



June 7, 2023

Dear Ambassador Nduhuura:

I am writing to you from the American Psychological Association (APA) regarding Uganda's Anti-Homosexuality Act, 2023. APA is the leading scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States, with more than 146,000 researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants, and students as its members. APA also provides the secretariat for the International Psychology Network for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex Issues (IPsyNet), a network of psychology organizations around the world with local expertise relevant to sexual orientation and gender identity.

In that capacity, we would like to share with you the attached "[IPsyNet Statement and Commitment](#)," which is endorsed by 46 international, regional, and national psychology organizations from around the world and is [available in 14 languages](#). We share this statement with you because it was reported in [this CNN article](#) that in March 2023, President Museveni called on scientists to establish whether homosexuality was "natural or learned."

The IPsyNet Statement and Commitment represents a growing global consensus of professional authority grounded in psychological science concerning sexual and gender minority people. The document makes clear that decades of research demonstrates that LGBTIQ+ identities and expressions are normal and healthy variations of human functioning and relationships. It states that LGBTIQ+ identities and orientations do not require interventions to change them and condemns discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. The endorsing organizations affirm that they will provide relevant knowledge to organizations, policymakers, the media, and the public, and call for greater awareness of the health and well-being needs of LGBTIQ+ people to improve public policy related to LGBTIQ+ communities.

In short, it is the growing affirmative consensus among organized psychology globally that homosexuality is a normal expression of human sexuality, is generally not chosen, is highly resistant to change, and that the human rights of sexual and gender minority people should be respected in order to protect their mental and physical health. The science is conclusive and provides reference points for future amendments to the law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda B. Clinton".

Amanda B. Clinton, M.Ed., PhD
Senior Director, Office of International Affairs

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