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Sexual and Gender Diversity Among Youth: *New Directions and New Priorities*

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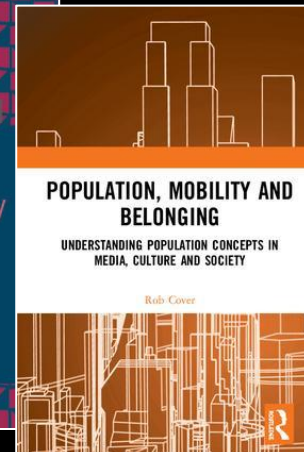
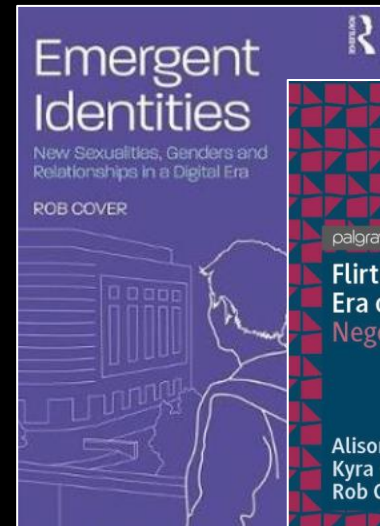
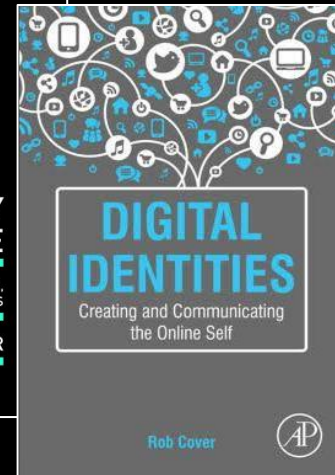
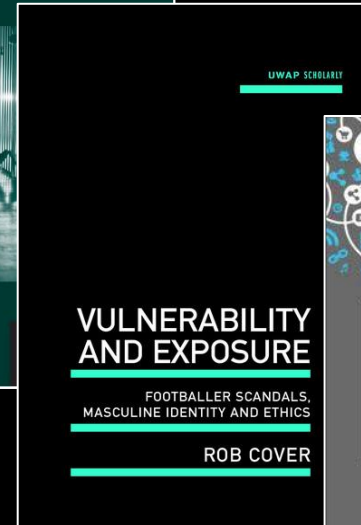
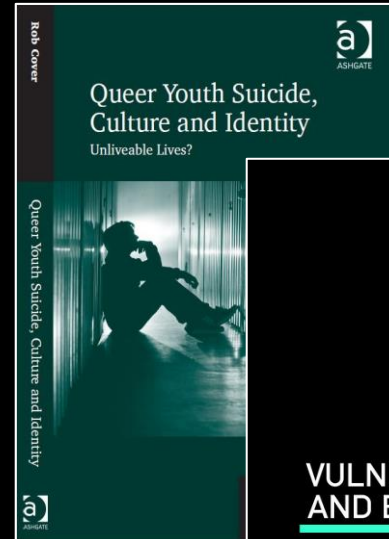
Young People, Media, Belonging, Health

Trajectory builds on previous work on critical approaches to youth suicide, vulnerability, digital identities and emerging gender/sexuality labels (proliferations, post-binaries).

Intervening in the health, mental health and education of gender- and sexually-diverse youth and migrant minorities.

Link between ways of representing, digital creativity, identity and belonging.

What are the conditions that make social change related to good health outcomes feasible in a creative digital culture?

