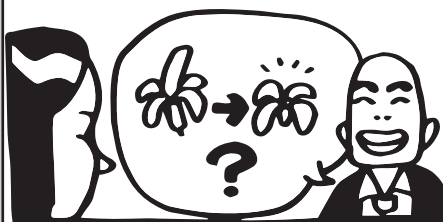


DO YOU GET STARED AT WHEN YOU ENTER A PUBLIC TOILET, AND FEAR RIDICULE, BASELESS ACCUSATIONS, AND VERBAL AND PHYSICAL VIOLENCE?



DO PEOPLE CONSTANTLY COME UP TO YOU AND ASK YOU INTIMATE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE STATE OF YOUR GENITALS OR YOUR GENDER IDENTITY AS IF THEY HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO?



DO YOU FEAR NOT BEING ABLE TO SECURE A JOB SOLELY BECAUSE OF YOUR GENDER IDENTITY AND EXPRESSION?



ARE YOU ALLOWED TO TICK YOUR GENDER IDENTITY ON A FORM?



DO YOU FEAR POLICE INTERACTIONS BECAUSE OF YOUR GENDER IDENTITY?



ARE YOU ABLE TO BUY UNDERWEAR, CLOTHES, AND SHOES THAT FIT YOU AND YOUR GENDER EXPRESSION WITHOUT BEING REFUSED SERVICE OR MOCKED BY SALES PERSONS OR ASKED TO PROVE YOUR GENDER?



DO YOU FEAR THAT PEOPLE CHECKING YOUR IC WILL INSULT OR GLARE AT YOU BECAUSE YOUR NAME OR SEX DOES NOT MATCH THE SEX THEY BELIEVED YOU TO BE BASED ON YOUR GENDER EXPRESSION?



ARE YOU ABLE TO FLIRT, ENGAGE IN COURTSHIP, OR FORM A RELATIONSHIP WITHOUT FEAR THAT YOUR BIOLOGICAL STATUS MAY BE CAUSE FOR REJECTION OR ATTACK, OR THAT YOU WILL CAUSE YOUR PARTNER TO QUESTION THEIR SEXUAL ORIENTATION?



DO YOU HAVE THE FREEDOM TO LOVE?



Action steps to be a trans* ally

A trans* person is someone whose biological sex does not align with their gender identity and expression. We use the word trans* with an asterisk to refer to all the identities within the gender identity spectrum—from trans man and trans woman, to transgender, transsexual, genderqueer, agender, third gender, etc.

However, despite the diversity, we live in a world that recognizes only two options for gender. If you are not exactly 'man' or 'woman', you are going to have a hard time finding your place, because right now there isn't a place for you. (Even if one do not identify as trans*, many still face discrimination based on their gender expression and for not conforming to traditional gender presentations.)

Let's change that.

This flyer was created to raise awareness about issues affecting trans* people, and more importantly, provides suggestions to make the world a bit less binary and a lot more trans* inclusive.



Artworks by Shieko Reto

as a Guideline to help you started...

DO'S

- * Bring trans* inclusivity to your workplace or organization.
- * Learn and understand what trans* means. The internet has many resources!
- * Just Ask! It's important to respect the names and pronouns that people prefer. It is impossible to know without asking. If you are unsure, simply ask "what are your preferred pronouns?" Use it and encourage others to do so.
- * A gender identity is personal. If someone chooses to come out to you as trans* this means that they trust you. Make sure to honour that trust by checking with them before telling anyone else as they may not want others to know.
- * Do introduce a trans* person as their preferred pronoun, unless you have their explicit permission to introduce them as trans*.
- * Examine gender stereotypes and transphobia and be willing to defend trans* people and celebrate trans* lives.

DON'TS

- * Don't just add the 'T' without doing the work.
- * Don't ask what my name was 'before' or my 'real' name—this implies that my chosen name is in some way invalid.
- * Don't ask me about my genitals or my origins and struggles just to satisfy your curiosity—it is very rude. We will tell you if and when we want to.
- * Similarly, don't assume just because I am trans*, that I have to have a full gender reassignment surgery. It's not the right thing for everyone
- * Don't use transphobic words like 'tranny' and 'bapok'. It demeans and trivializes the wide variety of experiences held by those who identify as trans*. If you see this type of language being used, challenge it.
- * Don't make assumptions about my sexual orientation. Being gay doesn't mean I'm trans*; being trans* doesn't mean I'm gay."

Trans* people are your neighbours, your classmates, the person that sit beside you on the MRT. They are not asking for special or preference treatment, but just the common courtesy and rights accorded to any person, so treat them like you would to any other person in your life.

Being trans* is not an anomaly but a constant reminder to people that we live in diversity and we need to embrace each and everyone regardless of race, color, gender, sexual orientation and gender identity.

This flyer was brought to you by Project X and friends. Project X advocates for the rights of transgender people who work in the sex industry.

TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT US.

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