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# **SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN INDIA: NAVIGATING THE LEGAL LANDSCAPE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This paper delves into the current legal and social status of same-sex marriage in India. Same-sex marriage is not recognized under Indian law, and homosexuality was only recently decriminalized. The paper explores the historical treatment of homosexuality in India, including the cultural and religious factors that have shaped public attitudes towards same-sex relationships. The paper also identifies the challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community in India, particularly concerning inheritance, adoption, and healthcare. Members of this community often experience discrimination in multiple aspects of their lives, including accessing healthcare and employment opportunities. Additionally, same-sex couples encounter legal hurdles when it comes to inheritance and adoption rights, which perpetuate their marginalization.

In conclusion, the paper suggests various solutions for the recognition of same-sex marriage in India. The government must address cultural and religious factors that have contributed to discriminatory attitudes towards the LGBTQ+ community and promote inclusivity. It is also vital to ensure that the legal system protects the rights of this community and provides equal access to resources and opportunities. To achieve these goals, the government must proactively address discriminatory attitudes and practices towards the LGBTQ+ community. This includes implementing anti-bullying and anti-harassment policies in schools and workplaces and educating the public about the experiences and rights of the LGBTQ+ community. Additionally, legal reforms that guarantee inheritance and adoption rights for same-sex couples, as well as laws prohibiting discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals in employment, housing, and healthcare, must be put in place. In summary, this paper examines the current legal and social status of same-sex marriage in India and highlights the challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community. The paper suggests solutions such as promoting inclusivity, implementing legal reforms, and recognizing same-sex marriage to create a more equitable society for all.

## Introduction

Same-sex marriage has become a global issue, with many countries debating the legal and social implications of recognizing same-sex relationships. India is one such country where same-sex marriage is not recognized, “despite the decriminalization of homosexuality in 2018.”<sup>1</sup> The legal landscape of same-sex marriage in India is complex and influenced by cultural, religious, and social factors. This research paper aims to examine the legal landscape of same-sex marriage in India and its implications for the LGBTQ+ community.

The paper begins by exploring the history of homosexuality in India and how it has been treated legally and socially. It highlights the cultural and religious factors that have influenced public attitudes towards same-sex relationships and how these attitudes have shaped the legal landscape of same-sex marriage in India. The paper then delves into the legal challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community in India, including issues related to inheritance, adoption, and healthcare.

The paper also analyzes the implications of the lack of recognition of same-sex marriage in India and how it affects the rights and well-being of LGBTQ+ individuals and their families. It examines the impact on issues such as property inheritance, adoption, and healthcare, and how the lack of legal recognition perpetuates discrimination and marginalization of the LGBTQ+ community.

Finally, the paper proposes possible solutions and recommendations for navigating the legal landscape of same-sex marriage in India. It suggests strategies for promoting greater acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community, such as education and awareness campaigns, and the introduction of legislation recognizing same-sex relationships and providing legal protections and benefits to same-sex couples.

Overall, this research paper aims to shed light on the challenges and implications of the lack of recognition of same-sex marriage in India and suggest ways forward towards a more inclusive and just society for all.

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<sup>1</sup> *Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India*, AIR 2018 SC 4321

## Marriage Equality in India: Evolving Landscape

Homosexuality has been present in ancient India for a long time and is documented in various manuscripts and artifacts, including the Rig Veda and Kamasutra. “However, the significance of these encounters decreased with the emergence of Vedic Brahmanism and British colonization. The Manusmriti imposed penalties for homosexual behavior, and married women faced severe punishments for engaging in such behavior.”<sup>2</sup>

Despite the contradictions in the Brahmanical Party's norms of compulsory heterosexuality, British colonization led to the suppression of gay representations and sexual identity. Homophobia and Victorian views led to the condemnation of explicit sex photos. “However, the definition of homosexuality has shifted since the 1970s,”<sup>3</sup> and it is no longer considered abnormal or a psychiatric illness. Many nations, including India, have implemented legislation and measures to protect the rights of gays and lesbians and to prevent discrimination

“Marriage in India has undergone significant changes in recent years in terms of social, cultural, and legal landscapes. While arranged marriages based on caste, religion, and socioeconomic status were more prevalent in the past, love marriages have become more widely accepted with modernization and urbanization.”<sup>4</sup>

“Although same-sex marriage is not recognized under Indian law, there is increasing acceptance of same-sex relationships and marriage among individuals and organizations.”<sup>5</sup> Members of the LGBT community have even held public weddings to raise awareness about the issue, and businesses and organizations have shown their support by implementing inclusive policies and promoting awareness about LGBT issues.

