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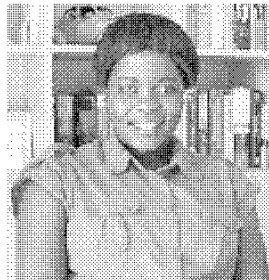
- Home
 - News
 - Get support
 - Health & wellbeing
 - Get involved
 - About us
 - Contact us
- Other LGBT news
 - outnorthwest
 - Newsletter
 - Research
 - Events
 - Gallery
 - Competitions

News

Ugandan Lesbian's Campaign to stay in the UK

Published: 04/06/08

Prossy Kakooza, 26, who is currently living in Bolton fled to the UK 8 months ago after escaping her native Uganda where she was jailed, raped and tortured after it was discovered she was gay.



Prossy is fighting a decision by the UK Home Office to refuse her asylum and while the Home Office accept she is lesbian and has endured horrific treatment campaigners are urging that the Home office seem to think it would be safe to return to another town in Uganda where she is not known.

"This ignores the fact that homosexuality is illegal all over Uganda, the press conduct witch-hunts for gays and lesbians and one needs a reference from one's former village or town to settle into a new one. " says Rev Andy Braunston from Manchester Metropolitan Community Church.

Rev Braunston is supporting the campaign to help Prossy stay in the UK as he has done with other asylum seekers in recent years that are seeking safety from persecution on the grounds of their homosexuality.

"If I moved to another area locals would immediately be suspicious of me." Prossy herself admits. "I don't want to have to pretend not to be gay. "I don't want to live a lie."

Ms Kakooza said that she often thinks of her girlfriend who was also jailed. "I was lucky I got out. "I can't bear to think of what is happening to her there."

How You Can Help Prossy

You can find out more information about Prossy's campaign on the church's website. There you can read her story and view a video she has made. Prossy's supporters are also urging people to download a petition to sign, as well as email or write to the Immigration Minister - sample letters are provided. The group also has posters and flyers to download.

www.mccmanchester.co.uk and click on the Prossy Must Stay link on the right hand side of the screen.

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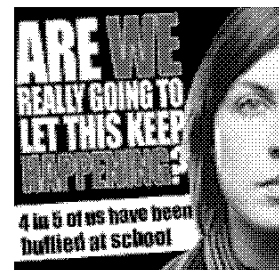
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The Lesbian & Gay Foundation,
Princess House, 105-107 Princess Street,
Manchester, M1 6DD
Reg. Charity #1070904
Reg. Company #3476576

