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**Gender Identity:** An individual's perception of oneself as a man, woman, or otherwise. One's gender identity may be the same as the gender identity assigned to them, and one's gender identity is not visible to others.

**Gender Inclusive:** A term used to eliminate exclusion when discussing gender. A form of linguistic prescriptivism that aims to eliminate reference to gender in terms that describe people.

**Gender Non-Conforming (GNC):** A person who is either by nature or by choice does not conform to gender based expectations of society (ex. Transgender, transsexual, intersex, genderqueer, cross-dresser, etc.)

**Gender Neutral:** Noting or pertaining to a word that does not refer to one sex only. Typically used in an effort to be inclusive of gender nonconformity, however, a better phrase to use would be "Gender Inclusive." "Gender Neutral" is often insulting to many trans people and can be compared to the phrase "color blind" often heard in reference to "not seeing" race.

**Gender Role:** Norms of expected behavior for men and women assigned primarily on the basis of biological sex; a sociological construct, which varies from culture to culture.

**Gender Transition:** The social, psychological or medical process of transitioning from one gender to another. Gender transition is an individualized process and does not involve the same steps for everyone. Transition may include telling one's social support network; legally changing one's name or sex; therapeutic treatment with hormones; and possibly, though in not all instances, surgery.

**Gender Variant:** 1: A term that describes those who dress, behave, or express themselves in a way that does not conform to dominant gender norms. 2:

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**Pangender:** A person whose gender identity is comprised of all or many gender expressions.

**Panromantic:** A person whose romantic attractions are not influenced by sex or gender identity.

**Pansexual:**





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**Same-Gender Loving (SGL):** A term used by some African-American individuals to describe their sexual orientation, as a result of the perception that “gay” and “lesbian” are primarily white terms. “Same-sex loving” is also in use.

**Sapiosexual:** A person who is emotionally, romantically, sexually, affectionately, or relationally attracted to intelligence and its use.

**Sensual Attraction:** Desire to have physical non-sexual contact with someone else, like affectionate touching.

**Sex: 1.** A biological term dividing a species into male or female, usually on the basis of sex chromosomes (XX = female, XY = male); hormone levels, secondary sex characteristics, and internal and external genitalia may also be considered criteria. **2.** Another term for sexual behavior or gratification. Sex is a biological fact or a physical act.

**Sexual Reassignment Surgery (SRS):** Outdated, often times found to be offensive. See gender affirming/confirming surgery.

**Sexual Attraction:** Desire to have sexual contact with someone else, to share our sexuality with them.

**Sexual Orientation:** A person’s emotional, physical, and sexual attraction to other people and the expression of that attraction.

**Sexuality:** The complex range of components which make us sexual beings; includes emotional, physical, and sexual aspects, as well as self-identification (including sexual orientation and gender), behavioral preferences and practices, fantasies, and feelings of affection and emotional affinity.

**Shemale/ Shim:** A derogatory term used to describe transgender/transsexual, intersex, or gender non-conforming people that refuses to acknowledge the person’s gender.

**Skoliosexual:** An attraction to non-binary identified individuals. This does not generally describe an attraction to specific genitalia or birth assignments but rather is an inclusive term.

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