

NAVIGATING LEGAL AND POLITICAL CHALLENGES: A SPOTLIGHT ON TRANS PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

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BACKGROUND

Within the context of Track F in the RedLacTrans network, CeDoSTALC 2023 delves into the unique challenges faced by **trans people living with HIV** in accessing healthcare services. The persisting inequalities and politicization of health exacerbated by events such as Mpox and the COVID-19 pandemic underscore the urgency of addressing the intersections of politics, governance, law, policy, and human rights. This research aims to shed light on the specific barriers faced by trans people, focusing on the legal and political factors that hinder their access to HIV testing, prevention, treatment, care, and support.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this study is to identify and analyze the legal and political challenges faced by trans people living with HIV in accessing healthcare services. By examining existing laws and policies, particularly those related to our identities, reproductive rights, bodily autonomy, and HIV-related legislation, the study aims to highlight the barriers these individuals encounter.

DESCRIPTION

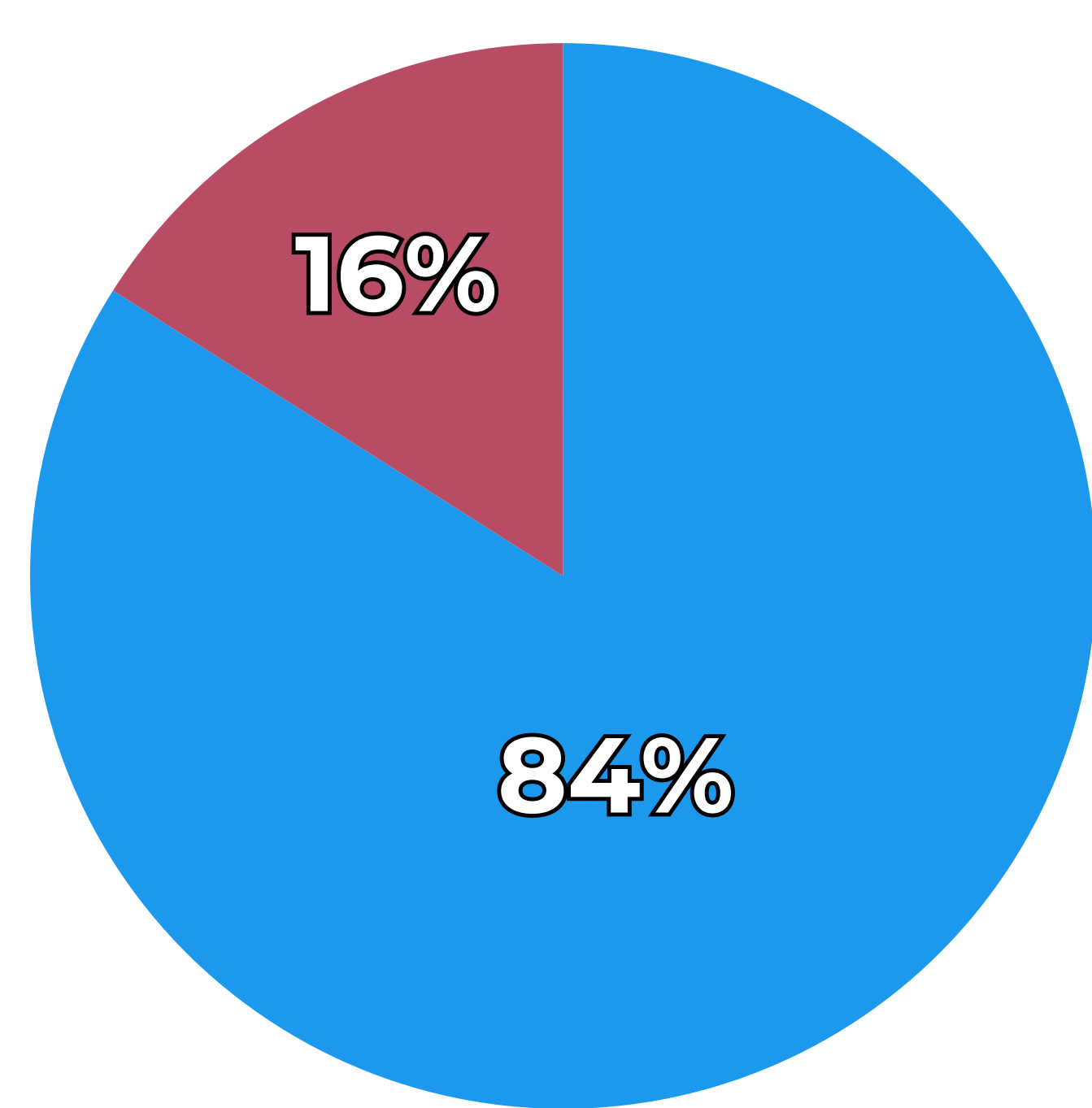
The study meticulously examines the political and legal dimensions affecting trans people within the realm of HIV. It scrutinizes laws and policies related to reproductive rights, bodily autonomy, and integrity, particularly coercive practices like sterilization and abortion. Special attention is given to legislation concerning HIV transmission, exposure, and non-disclosure, and the ensuing implications on various aspects of trans people's lives such as travel, employment, work, and residency permits. Additionally, the study explores the promotion of gender identity and expression laws, highlighting the need for legal frameworks that affirm and protect the identities and rights of transgender individuals.



OBTAINED DATA

Currently, 84% of the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean **DO NOT** have Gender Identity Laws. REDLACTRANS works together with national grassroots organizations to advocate for the enactment of these laws across the region.

WITHOUT GENDER IDENTITY LAWS, THERE ARE NO HUMAN RIGHTS.



According to the CeDoSTALC 2023 report, **35% of acts of violence against trans people occur in healthcare settings**. This alarming statistic highlights the urgent need for protective measures and policies within medical institutions to ensure the safety and dignity of transgender individuals while accessing healthcare services.

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LESSON LEARNED

The research illuminates critical lessons regarding the intricate interplay of political and legal factors affecting trans people living with HIV. It emphasizes the need for targeted rights-based approaches in policymaking and law enforcement to dismantle discriminatory barriers. The lessons learned underscore the significance of fostering legal environments that safeguard the human rights and healthcare access of trans people, acknowledging the unique intersectionality of their experiences.



NEXT STEPS

Moving forward, the study advocates for proactive interventions tailored to the needs of trans people living with HIV. Recommendations include the creation of supportive legal environments, ensuring gender-affirming healthcare policies, and addressing discriminatory law enforcement practices. Future research should focus on evolving challenges specific to transgender communities, fostering collaboration between policymakers, legal experts, healthcare providers, and transgender advocacy groups. By addressing these specific challenges and promoting gender identity and expression laws, we can work towards a more inclusive and accessible healthcare landscape for transgender individuals living with HIV.



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