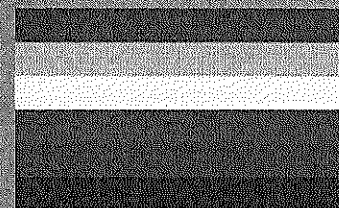
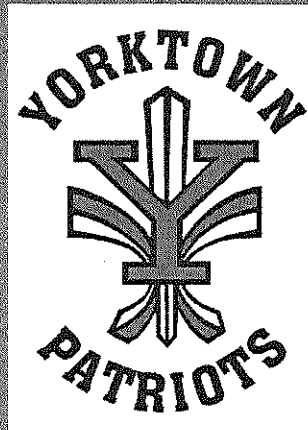
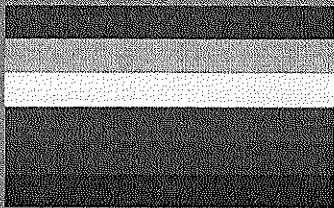


*Gender & Sexuality Alliance's
Message on LGBT+ Education
in Schools*



Sex and Gender

What is the difference between sex and gender/is there a difference?

- Sex: Assigned at birth, based on reproductive organs and chromosomes.
 - E.g. physically male, female, intersex
- Gender: How one identifies. Components of this can be pronouns and labels. Independent of one's sex.
 - E.g. male, female, non-binary, agender, genderqueer, genderfluid

Gender Identities

- Cisgender: sex and gender match
- Transgender: gender does not align with sex (being transgender is not the same as drag: drag is a character, being transgender is an identity)
 - Dysphoria: The body not matching the mind, a sense of uneasiness which varies from person to person. Some non cis people feel this and others do not.
- Non-binary: Not conforming to male or female. Some people use this title if they fall towards the middle of the spectrum. Others who use this title may not abide by the spectrum at all.
- And many more! There are a lot of terms for a lot of varying genders besides male and female (genderqueer, genderfluid, etc.).

Pronouns Besides “She” and “He”

- They: gender nonspecific singular pronoun
- Xe: gender nonspecific singular pronoun
 - i.e. Xe lent me xer favorite pen. (pronounced zee)
- These are the most common but not the only non-gender-specific pronouns used

Sexuality

- Sexual orientation: Defines which gender(s) a person is attracted to (sexually, romantically, aesthetically)
 - E.g. heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, pansexual, asexual, etc.
- Heterosexuality: attraction to the opposite gender
- Homosexuality: attraction to the same gender
- Bisexuality: attraction to all genders but formerly men and women
 - slightly outdated term
 - can be used to mean both one's own gender and other genders
- Pansexuality: attraction to all genders - updated version of bisexuality (some controversy, terms used in flux)
- Asexuality: lowered or no sexual attraction to others
- These are only **SOME** examples

What you can do

- Avoid assuming gender and sex
- Respect people's pronouns
 - Don't assume pronouns based on appearance. People can have different pronouns than you might expect.
 - Use they/them if you don't know someone's pronouns
- Inclusivity is not a huge change, just one that involves effort and awareness

What's Next?

- Identity takes time to figure out. Don't be afraid to discover yourself and help others do the same.
- HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES FOR YOU
 - The Trevor Project (LGBT+ youth support)
 - GLSEN (student advocacy)
 - Urban Dictionary is your best friend (SOMETIMES) for definitions
 - Us! We're here, come to our meetings. (Mondays, room 313)

Be Involved!

- Look up any terms or concepts new to you
- Find out how you can better support other students.
- Come talk to us!
 - GSA meets Mondays in room 313 after school