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M E D I C I N E

# Translating Transgender: Paint a Picture & Use the Right Words

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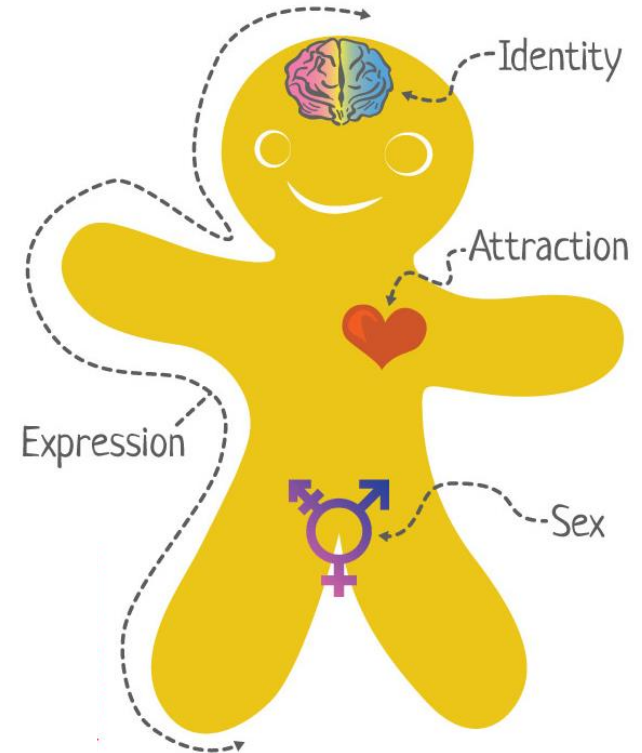
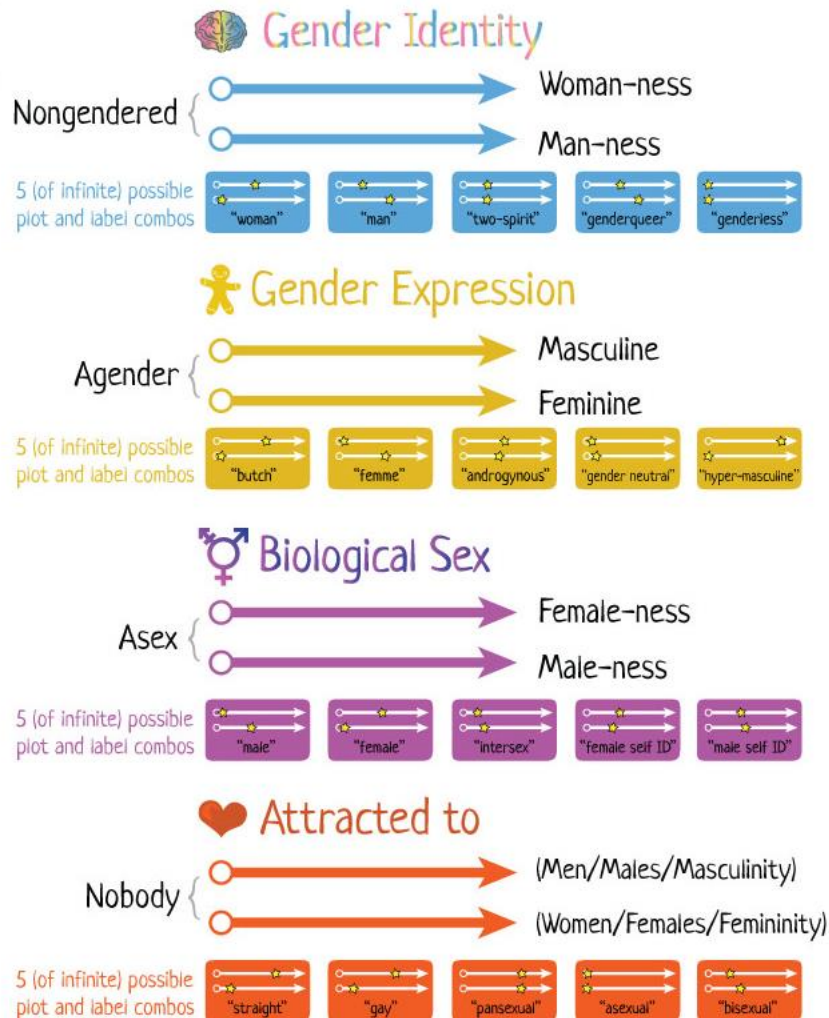
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# Dispelling the Myths: Here's What Most People<sub>(think they)</sub> Know

- Being trans is a choice
- Transgender = Immoral
- Gender identity = sexual orientation
- All trans people are just men in dresses
- All trans people have surgery
- Trans people are not “real” men / women
- You can tell one by looking at them
- You can't change your gender

# Language & Terminology



The Genderbread Person v2.0 –  
(Killermann, n.d.)

# Language & Terminology

- **“Transgender” is an adjective not a noun**
- Don’t use outdated language (GLAAD, 2016)

Don’t Use	Appropriate Terminology
Sex change	Transition Gender Confirming (Affirming ) Surgery Gender Reassignment Surgery
Hermaphrodite	Intersex
Transvestite	Cross-dresser
Transsexualism / Transgenderism	None – using those terms is always offensive

# Language & Terminology

- **Common terms**
- Cisgender is a word used to describe people who are not transgender



# Language & Terminology



- Transition refers to a complex, multifaceted process:
  - the metamorphosis from living as a member of one gender, to living in another gender (Transwhat, n.d.)
  - Multidimensional:
    - Social
    - Legal
    - Medical

There is no blueprint that everyone follows  
– it is a unique experience

# Language & Terminology



- Do **NOT** refer to a transgender person as a:
  - He-she
  - She-male
  - It
  - Tranny



# Johns Hopkins Center for Transgender Health



*The mission of The Johns Hopkins Center for Transgender Health is to reduce healthcare disparities and improve the overall health of the transgender community through world-class, holistic, evidence-based, affirming clinical care, interdisciplinary education, and research.*



*Semper Porro – Ever Forward*