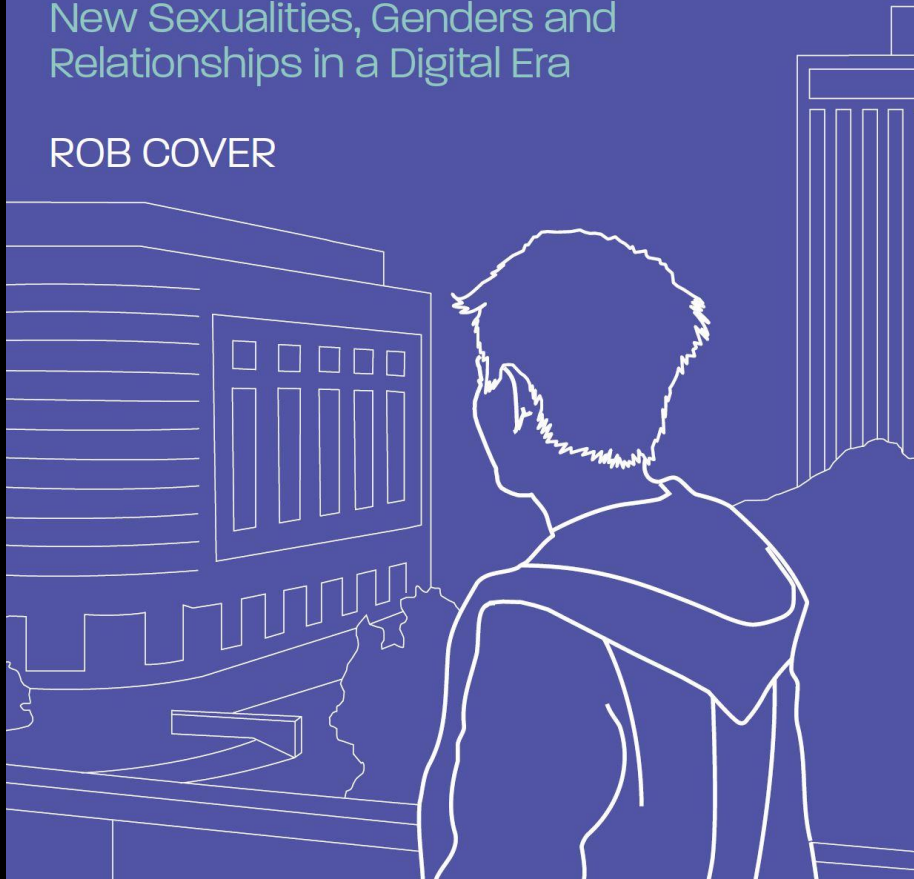


ROUTLEDGE


Emergent Identities

New Sexualities, Genders and Relationships in a Digital Era

ROB COVER



QUEER Generations



Queer Generations Project (ARC DP 2015-18)

Discovery Project Queer Generations: Belonging and Sexual Citizenship among Gender and Sexual Minority Youth (2015-2018)

with Peter Aggleton, Christy Newman, Mary Lou Rasmussen, Daniel Marshall

- Examining experiences and meaning of **support/belonging/identity** across two generations of minority gender/sexually-diverse persons (born in '70s, born in '90s).
 - Lenses of analysis: **Health, Kinship, Media, Work, Education, Sex...**
-
- In 2014, we anticipated a framework for LGBTQ identity (stable) in order to analyse the interface between support and belonging (variable).
 - Problematic: from approximately 2015-16, models of **masculine/feminine** and **hetero/homo** and identity labels like **LGBTQ** and **Straight** were no longer regularly reflected in participant self-perception. *No longer always useful organising categories in intervening in discussions about young people's health, education and communication*

Participant sample (across all sites)	1970s	1990s
<i>Total number of unique participants</i>	50	71
Age range	34-48	16-27
Living in metropolitan area	37	47
Living in regional area	13	24
Male-identified	15	24
Female-identified	26	27
Other-gender-identified (eg. non-binary, trans*, genderqueer)	9	20
Gay-identified	15	21
Lesbian-identified	19	14
Bisexual-identified	5	14
Other-sexuality-identified (eg. demisexual, pansexual, queer)	11	22

Dominant model of sexual/gender identities since the late 19th Century

- Hetero/Homo

- Masculinity/Femininity

]

- Many people recognised life was more complex or “messy” than these narrow definitions of sexuality and gender.
- However, until very recently, these remained ‘dominant’ ‘public’ and ‘political’ understandings of sexuality and gender.