In summary, the evolution of marriage in India is a complex and dynamic process influenced by various factors. Although same-sex marriage is not legally recognized in India, there is an

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<sup>2</sup> *Love's rite* (2021) *Google Books*. Available at:

[https://www.google.co.in/books/edition/Love\\_s\\_Rite/trQj0GrKuPoC?hl=en&gbpv=0](https://www.google.co.in/books/edition/Love_s_Rite/trQj0GrKuPoC?hl=en&gbpv=0) (Accessed: 08<sup>th</sup> May 2023).

<sup>3</sup> Drescher, J. (2015) *Out of DSM: Depathologizing homosexuality*, *Behavioral sciences* (Basel, Switzerland).

Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4695779/> (Accessed: 08<sup>th</sup> May 2023).

<sup>4</sup> Mehta, P.C. (2005) *Marriages in indian society*, *Google Books*. Available at:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=za396l85CPEC&printsec=frontcover&dq=marriages%2Bin%2Bindia%2Bla test>

[https://books.google.com/books?id=za396l85CPEC&printsec=frontcover&dq=marriages%2Bin%2Bindia%2Bla test%2Bbook&hl=en&newbks=1&newbks\\_redir=1&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjvw6iy6oX\\_AhUgg2MGHbHLA4EQ6AF6BAGMEAI](https://books.google.com/books?id=za396l85CPEC&printsec=frontcover&dq=marriages%2Bin%2Bindia%2Bla test%2Bbook&hl=en&newbks=1&newbks_redir=1&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjvw6iy6oX_AhUgg2MGHbHLA4EQ6AF6BAGMEAI) (Accessed: 09 May 2023).

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

increasingly open and inclusive dialogue surrounding it, and acceptance of same-sex relationships and marriage is growing among individuals and organizations. “Other nations that have recognized homosexual rights include South Africa, Australia, Germany, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Iceland, Denmark, Sweden, and New Zealand.”<sup>6</sup>

### Navigating the Legal Contours of Same-Sex Marriage in India

The issue of same-sex marriage and India's legal framework has been a widely debated issue in recent times. The country's history with LGBT rights has been complex, and this research aims to delve into the evolution of these rights in India and the current legal status of same-sex marriage in the country.

“The history of LGBT rights in India dates back to the colonial era, when British rule criminalized homosexual activity under Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code. This law remained in place even after India gained independence in 1947 and was used to discriminate against and oppress the LGBT community for many years.”<sup>7</sup> It was only in 2009 that the “Delhi High Court declared Section 377 unconstitutional and struck it down, leading to greater legal recognition of the LGBT community's rights.”<sup>8</sup>

However, this progress was short-lived, as “the Supreme Court of India overturned the Delhi High Court's decision in 2013 and upheld the constitutionality of Section 377, effectively reinstating the criminalization of homosexual activity.”<sup>9</sup> It was not until 2018 that the Supreme Court of India once again revisited the issue and “declared Section 377 unconstitutional, decriminalizing homosexual activity and opening the door for further legal recognition of same sex relationships.”<sup>10</sup>

But despite this progress, same-sex marriage is not yet legally recognized in India, as the Indian Constitution defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman. There is

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<sup>6</sup> (2020) ‘Marriage Equality Around the World’. Available at - <https://www.hrc.org/resources/marriage-equalityaround-the-world> (Accessed on 9th May 2023)

<sup>7</sup> Vanita, R. and Kidwai, S. (eds.) (2021) *Same-sex love in India: Readings from literature and history*. New Delhi, India: Palgrave Macmillan.

<sup>8</sup> *Naz Foundation v. Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi* Vol 160 (2009)

<sup>9</sup> *Suresh Kumar Koushal v. Naz Foundation*, Civil Appeal 10972 (2013)

<sup>10</sup> Supra Note 2

currently no specific provision for same-sex marriage in the country's legal system, but there have been recent developments that suggest a possibility of legal recognition in the future.

