

QUEER

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An umbrella term for LGBTQ; also a term of self-identification for people who do not identify with binary terms that describe sexual and gender identities.

A reclaimed term that was once and still is used as a hate term and thus some people feel uncomfortable with it.



TRANS

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An umbrella term used to describe people whose gender identity does not match with the sex they were assigned at birth.



GENDER IDENTITY

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One's internal and psychological sense of oneself as man, woman, both, in between or neither.



LESBIAN

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Women who are sexually and/or romantically attracted to other women.



GAY

A person who is attracted to those of the same gender; often used to refer to men.

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BISEXUAL

An individual who is attracted to, and may form sexual and romantic relationships with, two different genders, one of which is often their own gender.

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PANSEXUAL

An individual who is attracted to and may form sexual and romantic relationships with men, women, and people who identify outside of the gender binary.

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ASEXUAL

Someone who does not experience sexual desire for people of any gender. Some may desire romantic relationships, while others do not.

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CISGENDER

A person whose gender identity matches their sex assigned at birth.

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INTERSEX

General term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of male or female.

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TWO-SPIRIT

Term used by many Indigenous communities and cultures on Turtle Island (North America) to describe people with diverse gender identities, expression, roles and sexual orientations. In some communities, they are revered, respected or even considered sacred, but other times this has not been the case.

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SEX

Biological characteristics chosen to assign humans as male, female or intersex. Determined by characteristics such as sexual and reproductive anatomy and genetic make-up.

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GENDER EXPRESSION

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How one outwardly expresses gender; for example through name and pronoun choice (she/he/ze), style of dress, voice modulation, etc.



SEXUAL ORIENTATION

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Refers to a person's deep-seated feelings of sexual and romantic attraction to other people (or to no one!).



GENDERQUEER

People who identify outside of or within the male-female binary.

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DRAG

Refers to people who dress in a showy or flamboyant way that exaggerates gendered stereotypes, often for entertainment and satirical purposes.

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QUESTIONING

A term sometimes used by those in the process of exploring personal issues of sexual orientation and gender identity.

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MAAB/FAAB

Acronyms that serve to disrupt the gender binary model; male or female *assigned at birth* (AAB) suggests that gender was assigned based on the sex at birth.

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GENDER POLICING

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The act of enforcing or questioning “normal” gender expressions of an individual who does not appear to be performing stereotypical gender norms (eg. Questioning a man’s masculinity or a woman’s femininity)



CISCENTRISM

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A system of attitudes, bias and discrimination in favour of cisgender identities



HETERO- NORMATIVE

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Refers to social roles and structures that reinforce the idea that heterosexuality is the presumed norm, and is superior to other sexual orientations.



QTIPOC

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An acronym for queer, trans and intersex people of colour; QTIPOC often experience intersecting oppressions on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation and other factors.



CROSSDRESSER

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Refers to people who wear clothing traditionally associated with a different gender to that with which they identify. Some may identify as trans, while others may not.



ALLY

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A person who supports and celebrates trans and queer identities, interrupts and challenges queerphobic and heterosexist remarks and actions of others, and willingly explores these biases within themselves.



