

Trans Awareness Week

November 14 -20, 2012



**Gender • Sexuality • Diversity • Queer Community
Expression • Awareness • Identity • Education
Openness • Dialogue • Acceptance • Understanding**



Trans Awareness Week

- Highlighting a variety of trans voices and experiences, **Trans Awareness Week** aims to raise public awareness and understanding of transgender and gender non-conforming identities and issues.
- Trans Awareness Week culminates with the **Transgender Day of Awareness** on November 20th



Trans* is a term used to describe a wide variety of identities.

Transgender Day of Remembrance

- The **Transgender Day of Remembrance** is dedicated to memorializing those killed as a result of *transphobia*, negative attitudes towards transgender people on the basis of their expression of their gender identity.
- The **Transgender Day of Awareness**, observed annually on **November 20th**, highlights the continuing violence and prejudice endured by the trans community.

Understanding “trans”

- Trans, short for **transgender**, is an umbrella term that describes individuals who:
 - Do not identify with the gender assignment that they received at birth based on their genitalia
 - Identify in a way that does not conform to conventional male and female gender roles and expectations
 - Combine, move between, or exist outside of the conventional gender binary

Understanding “trans”

- Being transgender doesn't necessarily have to relate to how you feel in your body (although it can), but more about how you identify and how you express that identity.
- Trans is a broad definition. It can be an overarching term for genderqueer, agender, etc. or anyone who is not considered cisgendered.



Cisgendered:
individuals having
a “match” between
their gender
identity and the
gender they are
assigned at birth

Trans related terms

- **Genderqueer** is a fluid identity that falls anywhere between man/boy and woman/girl on the spectrum of gender identities.
- **Agender** is an identity that lacks a gender identity, or has no identification with any gender. Such people could be said to be “gender-neutral.”
- **Intersex** describes an individual who’s biological sex, anatomically and/or physiologically, is somewhere between that of male and female.

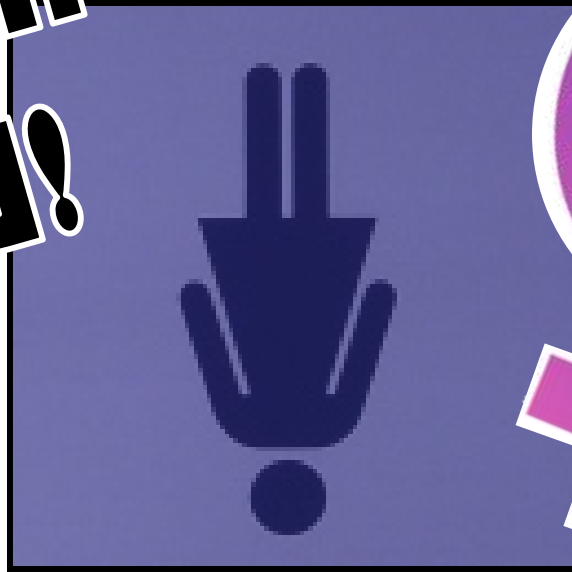
Transgender & Transsexual

- Some transgender individuals may also identify as transsexual.
- **Transsexual** refers to individuals who identify with the gender “opposite” that of their sex.
- Transsexual individuals often transition using hormone therapy and/or surgery.
- Someone who presents an “opposite” gender identity may still prefer to identify as transgender as opposed to transsexual.

Trans Challenges

- Daily life can present obstacles and barriers for individuals who identify with a gender other than their biological sex.
- Pressures to conform to the strict male/female gender binary complicate day-to-day taken for granted activities, as well as present larger challenges in relation to health care, employment, etc. as a result of transphobia.
- For example, washrooms and forms that have male/female gender boxes conform to a gender binary that excludes trans people

**Turning
gender on its
head!**



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