In 2020, the Delhi High Court allowed “same-sex couples to register their marriage under the Special Marriage Act, which permits interfaith and inter-caste marriages.”<sup>11</sup> This decision was a significant milestone for the LGBT community in India, as it enabled same-sex couples to officially register their relationships. Additionally, in 2021, the Madras High Court issued a landmark judgment recognizing “the rights of transgender individuals to marry according to their gender identity, which may have implications for the legal recognition of same-sex marriage in India.”<sup>12</sup>

### Implications of the legal landscape

The legal landscape in India has significant implications on same-sex marriage and the rights of the LGBTQ+ community. Although the decriminalization of homosexuality in 2018 was a significant step forward, legal recognition for same-sex marriage is still lacking in India. This means that same-sex couples cannot legally marry and are denied access to legal protections and benefits that come with marriage, such as inheritance rights, social security benefits, and joint tax filing.

One of the most notable legal cases related to same-sex marriage in India is *Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India*<sup>13</sup>. In this case, the Supreme Court of India struck down Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, which criminalized homosexuality, and decriminalized same-sex relationships. The Court ruled that the discrimination against individuals based on their sexual orientation violates the fundamental right to equality enshrined in the Constitution.

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<sup>11</sup> Chaudhary, N. (2020) “Not Allowing Homosexual Marriage A Violation Of Right To Life”: PIL in Delhi HC Seeks Recognition Of Same-Sex Marriage <https://www.livelaw.in/top-stories/not-allowing-homosexual-marriage-a-violation-of-right-to-life-pil-in-delhi-hc-seeks-recognition-of-same-sex-marriage-162869>, <https://www.livelaw.in/top-stories/not-allowing-homosexual-marriage-a-violation-of-right-to-life-pil-in-delhi-hc-seeks-recognition-of-same-sex-marriage-162869>, September. Available at: <https://www.livelaw.in/top-stories/notallowing-homosexual-marriage-a-violation-of-right-to-life-pil-in-delhi-hc-seeks-recognition-of-same-sex-marriage162869> (Accessed: 12 May 2023).

<sup>12</sup> *Arun Kumar & Others vs. The Inspector General of Registration & Others* ( W.P. (MD) NO. 4125 OF 2019 AND W.M.P. (MD) NO. 3220 OF 2019) Also read more about this on <https://sabrangindia.in/article/transgender-womanbride-under-hindu-marriage-act-2019-judgement-madras-hc#:~:text=Justice%20G.R.,a%20truly%20a%20pioneering%20judgement> (Accessed on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023)

<sup>13</sup> AIR 2018 SC 4321

However, the Court's decision did not legalize same-sex marriage in India. “It left it up to the legislature to decide whether to legalize same-sex marriage in the country.”<sup>14</sup> In 2020, “two women from Kerala filed a petition seeking legal recognition for their marriage, which was dismissed by the Kerala High Court.”<sup>15</sup> The Court held that the central government had the power to decide whether same-sex marriage should be legalized.

“The lack of legal recognition for same-sex marriage in India also has implications for the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals. Discrimination and social stigma against the community persist in the country, and same-sex couples often face harassment, violence, and discrimination. They also lack access to legal recourse to protect their rights.”<sup>16</sup> To address these issues, legal reform is needed in India. This includes legal recognition for same-sex marriage, anti-discrimination laws, and measures to ensure that LGBTQ+ individuals have equal access to healthcare, education, and employment opportunities. Without these reforms, the LGBTQ+ community in India will continue to face significant challenges in their pursuit of equality and justice.

“To put it better, while there have been some significant legal cases related to same-sex marriage in India, there is still a long way to go to ensure that the rights of the LGBTQ+ community are fully protected.”<sup>17</sup> Legal recognition for same-sex marriage remains an important issue, and it is likely that we will see more legal challenges and activism on this issue in the years to come. “The legal landscape in India needs to be reformed to ensure that LGBTQ+ individuals have equal rights and protections under the law.”<sup>18</sup>

### **International perspective on same-sex marriage**

The issue of same-sex marriage has been a topic of debate and discussion in many countries around the world. While some countries have legalized same-sex marriage, others have not, and there is a wide range of views and opinions on the subject.