Complete List of all Tumblr Sexualities (So far)

By AOS Admin - March 8, 2016

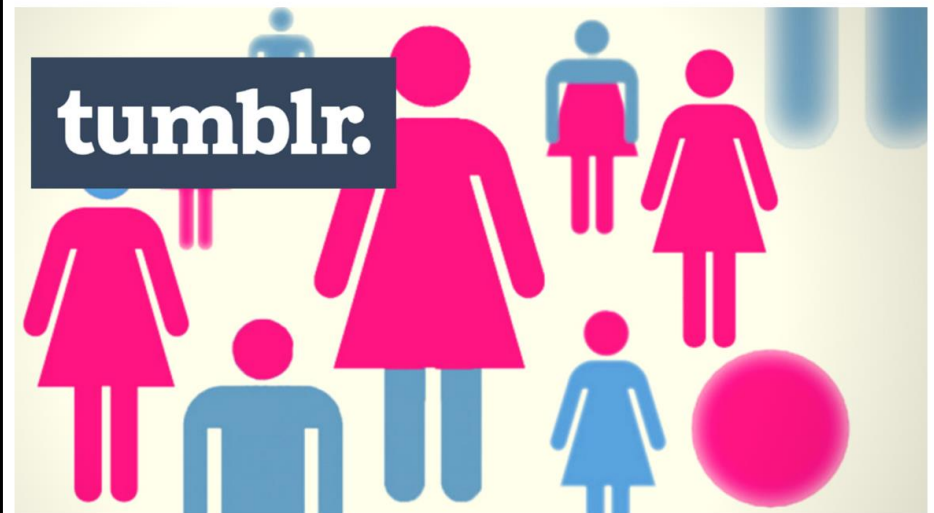
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Complete List of Tumblr Genders (SO FAR)

By AOS Admin - January 24, 2016

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Hundreds of sexuality and gender identity descriptors, defined, regularly updated.

New Labels: Emergent Gender/Sexual Identity Categories

Abimegender– A gender which is profound, deep, and infinite.
Absorgender– A gender that changes to conform to the genders of those around you. As you are around more people, even if some leave, they continue to add to the genders you feel. You remain as the genders that you have taken in until you hit a max of some sort. At that point you become like a blank slate, being only one gender (it doesn't have to be agender or neutral, it can be any gender and the base gender can be different each time).
If you absorb one gender more easily than other genders, you can replace gender in the term with the gender you absorb best. Like absorgirl, absornonbinary, absordemiboy, etc.
Adamasgender– A gender which refuses to be categorized.
Adeptgender– When your gender identity was obtained through your realization of your kinself. as in your kin realization spurred your gender realization. (note: the gender and kin type do not necessarily have to correlate with each other)
Aerogender– See *evaisgender*.
Aesthetgender– A gender derived from an aesthetic, also known as *videgender*.
Aethergender– A gender that feels very wide, commanding, breathtaking and powerful.
Affectgender– A gender affected by mood swings.
Agender– Having no gender or a lack of gender identity
Agenderfluid– See *cancegender*.
Agenderflux– See *librafluid*.
Alexigender– Gender identity which is fluid between more than one gender, but the individual cannot tell what those genders are.
Aliusgender– A gender which is removed from common gender descriptors and guidelines.
Ambigender– A feeling of two genders simultaneously, but without fluidity/shifting. May be used synonymously in some cases with bigender.
Amaregender– A gender that changes depending on who you're in love with.
Ambonec– Identifying as both man and woman, yet neither at the same time.
Amicagender– A gender that changes depending on which friend you're with at the moment.
Amogender– See *flirtgender*.
Amorgender– When your gender changes whilst in the presence of an individual to whom you have developed a deep connection for. This could be a romantic attraction, platonic connection, a spiritual affinity or anything similar.
Androgyne– Feeling in between, or a combination of, man and woman (or boy and girl).
Anesigender– Physically feeling like a certain gender but feeling more comfortable identifying as another.
Angelgender– A gender found only among angels, that is hard to describe to non-angels. For godkin and angelkin only.
Angental– A desire to be without primary sexual characteristics, without necessarily being genderless.
Anogender– A gender which fades in and out, but always comes back feeling the same.
Anongender– A gender that is unknown to both yourself and others.
Antegender– A protean gender which has the potential to be anything, but is formless and motionless, and, therefore, does not manifest as any particular gender.
Antigender– A gender which can only be described as the opposite of another gender, eg. an anti-boy being the opposite of a boy. Also known as *ungender*.
Anxigender– A gender affected by anxiety.
Anvisgender– See *apagender*.
Apagender– A feeling of apathy toward one's gender that causes one to have no desire to look further into it. Also known as *lethargender*, *inersgender* and *anvisgender*.
Apconsugender– A gender in which you know what it isn't, but not what it is, sort of like the gender is hiding itself from you.
Apogender– A subset of agender in which you feel not only genderless, but entirely removed from the concept of gender.
Apologender– When you have around 9 (can be anywhere from 6 to 10) different distinct feelings of gender that have combined into one big gender identity.

