

# VISIBILITY OF LGBTIQ+ OLDER PERSONS IN THE COMMUNITY AND AMONG PROFESSIONALS

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[www.best4older-lgbti.org](http://www.best4older-lgbti.org)

# VISIBILITY:

## An Italian perspective



1. Representation in Italy
2. What does the law say?  
Italian legal framework
3. Visibility of seniors in the  
LGBTIQ+ community
4. Visibility of LGBTIQ+  
people among  
professionals working  
with elderly people



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# 1. Representation in Italy



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# «TRANSPARENT»

2014 tv series about coming out as a trans woman in the third age.



**RuPaul, 59 and  
Ellen Degeneres, 61**



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# GRACE AND FRANKIE

2015 Coming out as gay  
In third age

# CLOUDBURST

Old lesbian women



# CROCE E DELIZIA

Italy, 2019 Two men in love fight for  
acceptance in their families



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TARANTINA, street art – Naples, 2019



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## LUGI AND VINCENZO (Italy 2013)

“A life, a love, no rights”



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## 2. What does the law say? Italian legal framework



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# 1. EUROPEAN LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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## EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (ECHR) - 1950

- Art. 8 – Right to respect for private and family life
- Art. 14 – Prohibition of discrimination

*“The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Convention **shall** be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth **or other status**”*



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# 1. EUROPEAN LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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## CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION - 2000

- Art. 1 – Human dignity is inviolable.
- Art. 7 – Respect for private and family life
- Art. 9 – Right to marry and right to found a family



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# 1. EUROPEAN LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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## CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

- **Art. 21 – Non-discrimination**

*“Any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, **age or sexual orientation shall be prohibited.**”*



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# 1. ITALIAN LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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## ITALIAN CONSTITUTION - 1948

- **Art. 2: Inviolable rights of the person**

*The Republic recognises and guarantees the inviolable rights of the person, both as an individual and in the social groups where human personality is expressed.*

- **Art 3: Equality and non-discrimination**

*All citizens have equal social dignity and are equal before the law, **without distinction of sex, race, language, religion, political opinion, personal and social conditions.***

- **Art 38: Workers rights**

*Workers have the right to be assured adequate means for their needs and necessities in the case of accidents, illness, disability, **old age** and involuntary unemployment.*



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# 1. ITALIAN LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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- **Law 76/2016 → Civil Union**
  - survivor's pension rights
- **Law 216/2003 → Directive 2000/78/CE**  
Non-discrimination in the workplace based on **age or sexual orientation**
- **Regional laws on homo-bi-trans-phobia**
  - Umbria, Tuscany



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# 1. ITALIAN LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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## Critical aspects:

- **Informal caregiving**
- Lack of visibility among social and health care professionals  
→ which may lead to a lack of support of self-determination and freedom of expression regarding sexual orientation, gender identity.
- Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities (CRPD, 2006)



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### 3. Visibility of seniors in the LGBTIQ+ community in Italy



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# Good practices from Italy

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- National Survey in 2012 about elderly LGBTIQ+ persons in Italy
- Update of the survey in 2019 (the results are not out yet)
- National LGBT Seniors Network (Rete Terza età LGBT)
- Series of workshop on aging of LGBTIQ+ people organized by Cassero LGBT Center in collaboration with ANS
- YouTube dedicated channel “Senior LGBT” with interviews of elderly LGBTQ+ people - Cassero LGBT Center in collaboration with IAM – Intersectionalities and More
- Lambda Torino, informational front office service on LGBTIQ+ seniors
- Increasing attention of co-housing projects for LGBTIQ+ elderly



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## 4. Visibility of LGBTIQ+ people among professionals working with elderly people



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# "LOVE HAS NO AGE"

## LUCY, 92 YEARS OLD, TRANSGENDER



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lgbt center

**ARCIGAY**  
LGBT ITALIA

**arci**  
LGBT ITALIA

**Auser**  
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### L'amore non ha età

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LUCY • 92 ANNI • TRANSGENDER

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# “REMEMBER, LOVA HAS NO EXPIRING DATE”

## MIGGY, 56 YEARS OLD - LESBIAN

**cassero**  
lgbt senior

**ARCIGAY**  
un'idea di vita

**arci**  
senza confini

**Auser**  
Assistenza e servizi sociali

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Ricordalo**

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# "SAME LOVE, SAME RIGHTS"

## SILVANO, 69 YEARS OLD - GAY

Logos at the top: **cassero** (Lgbt center), **ARCIGAY** (Associazione Arci Gay), **arci** (Associazione Arci), **Assistenti e non solo** (AMS), **auser** (Ambrosiano Utensili e Ricerche).

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# THANK YOU!

Let's stay in touch:

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