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<sup>14</sup> Service, E.N. (2023) ‘Same-sex marriage: As Centre opposes it, how BJP-Sangh’s stand on homosexuality evolved over the years’, *The Indian Express*. Available at: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/same-sexmarriage-centre-opposes-look-bjp-sanghs-evolving-stand-homosexuality-8494419/> (Accessed: 15 May 2023).

<sup>15</sup> Jyoti, Dhurbo, (2020) ‘Plea in Kerala High Court seeks recognition for same-sex marriages’, *The Hindustan Times*. Available at <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/plea-in-kerala-hc-seeks-recognition-for-same-sexmarriages/story-usG9x12oM4urkZPQK99aHP.html> (Accessed: 15 May 2023)

<sup>16</sup> Kumar, S. (2021) in *LGBT Community in India: A Study*. New Delhi, Delhi: Educreation Publishing, pp. 56–83.

<sup>17</sup> Supra Note 3

<sup>18</sup> Supra Note 16

As of today, “same-sex marriage is legal in over 30 countries, including Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, and many countries in Europe and Latin America. However, in many other countries, same-sex marriage is still not recognized, and in some places, homosexuality is even criminalized. The debate over same-sex marriage often centers on issues of religion, tradition, and social norms. “In many countries, religious and conservative groups argue that same-sex marriage goes against traditional values and undermines the sanctity of marriage. Others argue that denying same-sex couples the right to marry is a form of discrimination and violates basic human rights.”<sup>19</sup>

Overall, attitudes towards same-sex marriage vary widely around the world. In some countries, “support for same-sex marriage is high, while in others, it remains deeply controversial. However, as more countries legalize same-sex marriage and public opinion shifts, it is likely that this issue will continue to be a topic of discussion and debate for many years to come.”<sup>20</sup>

### **Unpacking the Legal Quandary in the Supreme Court: The Debate on Same-Sex Marriages in India**

The issue of same-sex marriages in India is facing a legal hurdle due to personal laws that are deeply rooted in religion, according to a recent report. “A five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court of India has noted that the personal laws of different religious communities in India govern issues related to marriage, divorce, and inheritance, and are applicable only to members of the respective communities.”<sup>21</sup> Recognizing same-sex marriages would require amendments to these personal laws, which could prove to be a challenging task.

While “the right to marry is a fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution of India,”<sup>22</sup> the recognition of same-sex marriages requires a change in the societal mindset and the legal framework of the country, the Supreme Court Bench has said. “The government has been

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<sup>19</sup> Brown, J. (2016) ‘Human Rights, Gay Rights, or Both? International Human Rights Law and Same-Sex Marriage’

<sup>20</sup> Human Rights Watch Briefing Paper, ‘Non-Discrimination in Civil Marriage: Perspectives from International Human Rights Law and Practice’ (September 2003) Available at: <https://www.hrw.org/legacy/backgrounders/lgbt/civil-marriage.pdf> (Accessed: 16 May 2023)

<sup>21</sup> *Shayara Bano vs. Union of India* [(2017) 9 SCC 1]

<sup>22</sup> Shipra Tiwari, The Fundamental Right to Marriage and the LGBTQ+ Movement in India, *India Law Journal* (2017), <https://www.indialawjournal.org/the-fundamental-right-to-marriage.php> (Accessed : 17 May, 2023)

asked to clarify its position on the issue and submit a response.”<sup>23</sup>

“The recognition of same-sex marriages is a contentious issue in India, with strong views being expressed both for and against it. While some sections of society have welcomed the move, others have opposed it on religious and cultural grounds.”<sup>24</sup> Thus, the legal hurdle facing the recognition of same-sex marriages in India is complex and requires a nuanced approach. It is important to take into account the personal laws of different religious communities and the sentiments of various sections of society. Overcoming the challenges will require a change in the societal mindset and a shift in the legal framework of the country.

In this light, Supreme Court has declined to hear a petition seeking recognition of same-sex marriage, citing the need for "larger societal changes." The petition was filed by a same-sex couples who had been in a relationship for eight years and sought legal recognition of their marriage. The court stated that it was not the right time to consider the issue and that "the society is yet to accept the LGBTQ+ community wholeheartedly." The judges added that it was up to the legislature to make changes in this regard and that "the courts cannot take over the legislative function."

