

Within society, the majority of people are brought up knowing only two genders: male and female. These binary genders are often the root of gender-based stereotypes that have been instilled in our society for decades. Stereotypes feed the challenging topic of gender-based violence; a problem that the Top Left Youth Group is striving to end.

This Gender Identity Encyclopedia is a compilation of terms, and simplified definitions that are used by individuals to help them self-identify as both binary and non-binary genders.

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Top Left is a program for youth by youth that is aimed at engaging young people to address the unfortunate persistent issue within the younger generation of our society, gender-based violence. Our target audience are young, self-identified males, who we engage with in meaningful facilitated discussions to come up with strategies on eliminating gender-based violence.

We meet bi-weekly on Wednesdays from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at The Students Commission Toronto office - 23 Isabella Street.

Curious about any of the terms listed here?  
Interested in getting involved in the fight against gender-based violence?

Contact Tristan Banyay, Youth Programs Coordinator at [tristan@studentscommission.ca](mailto:tristan@studentscommission.ca)

The Students  
Commission

*Centre of Excellence for  
Youth Engagement*



La commission  
des étudiants

*Le centre d'excellence pour  
l'engagement des jeunes*

# Gender Identity Encyclopedia

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# Gender Identities & Gender Terms

1. Male: the male “sex” refers to the biological and physiological characteristics that define a man
2. Female: the female “sex” refers to the biological and physiological characteristics that define a woman
3. Binary Genders – Male and Female: socially acceptable genders that are used to define gender roles and stereotypes
4. Cisgender: someone who identifies as the gender they were assigned with at birth
5. Transgender: someone who identifies with a gender different from which they were assigned at birth
6. FTM: Female to Male – an individual who is assigned female at birth, who identifies as male
7. MTF: Male to Female – an individual who is assigned male at birth, who identifies as female
8. CAFAB/CDFAB: coercively assigned female at birth/coercively designated female at birth
9. CAMAB/CDMAB: coercively assigned male at birth/coercively designated male at birth

10. Intersex: an individual born with both male and female anatomy
11. Genderqueer: someone who does not identify as a binary gender; an umbrella term\*1
12. Non-binary: someone who does not identify as a binary gender; an umbrella term
13. Gender Fluid: someone who switches between various genders
14. Agender/Non-gender: someone who does not identify with any gender
15. Bigender/Pangender: someone who identifies as more than one gender
16. 2spirit: a member of the Indigenous community who identifies as non-binary or genderqueer\*2
17. Gender Expression: the way someone presents their gender to society
18. Androgyny: someone who presents themselves in a way that appears as neither male or female, or both male and female
19. Genderfuck: someone who presents themselves in a way that challenges or rebels against traditional gender roles

20. Gender Pronouns: the way an individual is referred to without their names, i.e. he/him/his, she/her/hers
21. Gender Neutral Pronouns/Alternative Pronouns: pronouns that are used to refer to gender neutral individuals without the use of proper nouns, i.e. “they/them/theirs,” “ze/zir/zirs” or “xi/xir/xirs,” “ae/aer/aers,” etc.

\*1 An umbrella term is something that is a catch-all term. In this case, genderqueer and non-binary is a catch-all term for any gender identity that is not either male or female.

\*2 As someone who is not part of the Indigenous community, what the writer knows about 2spirit might be different, or limited to that of someone within the Indigenous community.