



Prifysgol
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ECAY6005: Relationships, Communication and Families in Contemporary Society

Sexuality, Gender and Families (Part 2 Issues of Gender)

Trawsnewid Addysg; Trawsnewid Bywydau
Transforming Education; Transforming Lives

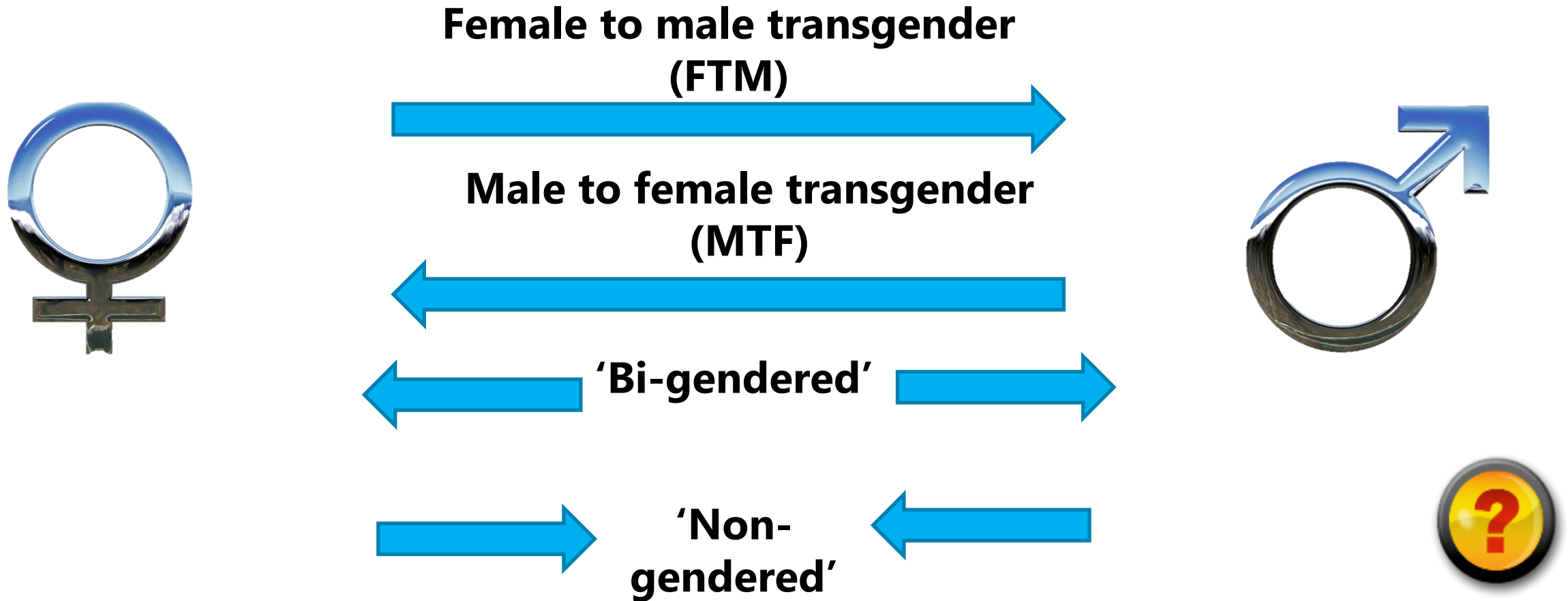


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Recap of last Session

- What were the key features of our last session?

How many gender identities are there?



How many gender identities are there?

- As many as there are people!
- Sex, sexuality and gender do not mean the same thing.
- What is your understanding of the terms sex, sexuality and gender?

