

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION and GENDER IDENTITY (SOGI) Glossary of Terms

**Asexual:**

A person who is not sexually attracted to any gender or sex, or only experiences attraction in certain circumstances and to certain degrees. Asexual people may still be romantically attracted to people of a variety of genders and sexualities and have romantic, non- sexual relationships.

**Bisexual:**

A person who is attracted to both women and men.

**Cisgender :**

A person whose sense of personal gender corresponds with the sex they were assigned at birth.

**Gay:**

A person who is attracted to someone of the same sex and/or gender as themselves. This word can be applied to all genders of relationships, but has primarily been used in reference to men.

**Gender:**

A socially constructed concept of identity based on roles, behaviours, activities, and presentation such as masculine, feminine, androgynous, etc.

**Gender expression:**

The ways a person presents their sense of gender to others (for example, through clothes, hairstyle, mannerisms, etc.).

**Gender identity:**

A person's internal sense of being a man, a woman, genderqueer etc. This is not the same thing as a person's biological sex, and may not be consistent with how they are perceived by others.

**Gender nonconforming:**

A term that often refers to those who express gender in ways that differ from societal expectations of the sex and gender assigned to them at birth.

**Heteronormative:**

A term to describe a world view that promotes heterosexuality as the normal and/or preferred sexual orientation.



