of acts against the order of nature.
Namibia	Illegal	Legal	The Sexual Offences Act of 1957 is in force, as amended: The act prohibits unlawful carnal intercourse, and indecent acts.
Nauru	Illegal	Legal	The Criminal Code Act of 1899, copied directly from the Queensland Code, is in force. Section 208 prohibits unlawful sodomy, and section 209 prohibits attempts to commit such an act.
Nepal	Unclear	Unclear	The National Code (Muluki Ain) of 1963 is in force. Chapter 16, part 4, §§ 1 and 4, prohibits "Unnatural Sexual Intercourse" with a penalty of up to one year imprisonment, or a fine of 5000 rupies. It has been interpreted to include sexual intercourse between men, but it is unclear if this provision is also applied to lesbian acts. In a written letter to the Supreme Court in August 2004 the Interior Minister Ananta Ram Pandey, however, told that "there is no legal provision to ban or punish homosexual activities".
Nicaragua	Not illegal as such	Not illegal as such	Homosexual activities between consenting adults in private is not illegal as such, but article 204 of the Penal Code, prohibits induced, promoted, propagandized or practiced sodomy between persons of the same sex in a scandalous way, with a penalty of 1 to 3 years imprisonment. The Penal Code was amended by law No. 150 of 1992 to include such provisions.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Nigeria	Illegal	Legal/Illegal See legal section	<p>Criminal Code, revised in 1990:</p> <p>Article 214 prohibits carnal knowledge against the nature with a person or animal, with a penalty of 14 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 215 prohibits attempts to such acts mentioned, with a penalty of 7 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 216 prohibits unlawful and indecent acts done with a male under the age of 14, with a penalty of 14 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 217 prohibits gross indecency by a male on another male, with a penalty of 3 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 352 prohibits assault to attempt of having carnal knowledge against the order of nature, with a penalty of of 14 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 353 prohibits unlawful and indecent assault on a male, with a penalty of 3 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Several of the Northern States have adopted Islamic Shariah provisions since it was approved nationally to adopt such provisions in 1999. This kind of legislation prohibits adultery and homosexual acts for both men and women, with a maximum penalty of death and a caning. In some of the cases, lesbianism is only punished with a caning and imprisonment, and not death.</p> <p>The following states have adopted such laws:</p> <p>Bauchi (2001), Borno (2000), Gombe (2001), Jigawa (2000), Kaduna (2002), Kano (2000), Katsina (2000), Kebbi (2001), Niger (2001), Sokoto (2000), Yobe (2001) och Zamfara (2000). Gombe (2001), Jigawa (2000), Kaduna (2002), Kano (2000), Katsina (2000), Kebbi (2001), Niger (2001), Sokoto (2000), Yobe (2001) and Zamfara (2000).</p> <p>The year in bracket is the year the law was adopted.</p>
Niue	Illegal	Legal	<p>Section 170 of the Penal Code prohibits buggery with a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment, and section 171 prohibits attempts thereto and indecent assault upon men, with a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment.</p> <p>These sections are equal to those in the Tokelau Penal Code.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Oman	Illegal	Illegal	Penal Code of 1974 (Royal Decree No. 7): Article 32 prohibits sexual intercourse between persons of the same sex, with a penalty of up to 3 years imprisonment.
Pakistan	Illegal	Illegal	Section 377 on "Unnatural Offences" in the Penal Code, prohibits consensual carnal intercourse with a man, woman or animal against the order of nature, with a penalty of life imprisonment, or imprisonment from 2 to 10 years imprisonment, and a fine. Amendments to the Penal Code in the 1990's now applies Islamic Shariah law for Sexual Offences, stipulating death penalty for adultery and homosexual acts.
Palau	Illegal	Unclear	Article 2803 of the National Code prohibits sodomy with a man or a woman, with a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment. It is unclear if sodomy also applies to acts between women.