Aporagender– A gender separate from man/boy, woman/girl, and anything in between while still having a gendered feeling.
Aptugender– A gender which feels fitted and secured.
Aquarigender– A gender which is fluid between infinite feelings. Sometimes, these feelings may be close to an existing term, and sometimes they are indescribable or abstract. Also known as *genderflow*.
Archaigender– A gender that is ancient/old and big, and can either only be described with those words, or is correlated to them.
Arlfluid– See *arigender*.
Arigender– Switching between nonbinary genders while feeling particularly associated with one feeling. Also known as *arfluid*.
Arithmagender– A numerical gender. it can range from any number/s, positive, negative, decimals, fractions, etc.
Argogender– A subset of genderfluid wherein the changes between one's separate genders or the parts of one's gender happen gradually, or a gender that is defined by its slowness.
Astergender– A gender that feels bright and celestial.
Astralgender– A gender that feels connected to space.
Atmosgender– Having a gender which is present, but unable to be grasped or firmly defined.
Autigender– A gender which can only be understood in the context of being autistic.
Autogender– A gender experience that feels deeply personal to one's self.
Axigender– When a person experiences two genders that sit on opposite ends of an axis, one being agender and the other being any other gender; these genders are experienced one at a time with no overlapping and with very short transition time.
Batgender– See *nocturnalgender*.
Bigender– Identifying as two genders; may be static or fluid.
Bigenderfluid– Being bigender, with your gender fluctuating between the two.
Biogender– A gender that is connected to nature in some way.
Blizzgender– A gender that feels cold, snowy, and harsh. When it's paired to another gender, it's known as *wintegender*.
Boggender– A gender that feels like a bog, swamp, marsh or similar ecosystem. Also known as *swampgender*.
Bordergender/Borderfluid– A fluctuating gender experienced exclusively by people with BPD. A gender identity lacking a firm grasp on one's identity, while still experiencing gender, to varying degrees, but having trouble pinning it down to just one label or identity. Having the sense of grasping at labels as much as possible to describe a gender, one keeps questioning because one keeps second guessing one's sense of self and consequently, one's sense of gender.
Boyflux– When one feels mostly or all male most of the time but experiences fluctuating intensities of male identity. This can be fluid with any other identity.
Brevigender– A subset of genderfluid in which you feel your gender is never stable for long periods of time, but is constantly changing.
Burstgender– See *spikegender*.
Cadensgender– A gender that's easily influenced by music.
Cadogender– A subcategory of polygender identities (genderfluid, bigender, trigender, etc.) to have a gender to fall back on, or one that you always go back to.
Caedogender– A gender which has been "cut away" by a traumatic event.
Caelgender– A gender which shares qualities with outer space or has aesthetic similarities to space, stars, nebulas, etc.
Cancegender– Agender as "base" gender but experiences fluid/flxing gender feelings in tandem with their emotions. These gender feelings may confuse or upset the individual and cause their emotional state to go haywire, which causes more gender changes. Also known as *agenderfluid*.
Canisgender– A small, doglike gender.
Caprigender– A capricious, rapidly changing/untrackable gender.
Carmigender– A gender which is poetic and rhythmic in nature.
Cassflux– When your level of indifference towards your gender fluctuates.
Cassgender– Feeling as if the very concept of gender is unimportant to you.
Caveagender– Having a "trapped" or "imprisoned" gender.
Cavagender– For people with depression. You feel one gender when not depressed and another when depressed. The gender felt whilst depressed can be attached as a suffix (eg cavusboy, cavusgirl, cavusnonbinary, cavusace).

