

## Glossary of Terms

### *Gender Identity Terms*

**Agender** | People who don't identify with any gender.

**Gender Identity** | How individuals experience their gender as male, female, a blend of both or neither, and what they call themselves. Can be the same or different from sex assigned at birth.

**Genderqueer** | People who reject notions of static categories of gender and/or blur "traditional" perceptions of gender as binary.

**Gender-fluid** | People who experience their gender in fluid, changing, and variable ways.

**Non-binary** | Individuals who identify outside of the gender binary (i.e., outside of the male / female binary). This term may refer to an individual identity, or be used as an umbrella term for other non-binary identities (e.g., agender, genderqueer).

**Sex assigned at birth** | The sex (male or female) given to a child at birth, most often based on the child's external anatomy.

**Transgender** | People whose gender identity and/or expression is different from cultural expectations based on the sex they were assigned at birth. Does not imply any specific sexual orientation.

### *Sexual Orientation Terms*

**Asexual** | No interest in sexual activity.

**Bisexual** | Sexual desire for/attraction to more than one gender.

**Gay / Lesbian** | Refers to males who are sexually attracted to males / females who are sexually attracted to females.

**Heterosexual** | A term for being sexually attracted to males if you're female, and females if you're male.

**Intersex** | People who are born with a variety of differences in their sex traits and reproductive anatomy.

**LGBTQIA+** | Acronym for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual.

**Pansexual** | Sexual attraction to people regardless of their sex or gender identity.

**Queer** | An umbrella term members of the LGBTQ+ community may or may not identify with.

**Questioning** | An umbrella term for people who are figuring themselves out, discovering the rainbow of human sexuality and/or gender, and still in the process of finding their place.

### *Racial/Ethnic Identity Terms*

**American Indian or Alaska Native** | A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

**Asian** | A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

**Black or African American** | A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. Terms such as "Haitian" or "Negro" can be used in addition to "Black or African American."

**Ethnicity** | Refers to shared cultural characteristics such as language, ancestry, practices, and beliefs.

**Hispanic or Latino** | A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. The term, "Spanish origin," can be used in addition to "Hispanic or Latino."

**Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** | A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

**Race** | Refers to physical differences that groups and cultures consider socially significant. Race is a social construct that is not universal.

**White** | A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

### *Sexting Terms*

**Sexting** | Sending and receiving sexual messages (words, photos, videos) through technology such as a phone, app, email or webcam. For some people, sexting is a way to explore sexuality, trust, boundaries and intimacy. However, in some cases, sexting is used to bully, blackmail and exploit.

Sources:

<https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms> <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not-od-15-089.html>  
<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/bias-free-language/racial-ethnic-minorities>  
<https://kidshelpphone.ca/get-info/what-sexting/>