Papa New Guinea	Illegal	Legal	Criminal Code of 1974, as consolidated in 1993: Section 210 prohibits "Unnatural Offences", defined as carnal knowledge of any person or animal against the order of nature, with a penalty of up to 14 years imprisonment. Attempts thereto is punished with up to 7 years imprisonment. Section 212 prohibits gross indecency between men in public or private, with a penalty of up to 3 years imprisonment. Section 336 prohibits assault with intent to commit unnatural offences, with a penalty of up to 14 years imprisonment. Section 337 prohibits indecent assault upon male person, with a penalty of up to 3 years imprisonment.
Qatar	Illegal	Unclear	The Penal Code of 2004 is in force criminalizing sexual activities between consenting adult men. The law is based on Civil law and Islamic Shariah Legislation, which could mean that also sexual activities between consenting adult women is prohibited. The former Penal Code of 1971 is reported to have punished sodomy, with a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Illegal	Legal	Laws of 1964, as revised; Offences against the Person Act: Section 56 prohibits buggery with up to 10 years imprisonment, with or without hard labour. Section 57 prohibits attempted buggery, and attempts to commit such through assault, with a penalty of up to 4 years imprisonment, with or without hard labour. The same penalty is stipulated for indecent assault upon males.
Saint Lucia	Illegal	Legal	Criminal Code (No. 9 of 2004) in force since January 1, 2005: Section 133 prohibits buggery or bestiality with a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment, or mental rehabilitation.
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Illegal	Illegal	Criminal Code of 1990: Article 146 prohibits buggery, with a penalty of 10 years imprisonment. Article 148 prohibits gross indecency with a person of the same sex, and attempts thereto, with a penalty of 5 years imprisonment.
São Tomé and Príncipe	Illegal	Illegal	The Penal Code of 1886, inherited from the Portuguese Colonial Era, is in force. Article 71 prohibits habitual practice of acts against the order of nature.
Saudi-Arabia	Illegal	Illegal	There is no codified Penal Law in Saudi-Arabia. Instead, a strict interpretation of Islamic Shariah law is used by the courts, criminalizing sexual acts outside of marriage, including homosexual acts, with a penalty of death for married persons, and 100 lashes for unmarried. There must be four trustworthy male witnesses to the act for conviction.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Senegal	Illegal	Illegal	Penal Code of 1966, as amended: Article 319 prohibits improper and unnatural acts between persons of the same sex, with a penalty of imprisonment between 1 and 5 years, and a fine of 100,000 to 1,500,000 francs. If committed against a person under the age of 21, the maximum penalty is applied.
Seychelles	Illegal	Legal	Articles 151-154 of the Criminal Code prohibits sodomy.
Sierra Leone	Illegal	Legal	Offences against the Person Act of 1861, inherited from the British Colonial Era, is in force. Article 61 prohibits buggery on mankind or animal, with a penalty of life imprisonment. Article 62 prohibits attempts of mentioned crime, or any other indecent assault upon a male person, with a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment.
Singapore	Illegal	Legal	Penal Code, as amended to 2006: Article 377 on "Unnatural Offences" prohibits consensual carnal intercourse (anal intercourse) against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal, with a penalty of life imprisonment or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 10 years, and a fine. Article 377A prohibits gross indecency between males in public or private, with a penalty of imprisonment which may extend to 2 years.
Solomon Islands	Illegal	Illegal	Penal Code (Cap 26) of 1968, Revised edition 1996: Section 160 prohibits "Unnatural Offences", defined as buggery with another person or with an animal, with a penalty of 14 years imprisonment. Section 161 prohibits attempts thereto and sexual assaults against a male person, with a penalty of 7 years imprisonment. Section 162 prohibits gross indecency with another person of the same sex, with a penalty of imprisonment for 5 years. Section 162 was amended in 1990 to include also female, and thus lesbian acts.

