

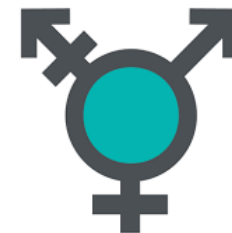
Introduction to “Transgender 101”:

Basic Concepts to Work with Transgender Population

ANDRÉS HOYOS, MS, LCSW



Learning Objectives



- ▶ **Become familiar with some of the key components that inform an ideological stance, which allows a critical and contextual analysis of the transgender communities, the social location of the provider and the implications that these entails for the provider-user relationship.**
- ▶ **Expand the level of knowledge in relation to how best to serve the transgender population from a social justice perspective**

Agenda for the Presentation:

- ▶ **Introduction - Terminology**
- ▶ **Why this Knowledge is Imperative**
- ▶ **Historical, Sociopolitical & Cultural Context**
- ▶ **Conceptual Framework**
- ▶ **Guidelines**
- ▶ **Considerations**
- ▶ **Resources**
- ▶ **Q & A**

Introduction – Terminology

That we understand by the term "Transgender"

- Trans, Transformist, Transsexual...

▶ Basic Concepts

- Sex
- Gender identity
- Cisgender
- Gender Expression
- Gender Role
- Sexual Orientation
- Transphobia

▶ Other terms

- Queer / Cuir



Why is this Work Imperative:

Numerous studies have suggested that transgender people:

▶ **Injuries, and violence**

- Up to 60 percent are victims of physical aggression or abuse.
- Up to 66 percent are victims of sexual assault.

▶ **Suicide**

- Suicidal ideation can reach up to 65 percent.
- Suicide attempts can occur up to 32 percent.

▶ **Mental Health**

- The prevalence of depression, anxiety and other clinical conditions among transgender people are greater...

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Top Health Issues for LGBT Populations Information & Resource Kit. HHS Publication No. (SMA) 12-4684. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2012.

Why is this Work Imperative:

▶ Substance Abuse

- Methamphetamine use (up to 46 percent) and injecting drug use (up to 40 percent).
- Tobacco consumption rates can range between 45 and 74 percent.
- Barriers to substance abuse treatment services for this population often include discrimination, hostility and insensitivity of the provider, strict gender binary segregation (male / female) within the programs and lack of acceptance in the appropriate recovery groups for the gender.

▶ HIV / AIDS

- HIV prevalence rates among transgender women up to 68 percent.
- HIV infection is highest among transgender women of color.
- Young transsexuals are a population at high risk of HIV infection.

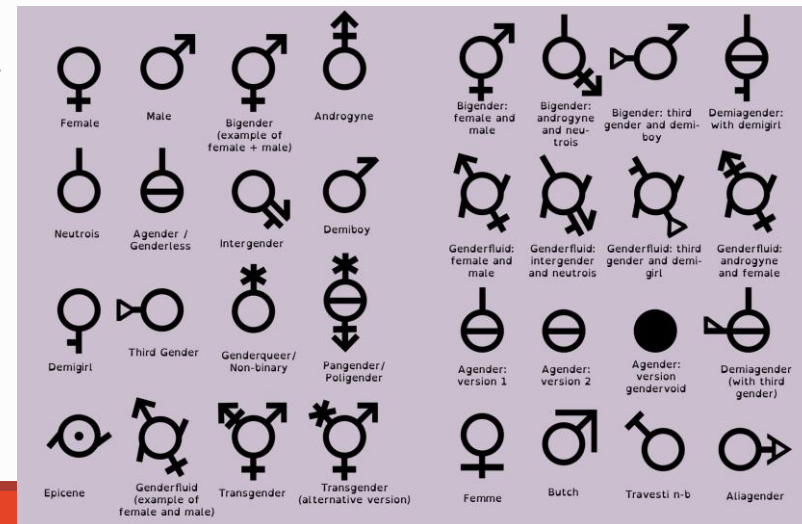
▶ Sexually Transmitted Diseases

- Prevalence of syphilis up to 79 percent

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Historic and Sociopolitical Context

- ▶ Always framed in a ever changing cultural context
- ▶ Ethno-centrist, Capitalist, Sexist, Racist, Classist ...
- ▶ The State, The Regulation of the Body and Identities
- ▶ Socialization Based on Gender
- ▶ Religion and Spirituality



Conceptual Framework

- ▶ **Strengths-Based Focus**
- ▶ **Community Focus**
- ▶ **Weavers of social networks**
- ▶ **Social Justice Approach**
- ▶ **Feminist / anti-patriarchal approach**
- ▶ **Economic Justice**
- ▶ **Revolutionary attitude**
 - Break with imposed collective imaginaries



IT IS NOT AN APPROACH, IT IS AN IDEOLOGY!

Guidelines

- ▶ **Critical and Analytical Positions**
- ▶ **Extensive and Continuous Learning**
 - History, positive and diverse models, latest scientific and community protocols, local, national and global legislation
- ▶ **Activism**
- ▶ **Advocacy**
- ▶ **Agents of Change**
- ▶ **Allies**

To which gender identity do you most identify?

- Female
- Male
- Transgender Female
- Transgender Male
- Gender Variant/Non-Conforming
- Not Listed
- Prefer Not to Answer

Considerations As Social Service Providers:

- ▶ **Social Location of the Provider in Relation to the other**
 - Power & Privilege
 - Internalized transphobia
- ▶ **Strengths-Based Approach**
- ▶ **Use of language that honors the transgender person, their history, culture and UNIQUE identity**
- ▶ **Exploration of individual identity, both historical and current**

Considerations As Social Service Providers:

- ▶ **Transfer & Counter-transference**
- ▶ **Intersectionalities**
- ▶ **Affirmative approach based on a positive model of transgender identity development**
- ▶ **Terminology**
- ▶ **Inter-disciplinary and inter-institutional work**
 - Physical and mental health, the legal, the concrete, the spiritual ...
- ▶ **Participative community organization**
- ▶ **Empowerment - Participatory action**

Resources

- ▶ **Transgender Basics - Gender Identity Project (GIP)**
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UXI9w0PbBXY>
- ▶ **Transgender 101: A Guide to Gender and Identity to Help You Keep Up with the Conversation**
 - <https://everydayfeminism.com/2016/08/transgender-101/>
- ▶ **TransLatina Network**
 - <https://www.translatinanetwork.org/>
- ▶ **Callen-Lord Community Health Center**
 - <http://callen-lorde.org/>
- ▶ **Urban Justice Center**
 - <https://www.urbanjustice.org/>

Resources

- ▶ **Immigration Equality**

- ▶ <http://www.immigrationequality.org/>

- ▶ **PFLAG NYC**

- ▶ <http://www.pflagnyc.org/>

- ▶ **Gender & Family Project at Ackerman Institute for the Family**

- ▶ <http://www.ackerman.org/gfp/>

- ▶ **NYC LGBT Community Center / YES (Youth Enrichment Services)**

- ▶ <https://gaycenter.org/family-youth/youth>

Reference

- ▶ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Top Health Issues for LGBT Populations Information & Resource Kit. HHS Publication No. (SMA) 12-4684. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2012.

Q & A



Contact us...

Andrés Hoyos

AndresHoyos.Me@gmail.com

For CTAC questions...

ctac.info@nyu.edu