

Insights on Transgenders Living in Bangalore City

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Bengaluru (also known as Bangalore) is one of India's major cities and is known for its diverse population. It is likely that the city has a significant transgender community. Transgender communities are diverse and may include various identities, such as:

Hijra community: The *Hijra* community is one of the most well-known transgender communities in India. They have a unique cultural and social identity, and they often form close-knit communities known as "guru-chela" relationships.

Trans women: Transgender women, often known as "MTF" (Male-to-Female), are individuals assigned male at birth but identify and live as women.

Trans men: Transgender men, often known as "FTM" (Female-to-Male), are individuals assigned female at birth but identify and live as men.

Non-binary and genderqueer individuals: Some transgender individuals may identify as non-binary or genderqueer, meaning their gender identity does not fit within the traditional binary of male or female.

Genderfluid and gender non-conforming individuals: These individuals may experience their gender identity as fluid, and it may change over time.

Two-spirit individuals: In some Indigenous cultures, there are gender identities outside the binary, and the term "two-spirit" is used to describe individuals who embody both masculine and feminine qualities.

Transgender individuals, like any other population, live in various neighbourhoods and areas throughout Bangalore city. There is no specific designated area exclusively for transgender people. Transgender individuals in Bangalore, like everyone else, choose their places of residence based on various factors such as affordability, proximity to work or educational opportunities, and social support networks.

Culturally they are monitored by their GURU and are strictly watched for their activities.

Transgender with low income or no support register with an NGO and monitored. Since, Bangalore is cosmopolitan city, it attracts transgender from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, North and East part of India, majority from West Bengal etc.,

However, certain areas in Bangalore may have a higher concentration of LGBTQ+ communities, including transgender individuals. These areas are often seen as more inclusive and accepting, leading to the formation of LGBTQ+ friendly spaces and communities. Some of the popular areas known for their LGBTQ+ inclusivity and events include Koramangala, Indiranagar, and Brigade Road.

It's important to remember that individuals' preferences and circumstances vary, and transgender people live throughout the city, just like any other community. Additionally, transgender people may also choose to live in suburban or residential areas outside the city centre.

Transgender individuals, like anyone else, engage in various occupations and income-generating activities to support themselves financially. Some of the ways transgender people earn a living in Bangalore include:

Formal Employment: Roughly transgender individuals work in formal employment settings, including corporate offices, government organizations, non-profit organizations, and small businesses.

Self-Employment: Many transgender people choose to become entrepreneurs and start their own businesses. They may venture into fields like fashion, beauty, art, and other sectors that align with their skills and interests.

Entertainment Industry: Some transgender individuals may find opportunities in the entertainment industry, including acting, dancing, singing, and modelling.

Traditional Occupations: In certain communities, transgender individuals may engage in traditional occupations specific to their cultural practices, such as performing blessings and ceremonies.

Advocacy and Activism: Some transgender individuals become advocates and activists, working with LGBTQ+ organizations and non-profits. While advocacy may not always be a direct source of income, they might receive support from various grants or funding.

Education and Skill Training: Education and skill development play a crucial role in the employability of transgender individuals. Vocational training and educational programs can equip them with skills for various industries.

Online Work: With the growth of the digital economy, some transgender individuals might engage in online work, such as freelance writing, graphic design, or virtual assistance.

Majority from lower socio-economic groups are seen begging in bus stops, signals and few indulge in sexual activities.

It's important to note that transgender individuals, like other marginalized populations, can face unique challenges in accessing employment opportunities due to discrimination, lack of acceptance, and limited awareness about transgender rights. Organizations and initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion in the workplace can play a significant role in improving economic opportunities for transgender individuals.

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