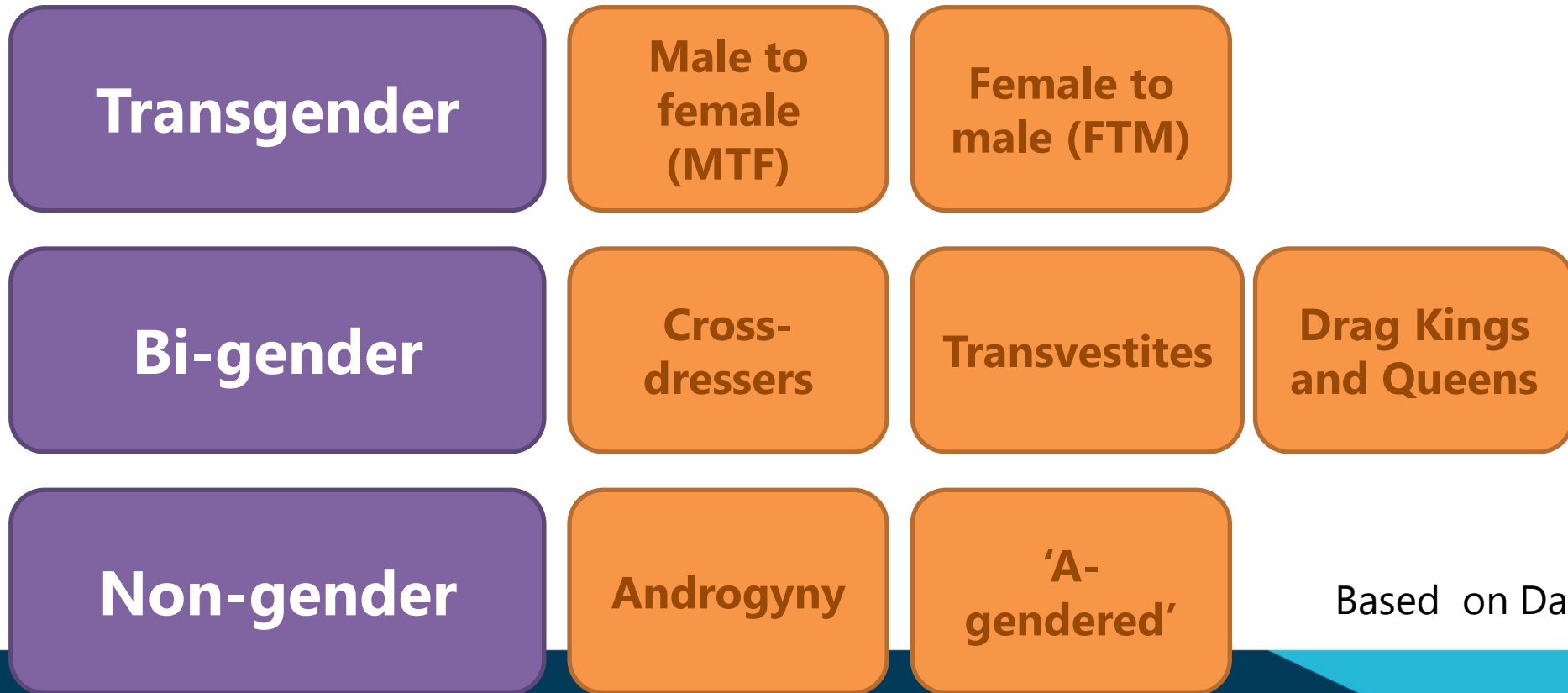
Terminology – Sex, sexuality & gender

- “Sex” refers to the biological status of male or female. It includes physical attributes such as chromosomes, reproductive organs and genitalia.
- “Sexuality” refers to a persons emotional and physical reaction to other sexes and genders.
- “Gender” refers to how people feel about themselves and their emotional and personal identity.

Darrell (2015)

Gender and Labels

In the 21st century there are many different 'labels' for gender groups, e.g.:



Based on Darrell (2015)

Gender and Labels

- These represent one set of labels for people in the 'gender variant' community
- It is important to remember that there are as many 'genders' as there are people
- One person's experience of being 'male' will be different from another person's



Different Masculinities

Gender and Labels

- Some labels are chosen by 'gender variant' people for themselves and some are imposed upon them by society

Can you think of examples of such labels?



Gender Identity – Increasing complexity

- In the late 20th century the acronym LGBT was used  What do the initials LGBT stand for?
- Today, however, some activists and campaigners use LGBTQIA  What do the initials QIA stand for?

Gender Identity – Increasing complexity

- Let's discuss the terms:

- Queer
- Intersexual
- Asexual



1. What do you understand these terms to mean?
2. Why do you think they are used by people in the gender variant community?

Gender Identity – Increasing complexity

- It is difficult to find accurate figures on the number of people who are transgender and gender variant
 - “There are huge inconsistencies in population estimates of both transsexual people and the less clearly defined trans community”.
 - Estimates of people who have undergone gender realignment vary from 2,400 to 6,500
 - Estimates of people who are gender variant vary from 65,000 to 300,000
 - [Office for National Statistics](#) (2020)
- Office for National Statistics (2009)

Terminology - Gender

- Gender identity
- One's innermost concept of self as male or female or both or neither—how individuals perceive themselves and what they call themselves.

Terminology – Gender

- Gender variance / Gender non-conforming
- Gender variance refers to the extent to which a person's gender identity or expression of gender differs from the cultural norms of society expected of people of a particular biological sex



Terminology - Gender

- Gender expression
- Whereas gender identity is 'internal' gender expression relates to the way in which an individual presents their gender to those around them.
- Individuals express their gender in a variety of ways including:
 - Their behaviour,
 - Their style of dress,
 - Their hairstyle,
 - Their voice or body characteristics

Terminology - Gender

- 'Passing'
- This phrase is used by gender variant people to describe the situation where society accepts them in their chosen gender identity.
- For example, a FTM transgender person being accepted by (most) people as a man.

