Transgender Day of Remembrance 2009

November 20, 2009 By Oriol R. Gutierrez Jr.

November 20th is the 11th annual Transgender Day of Remembrance, which honors the memories of people murdered because they were transgender.

Results from a report by the nonprofit group Transgender Europe are shocking. In the last 12 months, there were 162 reported murders of trans people worldwide.

That translates into every three days a transgender person is murdered as a result of a hate crime somewhere in the world.

There is no formal data, so the group bases its numbers on Internet research. The reality is undoubtedly much worse.

What saddens me most on a personal level is that although these murders occurred everywhere on the planet, 124 were reported in 15 countries in Latin America.

In other words, 75 percent of the reported murders of trans people worldwide were in Latin America. That statistic alone demonstrates the depth of homophobia and transphobia in Latino culture.

Watch this video tribute:

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