



INCORPORATING LITERATURE INTO A MAIN BODY

Essay title: “Uganda’s children are being sodomised left and right!”: change and continuity in perceptions of homosexuality in Uganda, 1876 - 2014

EXAMPLE

By characterising homosexual Ugandans as ‘mercenaries’, they become an embodiment of Western sexual immorality, prostituting themselves for a ‘gay agenda’.²⁰⁶ With homosexuality foreign to cultural values, there is an assumption that NGOs are recruiting their “army” financially; Martin Ssempea has claimed that over \$48 million had been invested into the ‘homosexual agenda’ over the past year.²⁰⁷ Although characteristically hyperbolic, Ssempea’s claim reflects a long-standing assumption within Ugandan society which connects homosexuality with financial transactions. In 2003, after publicly defending homosexuality, a Ugandan academic received a text message from a friend congratulating her, stating that she was now ‘on [her] way to becoming a millionaire’ with all the money she was going to receive from the West.²⁰⁸ With such financial clout, there is a fear within society, as illustrated by Red Pepper recently, that a ‘Homo Cabinet’, allied with the West, is waiting to take over the leadership of the country.²⁰⁹ Nevertheless, with the passing of The Anti-Homosexuality Act into law, these fears seem to have been absolved. One woman from Kumi District congratulated Museveni for having ‘served our people of’ Uganda, whilst signs at an organised celebratory event thanked the Government whilst declaring ‘Museveni, we the children thank you for saving our future’.²¹⁰ This does nothing but enhance the perception that homosexuality is foreign, as with homosexuals now forced to go underground to survive, focus has begun to shift to the fight against ‘Obama, [...] the American Ambassador [and] Ban Ki-Moon’.²¹¹



Homophobia thus forms part of a political discourse proliferated by both state and religious leaders in an attempt to assert the moral authority of Uganda's postcolonial identity over a neo-imperialistic West.²¹² This is an essential part of Museveni retaining his 'warrior brand'; there is an expectation that he will continue to be a strong and unwavering leader in the face of Western domineering.²¹³ However, as shown above, this moral authority is not just applied against international opposition. The State has been so complicit in the creation and propagation of a morality based on Christian morality and "tradition", that there is even a Minister for Ethics and Integrity. The present incumbent, Rev. Simon Lokodo and his predecessor, James Buturo, have appeared frequently in mass media over the past decade, always presenting homosexuality as a foreign, aggressive malevolence within society.²¹⁴ These public denouncements have become common place in a number of media outlets helping to construct a heavily sexualised 'moral panic' within Ugandan society.²¹⁵

206 Museveni signs Anti homosexuality Law Feb 2014, NTV Uganda, 24 Feb. 2014

207 Pastors Martin Ssempe and Solomon Male on the Anti-Gay Law, NTV Uganda, 25 Feb 2014 [Accessed 28 Mar. 2014].

208 Tamale, 'Out of the Closet', p.1.

209 'Ugandan Tabloids Continue Outing Campaigns', Box Turtle Bulletin, 1 Mar. 2014.

210 Photo, The Guardian, @guardian, 2 Apr. 2014.

211 M. Ssempe, Pastors Martin Ssempe and Solomon Male on the Anti-Gay Law, NTV Uganda, 25 Feb 2014.

212 P. Awondo, P. Geschiere and G. Reid, 'Homophobic Africa?: Toward A More Nuanced View', African Studies Review, 55 (3) (2012), pp.145-68 (p.154); Kaoma, Globalizing the Culture Wars, p.8.

213 A. Mwenda, Newsnight with Andrew Mwenda; Tuesday Feb. 25 2014, NTV Uganda, 26 Feb 2014 <<http://youtu.be/j7pyc8lelew>> [Accessed 28 Mar. 2014].

214 Ethic Ministry warns NGOs over immorality, NTV Uganda, 6 Mar. 2014 <<http://youtu.be/up169CqpQZQ>>

[Accessed 7 Mar. 2014]; C. Businge, 'Buturo vows to fight homosexuality', New Vision, 8 Oct. 2007 <<http://www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/13/590874>> [Accessed 7 Mar. 2014].

215 Sadgrove and others, p.111.

216 P. Akumu, 'Yoweri Museveni: a dictator with nothing left to promise Uganda', The Guardian, 23 Feb. 2014 <<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/feb/23/yoweri-museveni-uganda-dictatoranti-gay>> [Accessed 24 Feb. 2014].

TUTOR COMMENTS FOLLOW ON PAGES 3 & 4



BROKEN DOWN EXAMPLE

COMMENTS

By characterising homosexual Ugandans as ‘mercenaries’, they become an embodiment of Western sexual immorality, prostituting themselves for a ‘gay agenda’.²⁰⁶

Student uses primary evidence (legislation) to put forward their argument that legislation led to homosexuality being perceived as a western concept and that financial gain and homosexual activity were inextricably linked.

With homosexuality foreign to cultural values, there is an assumption that NGOs are recruiting their “army” financially; Martin Ssempea has claimed that over \$48 million had been invested into the ‘homosexual agenda’ over the past year.²⁰⁷ Although characteristically hyperbolic, Ssempea’s claim reflects a long-standing assumption within Ugandan society which connects homosexuality with financial transactions.

Here the student is using primary evidence (appearance on a TV show) to expand upon this argument further. She does not just summarise what Ssempea had said but analyses it to reveal the significance of what he said.

In 2003, after publicly defending homosexuality, a Ugandan academic received a text message from a friend congratulating her, stating that she was now ‘on [her] way to becoming a millionaire’ with all the money she was going to receive from the West.²⁰⁸

The student then uses an example from a secondary source to illustrate their point further (an article from a journal article).

One woman from Kumi District congratulated Museveni for having ‘served our people of’ Uganda, whilst signs at an organised celebratory event thanked the Government whilst declaring ‘Museveni, we the children thank you for saving our future’.²¹⁰ This does nothing but enhance the perception that homosexuality is foreign, as with homosexuals now forced to go underground to survive, focus has begun to shift to the fight against ‘Obama, [...] the American Ambassador [and] Ban Ki-Moon’.²¹¹

Overall, in this paragraph the student has synthesised primary evidence and secondary literature to provide an analysis of their argument. This makes they have shown why they think what they think. They haven’t just presented the thoughts of others.



BROKEN DOWN EXAMPLE

COMMENTS

Homophobia thus forms part of a political discourse proliferated by both state and religious leaders in an attempt to assert the moral authority of Uganda's postcolonial identity over a neo-imperialistic West.²¹²

The student then evaluates this argument in more detail. Using literature (journal article) to show the significance of the argument being made in the previous paragraph.

The present incumbent, Rev. Simon Lokodo and his predecessor, James Buturo, have appeared frequently in mass media over the past decade, always presenting homosexuality as a foreign, aggressive malevolence within society.²¹⁴ These public denouncements have become common place in a number of media outlets helping to construct a heavily sexualised 'moral panic' within Ugandan society.²¹⁵

The student ends by again drawing from the secondary literature to move their argument forward.