Terminology - Gender

- 'Transphobia'
- "The irrational fear of those who are perceived to break or blur stereotypical gender roles, often expressed as stereotyping, discrimination, harassment and violence. Frequently directed at those who defy stereotypical gender norms or those who are perceived to exhibit non heterosexual characteristics regardless of their actual gender identify or sexual orientation".

Darrell (2015)

Terminology - Gender

- Gender dysphoria
- "Based on the Greek (dys-phoria: hard to bear), this is the medical term for the condition in which a person who has been assigned one gender at birth on the basis of their physical sex self-identifies as belonging to another gender. People who experience gender dysphoria are in no way mentally ill, but they often suffer great stress from hiding their identity".

Jackson (2017)

Terminology - Gender

- Gender dysphoria
- There are four possible outcomes for people who present with the dilemma of gender dysphoria:
 - an unresolved outcome,
 - acceptance of one's given gender,
 - engaging in a cross-gender role on a part-time basis, and
 - making a full-time transition to the other gender role.

Carroll (1999)

Terminology - Gender

- Gender dysphoria
- In each individual case the causes and treatment for gender dysphoria are different
- Treatments can include:
 - Counselling,
 - Psychotherapy
 - Hormone therapy
 - Gender re-alignment surgery

Carroll (1999)

Terminology - Gender

- Gender dysphoria
- For some people counselling and psychotherapy can help them come to terms with their feelings of confusion and dysphoria
- For others hormone therapy (testosterone for FTM and oestrogen for MTF) is sufficient
- In the UK a person has to spend a year living in their preferred gender role before they can have surgery. This is known as 'social gender role transition'

NHS Guidance on treatment for Gender Dysphoria



Carroll (1999)

Additional Activity – Binary Discourse

- We have already discussed the 21st Century discourse regarding the socially constructed nature of gender
- Read the article by Wiseman and Davidson (2011) from the academic journal Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry
- Work through the questions on the Guided Study Sheet

Guided Study Activity: Binary Discourse



Terminology – Gender

- Transition
- This describes the process of changing gender identity
- The process of transition can include the following:
 - Changing one's name
 - Living as the chosen gender identity
 - Taking hormone therapy
 - Surgery
 - Application for a Gender Recognition Certificate
 - Changing legal documents (e.g. Driver's licence, [Birth Certificate](#) etc.)

Gender Recognition Certificate

- Established by the Gender Recognition Act 2004
- Applications are made to the Gender Recognition Panel
- Applicants need to meet certain requirements in order to be granted a GRC
- The Government set up a consultation on this in 2018 and a response was published in 2020



Gender Recognition Certificate

- Read the HM Courts and Tribunals Service General Guidance on Gender Recognition
- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/786910/t455-eng.pdf
- Or, search for Courts and Tribunals Service T455
- Read the document in groups and identify:
 - The stages in the process of applying for a GRC
 - Any issues that you can identify with the process
- Guided Study Activity: Gender Recognition Certificates 

Sources of Information



- Documents such as the HM Courts and Tribunals Service Guide can often give you ideas for other sources of information
- However, the fact that a source has been listed in a Government document does not mean that you shouldn't check the reliability of the source for yourself

Issues that Transgender people face

- Discrimination against transgender people is included in the Equality Act
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission have a wealth of information on this issue at
- <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/gender-reassignment-discrimination>
- You should watch the video on this webpage in preparation for the next Guided Study Activity

Impact on Individuals: Sport

As well as watching the video from the previous slide you should also read, watch and listen to the following;

1.  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/46453958>
2.  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/swimming/47428951>
3.  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/athletics/47467522>
4.  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-scotland-47448863/transgender-debate-playing-for-a-women-s-team-didn-t-seem-possible>
5.  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w172w4pxcth6mmt>

Guided Study Activity: Issues that Trans People face.



The impact on families: A case study

- Read the Judgement in the case of 'J versus B and Children: Ultra-orthodox Judaism and transgender
 - <https://www.judiciary.gov.uk/judgments/j-v-b-and-the-children-ultra-orthodox-judaism-transgender/>
 - Or, Use the PDF available on Moodle.
 - Discuss the judgement in groups and identify:
- What, in your opinion, are the key issues faced by the biological father?
 - What, in your opinion, are the key issues faced by the biological mother?
 - What, in your opinion, are the key issues faced by the children?
 - Overall what do you think are the key ethical considerations in this case?

Guided Study Activity: J vs B and the Children



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