“Same-sex relations were decriminalized in India in 2018, but same-sex marriage is not legally recognized. LGBTQ+ activists have been calling for marriage equality for years, and the recent petition was seen as a significant test of the Supreme Court's stance on the issue.”<sup>25</sup> India's LGBTQ+ community has faced significant discrimination and violence, and societal attitudes towards same-sex relationships remain conservative in many parts of the country. Despite this, there have been significant strides made in recent years, “including the repeal of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, which criminalized same-sex relations.”<sup>26</sup>

While the Supreme Court's decision is disappointing for advocates of marriage equality, it is important to note that societal change takes time, and progress is often incremental. The fact

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<sup>23</sup> Apran Chaturvedi, India Government opposes recognising same-sex marriage Reuters (2023), <https://www.reuters.com/world/india/india-government-opposes-recognising-same-sex-marriage-court-filing-202303-12/> (Accessed: 18 May 2023)

<sup>24</sup> Recognition of same-sex marriage to have wide impact on socio-cultural, religious beliefs: Bar Council of India Available At: <https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/recognition-of-same-sex-marriage-to-have-wideimpact-on-socio-cultural-religious-beliefs-bar-council-of-india20230423194942/> (Accessed: 18 May 2023)

<sup>25</sup> Supra Note 11

<sup>26</sup> Ronit Kumar Singh, From 1861 to 2018: Looking back at India's struggle to repeal Section 377 that allows living and loving freely The Logical Indian (2022), <https://thelogicalindian.com/lgbtq/history-of-section-377-in-indialgbtq-35940> (Accessed: May 19, 2023)



that the issue was even considered by the court is a positive step, and it is likely that the push for marriage equality will continue to gain momentum in the coming years.

### **Supreme Court's Live Hearing on Same-Sex Marriage Sparks National Conversation in India**

The Supreme Court is currently hearing a case on the matter, which has captured the attention of the nation. “The live hearing has been hailed as a landmark event that has taken the court to people's homes and hearts.”<sup>27</sup>

The hearing on same-sex marriage has been ongoing for some time now. “The case has been brought before the Supreme Court by a number of individuals who are seeking the legalization of same-sex marriage in India.”<sup>28</sup> The petitioners argue that the current laws discriminate against the LGBTQ+ community and violate their fundamental rights.

The Supreme Court has been hearing arguments from both sides of the debate. The petitioners have argued that the right to marry is a fundamental right and that the state has no right to deny this right to anyone on the basis of their sexual orientation. The government, on the other hand, has argued that marriage is a union between a man and a woman and that any change to this definition would have serious social, cultural, and religious implications.

“The live hearing of the case has been widely praised for its transparency and accessibility. The Supreme Court has made the hearings available to the public through live streaming, which has allowed people from all over the country to follow the proceedings in real-time. This has also given the LGBTQ+ community a platform to voice their opinions and concerns.”<sup>29</sup>

The hearing has also sparked a nationwide conversation on the issue of same-sex marriage. It has brought the issue to the forefront of public discourse and has encouraged people to engage

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<sup>27</sup> *Supriyo v. Union of India*, W.P.(C) No. 1011/2022

<sup>28</sup> Livelaw News Network, Supreme Court rejects plea seeking recusal of Cji Dy Chandrachud from hearing samesex marriage case Live Law (2023), <https://www.livelaw.in/top-stories/supreme-court-rejects-plea-seeking-recusal-of-cji-dy-chandrachud-from-hearing-same-sex-marriage-case-228394#:~:text=The%20Supreme%20Court%20on%20Wednesday,an%20intervenor%20named%20Anson%20Tho> (Accessed: May 19, 2023)

<sup>29</sup> Wallen, J. (2023) *LGBTQ+ couples in India await the Supreme Court's decision on same-sex marriage*, NPR. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/2023/05/09/1174752874/india-same-sex-marriage-case-supremecourt#:~:text=India's%20government%20remains%20opposed%20to%20same%2Dsex%20marriage&text=The%20>

in open and honest discussions on the matter. “This has helped to break down some of the stigmas and stereotypes that surround the LGBTQ+ community and has raised awareness about their struggles for equal rights.”<sup>30</sup>

The case on same-sex marriage is a historic moment for India. “It has the potential to bring about significant change in the country and to pave the way for a more inclusive and equal society. The Supreme Court's decision will have far-reaching implications, not just for the LGBTQ+ community but for the entire nation.”<sup>31</sup> It is a crucial moment in the fight for equality and justice, and the world will be watching closely as India makes this important decision.

