

# Equal rights

Qatar is one of the strictest countries in the world. It's tough for certain groups such as women and the L.G.B.T.Q community. Women have to have a male guardian. The men make all types of decisions for them. They can't get married without a male guardian's consent and they can't have sex unless they are married. They can't even divorce their husband without appealing to courts, while on the other hand men can do it instantly without having to appeal to the courts. For the L.G.B.T.Q community it is very tough to live in Qatar. If someone finds out about your sexuality and it is anything other than being attracted to the opposite gender they can take you to court and you can get up to 3 years in prison and a fine. They will sometimes hold you in jail without giving you a right to legal counsel.

Most countries around the world do not follow the same rules that Qatar strictly follows. When it comes to FIFA, they are set on accepting all, and making it clear that equal rights matter. When the FIFA World Cup of 2022 came around Qatar was hosting. They made a deal with FIFA that they would accept all and would not serve consequences for the L.G.B.T.Q community, and other communities like they regularly would. They weren't supposed to arrest or give out these consequences while the world cup was underway even if the games hadn't started yet. Qatar disobeyed these agreements and arrested people who

were homosexual and held them in an underground prison without allowing them legal counsel. Qatar takes away basic human rights. This concerned all types of people going to the World Cup. It also made FIFA look bad for letting Qatar host the World Cup.

My dad is from the middle east and he's told me about how bad some of the rights are in some of these countries. The rights sounded bad but I never knew they were this bad.

As someone who loves Soccer, I'm very surprised that FIFA let a country with such bad human rights host the World Cup.

There are still many people in Goshen who don't accept all people. Lots of people who are openly racist, sexist, and against certain people. People also support all types of people who are also like this. We can not control who people support or what their opinions are, but we should do something about how they express themselves. Some signs or flags are okay but it depends on what's on them. I think it's totally ridiculous that people are able to fly confederate flags. They're basically supporting slavery. People shouldn't be able to express opinions publicly that are made to put a specific group of people down. I think Goshen needs to do something to put an end to this.