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Somalia	Illegal	Illegal	<p>Penal Code of 1962:</p> <p>Article 409 prohibits "Homosexuality", defined as carnal intercourse with a person of the same sex, with a penalty of imprisonment from 3 months to 3 years. If an act, other than carnal intercourse, committed with lust, the penalty is reduced by one-third.</p> <p>Article 410 allows the police to take security measures against a person convicted for violation article 409, for instance surveillance in order to prohibit the person from committing such acts again.</p> <p>However, the legal system in Somalia is not united due to political reasons. In some parts of the country, for example in Puntland, Somaliland, Mogadishu and Lower Shabelle, local Shari'ah courts have been established, on the grounds of Muslim law, making intercourse between persons of the same sex punishable by death. In those parts of Somalia these kind of laws are applied execution is often carried out by in first hand gun shooting, but also by stoning.</p>
Sri Lanka	Illegal	Legal	<p>Penal Code of 1883, as amended:</p> <p>Article 365 prohibits consensual carnal intercourse (anal intercourse) with man, woman or animal against the order of nature, with a penalty of imprisonment which may extend to 10 years.</p>
Sudan	Illegal	Illegal	<p>Penal Code of 1991 (Act No. 8):</p> <p>Article 148 prohibits "sodomy", defined as an act of sexual intercourse by a man on another man or a woman. The penalty for first conviction is a flogging of 100 lashes and imprisonment for 5 years. In case of second conviction the penalty is a flogging of 100 lashes and imprisonment up to 5 years. For a third conviction, the penalty is death or life imprisonment.</p> <p>There is no outright ban on lesbian acts in the Penal Code, but such acts may be criminalized due to common law, and to the discretion of the judges, or by the prohibition of adultery.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Swaziland	Illegal	Unclear	<p>Buggery is prohibited as a common-law offence.</p> <p>The Government has in 2005/2006 plans to include prohibitions of all male homosexual acts and lesbian acts in its' revision of the Sexual Offences laws. The proposed penalties are imprisonment for a minimum period of two years, or a minimum fine of E5 000.</p>
Syria	Illegal	Unclear	<p>Penal Code of 1949:</p> <p>Article 520 prohibits "carnal knowledge against the order of nature", with a penalty of up to 3 years imprisonment. It is unclear if this article is also applied to sexual activities between women.</p>
Tanzania	Illegal	Legal/Illegal See legal section	<p>Penal Code of 1945, as amended by the Sexual Offences Special Provisions Act of 1998:</p> <p>Section 154 prohibits "Unnatural Offences", defined as carnal knowledge against the nature (anal intercourse) with a person or animal, with a penalty of life imprisonment, Section 155 prohibits attempts to have such mentioned acts, with a penalty of not less 20 years imprisonment.</p> <p>In Zanzibar the Penal Code of 1934 was amended in 2004, to prohibit the following acts:</p> <p>Sexual intercourse between men - up to 25 years imprisonment, or a fine of 700,000 shillings. Sexual activities between women - up to 7 years imprisonment, or a fine of 700,000 shillings. Attempted seduction of male by male - up to 25 years imprisonment. Sexual intercourse with a minor of the same sex - up to life imprisonment.</p>
Togo	Illegal	Illegal	<p>Penal Code of 1980:</p> <p>Article 88 prohibits impudent acts against nature with an individual of the same sex, with a penalty of 3 years imprisonment, and a fine of 100,000-500,000 francs.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Tokelau	Illegal	Legal	<p>Section 170 of the Penal Code prohibits buggery with a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment, and section 171 prohibits attempts thereto and indecent assault upon men, with a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment.</p> <p>These sections are equal to those in the Niue Penal Code.</p>
Tonga	Illegal	Legal	<p>Criminal Offences (Cap 18) 1988 Edition, as amended:</p> <p>Section 136 prohibits sodomy and bestiality, with a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Section 137 states that it is an offence to assault a person in order to commit the mentioned act.</p> <p>Section 138 states that it is an offence to sexual assault a male person.</p> <p>Section 139 prohibits attempted sodomy and indecent assault upon a male person, with a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment.</p>
