

Glossary

Sex	Sex is assigned at birth. It is the male/female part on your birth certificate. It is determined by hormones, chromosomes and genitalia.
Sexism	The oppression and/or exploitation of women based on gender. Sexism is a barrier, which can be (explicitly or implicitly) built into and supported by our systems and institutions
Sexual orientation	Sexual orientation is an important part of an individual's self-definition and his/her social and cultural identity. It is a reflection of who you are romantically, physically, emotionally and sexually attracted to.
Sexuality	Sexuality is that dimension of a human being to do with sexual feelings, behaviour and relations. It has to do with the interrelationships between potential or actual sexual partners.
Social construction of gender	The social construction of gender is a process by which gender differences are taught and reinforced in social interaction within social institutions (e.g. the family, schools, religious settings, workplaces, etc.) This process is embedded in every aspect of social life.
Social identifiers	
Socialization	Socialization means that people are taught to accept and perform the roles and functions that society has given them. Men and women are socialised into accepting different gender roles from birth. Establishing different roles and expectations for men and women is a key feature of socialisation in most societies.
Stereotypes	Stereotypes are false, overly simplistic or unfounded images and beliefs about a group, which are attributed to all members of that social group irrespective of their individual characteristics. Stereotypes serve to justify, confine or privilege a particular group of people based on their belonging to that group. They also disregard individual differences among group members.
Subversion	
Suffrage	
Transgender	People who identify more strongly with the other gender than the one to which they were assigned. Women who feel like men or

	men who feel like women are “transgender”. People who are transgender may be heterosexual, homosexual or bisexual.
Transphobia	Fear or hatred of changing sex and gender characteristics.
Transsexual	<p>Someone who wishes to live consistently in their body in a way that is more in line with their gender (how they feel). In order to do this, some transgendered people will take hormones and/or have surgery in order to change their bodies in order to reflect how they feel inside.</p> <p>Female-to-male transsexuals (FtM) are people whose sex, at birth, was male – but they identify themselves as women.</p> <p>Male-to-female transsexuals (MtF) are people whose sex, at birth, was female – but they identify themselves as men.</p> <p>Regardless of what stage these people are at with transition, they are to be considered as their chosen gender and referred to with the appropriate pronoun (“he” or “she”).</p>
Two-spirited	This is a recent term being used by some members of Aboriginal communities to describe a person with both the male and female spirit. It can describe someone’s sexual orientation, or their gender identity, or a combination of both
Queer	This word was originally used in a derogatory way to taunt anyone who did not conform to society’s gender expectations. <i>Queer</i> has now been reclaimed by much of the LGBTQ community as an umbrella term referring to sexual orientations and identities.
Questioning	Refers to someone who does not yet know their sexual orientation and may be in an exploratory period in their life.
Waves	<p>Feminist advocacy for women took place in several movements, called “waves”, over the course of the modern era. All of the waves focussed on promoting women’s rights yet all had diverse objectives.</p> <p>FIRST WAVE – The first movement to address women’s social and legal inequalities. This wave took place in the late 19th century. The key concerns of First Wave Feminists were education, employment, the marriage laws, suffrage, and the plight of middle-class women. They were not primarily concerned with the problems of working-class women, nor did they necessarily see themselves as feminists in the modern sense.</p>

	<p>SECOND WAVE - The second wave took place in the late 1960's onwards. It was closely tied to the civil rights and anti-war movements in the U.S. The slogan 'the personal is political' sums up the way in which this wave did not just strive to extend the range of social opportunities open to women, but also, through intervention within the spheres of reproduction, sexuality and cultural representation, to change their domestic and private lives. Second wave feminism did not just make an impact on white middle-class women, but also on female minorities and women in non-western societies.</p> <p>THIRD WAVE – Third-wave feminism is a feminist movement that arguably began in the early 1990s. Unlike second-wave feminism, which largely focused on the inclusion of women in traditionally male-dominated areas, third-wave feminism seeks to challenge and expand common definitions of gender and sexuality. An important trait of third-wave feminism is a decreased emphasis on overthrowing patriarchal oppression, and instead, an increased focus on equality between the sexes, and the intersectionality of gender and other social identifiers.</p>
Woman	
Womyn	<p>In most languages women and men, as two sexes, have two very separate words for each. English is one of the only languages in which the term for “woman” is a derivative of the term "man". The "wo" in women comes from the Greek or Latin meaning "lesser". "Women - woman" is by traditional definition the "wife of man", "woe of man", or "female-man". Many women have been empowered by changing the spelling of “women” to better reflect their independence. By changing from "women" to "WOMYN," women now have a distinct word for their own sex. The word is still read the same, yet it has the power to be much more empowering.</p>
Womanism	

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Aboriginal
First Nations
Inuit
Metis
Antidiscrimination
Anti-oppression
Asexual
“Beauty Myth”
Bisexual
Chauvinism
Colourism
Culture
Diversity
Double standard
Ethnicity
Equity
Female
“Feminine Mystique”
Femininity
Femininities
Gender
Gendered
Gender identity
Gender ideologies
Gender role
Girl power
Glass ceiling
Globalization
Harassment
Heteronormativity
Heterosexism
Heterosexual
Homosexual
Hypersexual
Identity
Intersexuality
Islamophobia
Male
Man
Masculinity
Masculinities
Media
Misogyny

Oppression
Privilege
Race
Racism
Riot grrls
Sex
Biological
Physical
Sexism
Sexual orientation
Sexuality
Social construction of gender
Social identifiers
Socialization
Subversion
Suffrage
Transgender
Transphobia
Transsexual
Two-spirited
Queer
Questioning
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First
Second
Third
Woman
Womyn
Womanism