### **Public opinion on same-sex marriage in India**

The issue of same-sex marriage is a relatively new and controversial topic in India. While homosexuality was decriminalized in India in 2018, same-sex marriage is not yet legally recognized in the country.

“There is no clear consensus on public opinion regarding same-sex marriage in India. Some segments of Indian society, particularly those who are more traditional and conservative, tend to hold negative attitudes towards homosexuality and same-sex relationships.”<sup>32</sup> However, there is also a growing movement of LGBTQ+ individuals and allies who are pushing for greater acceptance and legal recognition of same-sex relationships. According to a survey conducted by the Pew Research Center in 2019, “only 29% of Indians said they were in favor of allowing same-sex marriage, while 58% were opposed. However, younger Indians were more likely to support same-sex marriage than older generations, with 43% of those aged 18 to 29 in favor of legalizing same-sex marriage.”<sup>33</sup> Overall, public opinion on same-sex marriage in India is still divided, but there appears to be a gradual shift towards greater

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<sup>30</sup> Same-sex marriage hearing updates: “cisgender not transgender”, SG corrected, Hindustan Times (2023), <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/samesex-marriage-hearing-live-updates-supreme-court-to-hear-center-on-day-6-101682563761138.html> (Accessed: May 20, 2023).

<sup>31</sup> 2022 Kanav N. Sahgal, Same-sex marriage in India: Why are Indian Courts taking so long? – The leaflet The Leaflet – An independent platform for cutting-edge, progressive, legal, and political opinion. (2022), <https://theleaflet.in/same-sex-marriage-in-india-why-are-indian-courts-taking-so-long/> (Accessed: May 20, 2023)

<sup>32</sup> Aishwarya Paliwal, Right-wing outfits oppose legal recognition for same-sex marriage India Today (2023), <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/right-wing-organizations-against-legal-recognition-of-same-sex-marriage-2367559-2023-05-02> (Accessed: May 20, 2023).

<sup>33</sup> Sara Atske, Majority of public favors same-sex marriage, but divisions persist Pew Research Center - U.S. Politics & Policy (2019), <https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2019/05/14/majority-of-public-favors-same-sex-marriagebut-divisions-persist/> (Accessed: 21 May 2023).

acceptance and recognition of LGBTQ+ rights.

### **Conclusion and recommendations**

The legal landscape of same-sex marriage in India is complex and multifaceted. Despite the decriminalization of homosexuality in 2018, same-sex marriage is still not recognized in India, and the LGBTQ+ community continues to face legal challenges and discrimination. Cultural and religious factors have played a significant role in shaping public attitudes towards same-sex relationships, and there is a need to educate the public about LGBTQ+ rights and promote greater acceptance of the community.

### **Recommendations:**

Based on the analysis presented in this research paper, the following recommendations are suggested:

1. Introduce legislation that recognizes same-sex relationships and provides legal protections and benefits to same-sex couples.
2. Promote education and awareness about LGBTQ+ rights and issues, and work towards changing public attitudes towards same-sex relationships.
3. Encourage dialogue and collaboration between religious leaders and LGBTQ+ activists to find common ground and promote greater acceptance of the community.
4. Advocate for the inclusion of LGBTQ+ issues in the school curriculum to promote greater understanding and acceptance among younger generations.
5. Provide support and resources for LGBTQ+ individuals and organizations to advocate for their rights and address discrimination and harassment.
6. Monitor and document cases of discrimination and violence against LGBTQ+ individuals, and take legal action against perpetrators.

By implementing these recommendations, India can take significant steps towards promoting greater equality and acceptance for the LGBTQ+ community and recognizing the rights of

same-sex couples. It is important to continue the discussion on same-sex marriage and LGBTQ+ rights in India and work towards creating a more inclusive and just society for all.

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