
Take Back the Night and Gender

created July 2016

In the past we have invited women (transwomen and ciswomen) and their children to Take Back the Night and invited men to a workshop. This left no room for folks who do not identify as either a man or a woman and for intersex folks.

We're working to create a space that centres the experiences of survivors who are women and non-binary folks.

The sexism and oppression that women and gender non-conforming folks experience are linked. We want to make TBTN a safe(r), brave(r) space for gender non-conforming folks. We want to work towards ending all forms of oppression and one way is to be inclusive of gender non-conforming folks.

We made this decision partly because trans folks experience ridiculously high rates of violence.

What does this mean the night of TBTN?

We're inviting women (which for us always includes transwomen because they are women), non-binary folks, and their kids to come to City Hall for the gathering, rally, and march.

Men who would like to support are invited to self organize and let us know about what solidarity looks like for you.

No one will be policed, approached, or questioned because of their gender presentation at City Hall or at Gore Park.

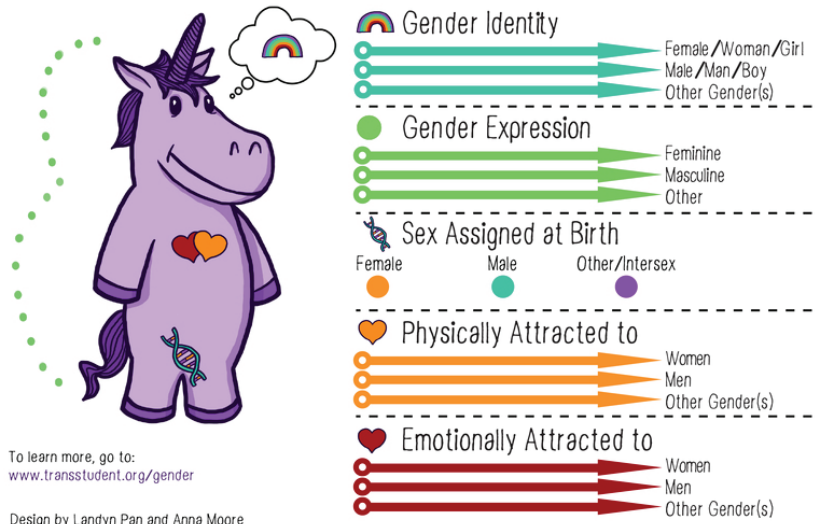
Gender and Violence

Women, gender non-conforming folks, and intersex folks experience sexism differently than men. When we look at the gender binary –meaning two 'opposite' categories– it tells us that someone can either be a man or a woman, not both, neither, or none of them.

Non-binary folks often don't fit into those rigid boxes, choosing to be somewhere in between or not

The Gender Unicorn

Graphic by:
TSER
Trans Student Educational Resources



Non-binary folks often don't fit into those rigid boxes, choosing to be somewhere in between or not in a box at all. These folks are routinely left out of spaces because spaces are often meant for either men or women.

When it comes to presentation, society is set up for us to fall into either the woman box (feminine) or the man box (masculine). Non-binary folks often experiment with gender presentation –how they choose to present themselves to the world, like through dress, hairstyle, etc– and so they may not look 'feminine' or 'masculine', putting them at risk of harassment and violence. While men are hurt by patriarchy and rigid ideas of gender, women and gender non-conforming folks' experiences of patriarchy, misogyny, and strict gender rules can lead to extreme forms of violence and even death.

Chocolate syrup and sprinkles represent
the two Binary Genders.



But, there are many
more Non-binary
Genders as well
that are just as
important.



Shout outs

Thank you to all the LGBTQ2SI folks in the community and at SACHA who have challenged and questioned the ways we do things and the decisions that we make at SACHA. It shouldn't have to be your role to educate folks and we appreciate your time, energy, and gifts. We wouldn't be SACHA without you.