

Cisgender:

A person whose gender identity aligns with their sex assigned at birth.

Intersex:

An umbrella term used when a person's chromosome, hormones, reproductive or sexual anatomy do not fit into "male" or "female" identities.

Transgender:

A person whose gender identity does not align with their sex assigned at birth.

Gender Queer:

An umbrella term for those who do not identify with “man” or “woman” exclusively as their gender identity.

Alosexual:

Someone who
experiences sexual
attraction.

Asexual (ace):

Someone who does
not experience
sexual attraction.

Bisexual:

A person who experiences sexual attraction to two or more genders.

Demisexual:

A person who can only develop sexual attraction with the presence of a strong emotional connection.

Gay:

Sometimes used as an umbrella term for people that experience same-sex and/or gender attraction, it is commonly used to describe homosexual men.

Lesbian:

A term used to describe homosexual women (women that are attracted to women).

Pansexual:

A person who can be sexually attracted to people regardless of their gender.

Takatāpui:

A Māori term historically meaning 'intimate companion of the same sex', has since been reclaimed and is used by individuals who are part of the rainbow community. This term emphasises ones identity as Māori as inextricably linked to their rainbow identity.

Cissexism:

Discrimination or prejudice against transgender people based on the assumption that being cisgender is normal and healthy.

Heterosexism:

Prejudice towards
LGBTQIA+ people
stemming from the idea
that heterosexuality is
the only healthy
sexuality.

Queer:

A reclaimed umbrella term used to describe people who identify with a diverse range of sexual, romantic, and gender identities.

Historically, it was considered a pejorative term, queer has been reclaimed by some people to describe themselves; however, it is not a universally accepted term even within the LGBTQIA+ community.

Polyamory:

The practice of having multiple informed and willingly consenting partners in intimate relationships.

Fa'afafine:

In Samoan culture, this is often considered a third-gendered individual. A recognized and integral part of traditional Samoan culture, Fa'afafine, born biologically male, embodies both male and female gender traits.

Akava'ine:

In Cook Islands Māori culture this word refers to an individual, usually male, who "behaves like a woman". May refer to a third-gender and may be similar to transgender women (male to female).

Māhū:

In Native Hawaiian culture this refers to an individual who may be considered third-gendered with characteristics of both sexes. In contemporary Hawai'i the word is also used to describe people who are transgender, or gay.

Vaka sa lewa lewa:

In Fijian culture this refers to sex assigned at birth males who may present themselves, or identify as women. May also be considered a third-gender similar to transgender women.

Whakawahine:

A Māori term for some assigned males at birth but who live as women; a Māori transgender woman.

Tangata-ira-tāne:

A Māori term for someone assigned female at birth who lives as a man; a Māori transgender man.

Pronoun:

A word that refers to either the people talking (I or you) or someone or something that is being talked about (like she, he, they, and ze) while associating gender to that person.

Homophobia:

Encompasses a range of negative attitudes and feelings toward homosexuality or people who are identified or perceived as being attracted to the same sex.

Racism:

Prejudice or discrimination against other people because they are of a different race or ethnicity. This experience happens both within and outside of the rainbow community.

Two Spirit:

Refers to a person who identifies as having both a masculine and a feminine spirit, and is used by some Native American Indigenous people to describe their sexual, gender and/or spiritual identity.

Islamophobia:

An exaggerated fear, hatred, and hostility toward Islam and Muslims that is perpetuated by negative stereotypes resulting in bias, discrimination, and the marginalization and exclusion of Muslims.

Intersectionality:

The interconnectedness of aspects of one's identities such as race, class, and gender etc. which create overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage.

Religiophobia:

An irrational or obsessive fear or anxiety of religion, religious faith, religious people or religious organisations.

Xenophobia:

An aversion or hostility to, disdain for, fear or hatred of that which is perceived to be foreign or strange. This can include people that are different in all kinds of ways including gender, sexuality), faith, religion, race, culture, ethnicity, ability (disability), body size and type, and generational and more.

Sexism:

Any act, gesture, visual representation, spoken or written words, practice, or behaviour based upon the idea that a person or a group of persons is inferior because of their sex.