

### Sexual and Gender Diversity Terminology

<b>Gender</b>	The state of being male or female in reference to cultural or societal differences and not biology.
<b>Sex</b>	Refers to the biological makeup of a person that is often ascribed to them at birth: when someone is born, their sex is referred to as either male or female. This determination is usually, but not always, based on the (perceived) genitalia present on the child at birth.
<b>Sexuality</b>	Gender identity, biological sex, sexual orientation / preferences, previous sexual experiences, one's relationship to their body, and the ways these influence emotional, physical, and social life.
<b>Biological Sex</b>	A label, usually male or female, assigned at birth based on genitalia and reproductive organs.
<b>Intersex</b>	A person whose biological sexual characteristics (anatomy, genes, etc.) do not align with typical male/female genotypes. This term often has medical connotations. Hermaphrodite is an outdated term which refers to one being intersex.
<b>Hormones</b>	Chemicals that can be naturally produced in the body or injected, which causes changes in the body such as secondary sex characteristics. Estrogen is associated with female characteristics. Testosterone is associated with male characteristics.
<b>Secondary Sex Characteristics</b>	Physical and hormonal characteristics that usually develop around puberty (i.e. breast development and beard growth).
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	A person's sexual, emotional, and romantic preference for other people.
<b>Monogamy</b>	The practice of having an intimate relationship with one partner for life.
<b>Serial Monogamy</b>	The practice of having an intimate relationship with one partner at a time or one after another.
<b>Polyamory</b>	The desire or practice of consensually having more than one romantic and / or sexual partner at a time.
<b>Transgender</b>	A person whose personal identity and / or gender do not correspond to their sex assigned at birth.
<b>Transsexual</b>	A person who has a strong desire to assume a sex other than what they were assigned at birth or has undergone surgery and / or hormonal therapy to do so.
<b>AFAB/AMAB</b>	Assigned Female at Birth/Assigned Male at Birth. Abbreviations for when people must talk about the gender they were assigned on their birth certificate.
<b>Gender-Nonconforming</b>	A person who does not conform to stereotypical expectations of their gender.
<b>Genderqueer</b>	A gender identity where the person does not identify with the traditional gender binary of man / woman. A general term for people who are gender nonconforming or nonbinary. They may identify as both a man and woman, somewhere in between, as neither, or an entirely different gender. The term genderqueer also tends to have a political component to it, and can be associated with actions that bring to light gender stereotypes.
<b>Gender-Nonbinary</b>	A person who does not identify as exclusively woman/female or man/male.

<b>Gender-Creative</b>	A person who chooses aspects from both genders to assert their identity. This term is often used with children (for example, someone who identifies as a girl, but who associates themselves with princes in fairytales).
<b>Cisgender</b>	A person whose gender identity aligns with the sex they were assigned at birth. Someone who is not trans.
<b>Agender</b>	A person who identifies little or not at all with the traditional genders of man and woman. May see themselves entirely without a gender. Similar terms include gender neutral and genderless.
<b>Bigender</b>	A person who identifies as both masculine and feminine.
<b>Gender Fluid</b>	A person whose gender identity is not static, but is fluid and can change over time. Someone whose gender fluctuates between masculine and feminine. A mix between the two traditional genders but may sometimes feel more like one or the other.
<b>Two Spirit</b>	A person whose gender identity encompasses both masculine and feminine aspects. This term is used by Indigenous North American communities.
<b>Gender Expression</b>	The external presentation of one's gender identity. Expressed through clothing, behavior, hair style, and / or voice that either deviate or reinforce socially constructed ideas of masculinity and femininity.
<b>Androgyny</b>	A mix or combination of masculinity and femininity resulting in ambiguity.
<b>Homosexual</b>	A person who is romantically and sexually attracted to someone of the same sex / gender. Commonly referred to as gay (male) or lesbian (female).
<b>Heterosexual</b>	A person who is romantically and sexually attracted to someone of the opposite sex / gender. Commonly referred to as straight.
<b>Queer</b>	An umbrella term used to refer to people who don't identify as straight. Historically the term is derogatory, however, certain people have reclaimed and self-identify as queer. Literally means "strange, weird, or odd".
<b>Bisexual</b>	A person who is sexually and romantically attracted to two genders. Typically, their gender and another.
<b>Pansexual</b>	A person who is sexually and romantically attracted to an individual regardless of their sexual or gender identity.
<b>Demisexual</b>	A sexual orientation where the person develops a sexual attraction only after creating a strong emotional and romantic connection to someone.
<b>Asexual</b>	Sexual orientation or identity where the person does not experience sexual attraction for anyone.
<b>Gynosexual</b>	Someone primarily romantically and sexually attracted to women, females, and / or femininity.
<b>Androsexual</b>	Someone primarily romantically and sexually attracted to men, males, and / or masculinity.
<b>Down Low (DL)</b>	Slang used primarily in African American communities referring to straight identifying men who have sex with other men.
<b>Same Gender Loving</b>	Primarily used in African American communities to refer to people who experience same sex / gender attraction but don't wish to adhere to European and White terminology.

<b>Terms that are no longer used</b>	
<b>FtM / F2M MtF / M2F</b>	Abbreviation meaning a “female to male”, “male to female”, transgender, or transsexual person. These terms are no longer popularly used as many who are trans do not identify with ever having been another gender.
<b>PGPs</b>	Acronym for “preferred gender pronouns.” Has fallen out of usage as the word “preferred” may be interpreted as a microaggression. It is polite to ask instead of assuming someone’s gender identity or pronouns. Simply ask: “What are your pronouns?”