



JOEL NANA, Africa

Joel Nana, born in Cameroon, West Africa, campaigns for the rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people across the African continent including Senegal, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda and South Africa.



DISCRIMINATION AND ABUSE

Millions of people across the globe face imprisonment, torture, violence and discrimination because of their orientation towards people of the same sex, towards people of both sexes or because of the way they relate to their masculinity or femininity.

CONTINENT SHIFT

Last year Joel Nana set-up African Men for Sexual Health & Rights, *AMSHER*: a coalition of organisations from 15 African countries that seeks to promote the sexual health of gay men and transgender women. They face many challenges, but none is more pressing than addressing their lack of access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services, often impeded because of the hostile attitude of many societies towards organizations which provide HIV/AIDS education and services for LGBT people. Joel's organisation lobbies for positive and inclusive policies and effective interventions.

Joel Nana's activism has not been plain sailing. *"For most of my colleagues it's nothing less than heroic, to stand up and speak out about rights of LGBT people. Most face pressure or even reprisals - not just from the police, but also from religious leaders, their neighbours and their family. To know that people support you and your work, near and far, makes a great difference."* - Joel Nana.

To support Joel Nana's work please go to: www.amnesty.org/worldcup2010

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