

Be brave with language.

GENDER IDENTITY GLOSSARY

AGAB

Stands for assigned gender at birth and refers to the label given to infants based on the appearance of their genitals. In almost all cases, they will be either AFAB (assigned female at birth) or AMAB (assigned male at birth). May also be referred to as ASAB, or assigned sex at birth.

AGENDER

A person with no connection to any gender identity, identifying instead as having no particular gender.

BIGENDER

A person who identifies with two genders simultaneously.

CISGENDER

A person whose gender identity matches what sex they were assigned at birth. Sometimes shortened to cis.

CISHET

A person who is cisgender, heteroromantic and heterosexual.

GENDER BINARY

A system which claims that there are only two genders, which must be opposite, distinct and separate.

GENDER FLUID

A person whose gender identity is not fixed and may identify with a mix of genders.

GNC

Stands for gender non-conforming and refers to behaviour or presentation that doesn't align with traditional expectations based on a person's gender.

GENDERQUEER

A person who doesn't identify as male or female. Also referred to as non-binary.

GENDER DYSPHORIA

The severe discomfort and disconnect a trans person feels with the gender they were assigned at birth. Dysphoria is not necessary to be trans, but many trans people experience it in some form.

INTERSEX

A person who is born with biological characteristics which differ from the expected characteristics of male or female.

MISGENDERING

Referring to someone as different gender to the one which they identify with, e.g. calling a woman 'he' and addressing her as 'Mr' or 'sir'. Considered highly disrespectful.

MX

A gender neutral title, equivalent to Mr or Ms. Pronounced as mix or mux.

NEOPRONOUNS

Neopronouns are a category of new (neo) pronouns that are increasingly used in place of "she," "he," or "they" when referring to a person. Some examples include: xe/xem/xyr, ze/hir/hirs, and ey/em/eir.

NON-BINARY

A person who does not identify as male or female. Also referred to as genderqueer and sometimes shortened to enby.

QUEER

An umbrella term that can be used to refer to people of any LGBTQ+ identity. Because of its history of being used in a derogatory manner, some people dislike being referred to as queer.

QUESTIONING

A person who is unsure of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

TRANSGENDER

Umbrella term that describes a person does not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth. Sometimes shortened to trans.

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SEXUAL ORIENTATION GLOSSARY

AROMANTIC

A person who does not experience romantic attraction. Sometimes shortened to aro. Individual may still be in relationships.

ASEXUAL

A person who does not experience sexual attraction to any gender. Sometimes shortened to ace. Individual may still be in relationships.

A-SPEC

Short for asexual and aromantic spectrum, referring to anyone who does not or exceptionally rarely experiences sexual and/or romantic attraction.

ATTRACTION

This is how you find yourself feeling drawn (or not drawn) to people in a physical, sexual, romantic or emotional way.

BISEXUAL

A person who is attracted to two or more genders. Sometimes shortened to bi.

DEMISEXUAL

A person who does not experience sexual attraction to anyone until a strong emotional connection is formed.

GAY

A person who is attracted to people of the same gender. Some people also use homosexual, but due to that term's clinical and pathologising history, most prefer gay.

HETEROSEXUAL

A person who is attracted to a different gender to their own. Sometimes shortened to het or hetero and is also referred to as straight.

HETERONORMATIVITY

The assumption or belief that heterosexual people are the default and those who aren't heterosexual are abnormal.

LESBIAN

A woman who is exclusively attracted to other women.

PANSEXUAL

A person who is attracted to people regardless of gender.

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STRAIGHT WASHING

Erasing a historical figure or character's sexual orientation in order to present or portray them as heterosexual when they are not.