Trinidad and Tobago	Illegal	Illegal	<p>Sexual Offences Act, No. 27 of 1986, as modified by Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act (No. 31 of 2000):</p> <p>Section 13 states that Buggery is punishable by life imprisonment if committed by an adult on a minor, by 25 years' imprisonment if committed by an adult on another adult, and by 5 years' imprisonment if committed by a minor.</p> <p>Section 16 prohibits sexual acts between women (abduction on a female), with a penalty of imprisonment for ten years for a first offence and to imprisonment for fifteen years for a subsequent offence.</p>
Tunisia	Illegal	Illegal	<p>Penal Code of 1913, largely revised in 1964, as amended:</p> <p>Article 230 prohibits sodomy with a penalty of 3 years imprisonment.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Turkmenistan	Illegal	Legal	<p>Criminal Code of 1997, in force January 1, 1998:</p> <p>Article 135(1) prohibits sexual intercourse between men, with a penalty of up to 2 years imprisonment.</p>
Tuvalu	Illegal	Legal	<p>Penal Code (Cap 8) Revised edition 1978, as amended:</p> <p>Section 153 prohibits "Unnatural Offences", defined as buggery with another person or animal, with a penalty of 14 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Section 154 prohibits attempts to mentioned offence, with a penalty of 7 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Section 155 prohibits gross indecency between men in public or private, with a penalty of 5 years imprisonment.</p> <p>These sections are equal to those in the Kiribati Penal Code.</p>
Uganda	Illegal	Legal	<p>Articles 140-143 of the Penal Code prohibits sexual acts between consenting men. The articles were modified with strengthened penalties in 1990.</p> <p>Article 140 prohibits carnal knowledge against the order of nature (anal intercourse) with a penalty of up to life imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 141 prohibits attempts to carnal knowledge, with a penalty of up to 7 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 143 prohibits gross indecency between men in public or private, or attempts to, with a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
United Arab Emirates	Illegal	Unclear	<p>Penal Code of 1987 (Law No. 3):</p> <p>Its' article 354 has been interpreted as criminalizing sodomy between men, with a maximum penalty of death. As the language is vague, it is unclear if this prohibition is also applied to women.</p> <p>Internationally known convictions have, however, resulted in prison terms and not death penalty.</p> <p>There are also separate legal prohibitions of sodomy in at least two of the four Emirates (Abu Dhabi and Dubai), stipulating imprisonment for such acts.</p>
Uzbekistan	Illegal	Legal	<p>Penal Code of 1995:</p> <p>Article 120 prohibits sexual intercourse between men, with a penalty of up to three years imprisonment.</p>
Western Samoa	Illegal	Legal	<p>Crimes Ordinance 1961:</p> <p>Section 58D prohibits indecency between men, with a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Section 58E prohibits sodomy upon a male person with up to 5 years imprisonment, and if committed by a male over the age of 21 with another male under the age of 16, the penalty is up to 7 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Section 58G prohibits attempts to commit sodomy or bestiality, with a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment.</p>
Zambia	Illegal	Legal	<p>Penal Code, as revised in 1996:</p> <p>Article 155 on "Unnatural Offences" prohibits carnal knowledge of any person or animal against the order of nature, with a penalty of 14 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 156 prohibits attempts thereto, with a penalty of 7 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 157 prohibits indecent assault upon male under the age of 14 years, with a penalty of 7 years imprisonment.</p> <p>Article 158 prohibits gross indecency between men, with a penalty of 5 years imprisonment.</p>

Country	male/male	female/female	Legal Background
Zimbabwe	Illegal	Legal	<p>Sodomy between men is prohibited as a common-law offence.</p> <p>The Sexual Offences Act (Act 8/2001) prohibits indecent and immoral acts against young persons and mentally handicapped, with penalties of up to 10 years imprisonment. Sexual offences is defined as rape or sodomy.</p>
Yemen	Illegal	Illegal	<p>The Penal Code of 1994 is in force. It is based on Islamic Shariah law and criminalize adultery and homosexual activities between consenting adults in private. Maximum penalty is death.</p>