A court has ruled that Yad HaShmona , a kibbutz run by Messianic believers in Israel, must pay two lesbians 60,000 shekels after they cancelled a reception they had booked for their friends and family.

The judge ordered the community to pay an additional 20,000 NIS in legal fees after ruling that Yad HaShmona had unfairly discriminated against the two and caused them humiliation regarding their sexual orientation. The two women, who entered a Civil Partnership in Britain in 2008, had booked the reception at the kibbutz without informing them of the nature of their relationship. When Yad HaShmona did find out about it, they told them they would have to cancel the event. But the two lesbians brought the matter to court and the judge subsequently ruled in their favour, effectively declaring that equality laws trump freedom of conscience...

Quote: *""Every person who opens a public business in Israel should know that they must serve the whole public equally, without discrimination, according to laws, which cover sexual orientation as well. As soon as the defendants opened their doors to all, they cannot close them for those who they believe do not meet the requirements found in the Bible or New Testament, thereby damaging their dignity and sensitivities," explained the judge.*

[redacted] Haaretz [redacted] BBC [redacted]