Cendgender– When your gender changes between one gender and its polar opposite, OR a gender that can be summed up as an unidentifiable thing which manifests as hundreds of different genders or none at all at any given time, at the same time and/or separately, fluid, and ever changing.
Cennedgender– A gender identity heavily influenced by one's parents.
Ceterofluid– When you are *ceterogender*, and your feelings fluctuate between masculine, feminine, and/or neutral.
Ceterogender– A nonbinary gender with specific masculine, or feminine, or neutral feelings. (Can be used as ceterogirl, ceteroboy, etc.)
Chaosgender– When your gender does a lot of things that have no identifiable pattern or logic.
Cheiragender– A fluid gender that is always or often in opposition to its owner's desires, or is manipulative towards its owner.
Circgender– A gender that feels so magical and grand as to be indescribable.
Cloudgender– A gender which can't be fully realized or seen clearly due to depersonalization/derealization disorder(s).
Cocoogender– A gender that has not come out yet, or has yet to emerge in its full form.
Cogitofluid– A gender that is fluid only when one thinks about it.
Cogitogender– A gender that only exists when you think about it, is quiet until called to attention, or is characterized as feeling genderless until a gender is consciously chosen.
Coigender– A gender that feels like it "is on mute".
Collgender– Having too many simultaneous genders to describe each one.
Colorgender– A gender associated with one or more colors and the feelings, hues, emotions, and/or objects associated with that color. Can be categorized by the specific color(s), such as pinkgender, violetgender, etc.
Comgender– To experience gender, polar opposite of agender.
Commogender– When you know you aren't cisgender, but you settle for your assigned gender for the time being, e.g. commoboy or commogirl.
Condigender– A gender only felt under certain circumstances.
Contigender– A gender that flows through space and time and constantly changes and is always moving, OR a gender of, or related to, space and time.
Corugender– A gender affected by flashbacks.
Cosmicgender– A gender so vast and/or complicated that it can only be processed a bit at a time; a gender you cannot experience all at once. Infinite in its possibility, it may contain relevant subgenders that define a part of the vast whole.
Cryptogender– Gender identity that one can't discern, describe or define in words and confuses or puzzles the owner.
Crystagender– A fluid gender that is experienced as one's gender being fractured or broken into pieces and put back together again.
Cyclogender– A gender identity that changes with one's menstrual cycle.
Daimogender– A gender closely related to demons and the supernatural.
Deaboy– for masculine-identified or partially masculine-identified people that still feel a connection to feminine energy due to their spirituality. Intended for pagans but is a possibility amongst anyone who practices goddess worship or feminine energy worship of any kind.
Delphigender– A mysterious, obscure and sinister gender.
Demifluid/flux– Having multiple genders where some are static and others are fluid/flux.
Demigender– Feeling partially one gender, and partially something else, ex. demiboy, demigirl, etc. The "something else" may or may not be known.
Digigender– A digital gender. It can range from any digital thing or file; virus, mp3, .txt, etc., often for techkin.
Diurnagender– See *flowergender*.
Domgender– Being multiple genders with one specific gender emerging as the predominant one, e.g. domboy, domgirl, domnonbinary.
Drakefluid– When your gender fluctuates, but you can't find just a few terms to describe what your fluctuating gender is, so you "hoard" gender terms that fit you. To be used by dragonkin individuals only.
Dryagender– A form of agender that is best represented by an empty, tranquil forest.
Dulcigender– An aesthetically-centered gender that is associated largely with stereotypically feminine things (such as pinks, frills, buns, and general cute things).
Duragender– A subcategory of polygender (genderfluid, bigender, trigender, etc) with an identifiable, long lasting gender that is more prominent than the other genders experienced.

New Labels: Emergent Gender/Sexual Identity Categories

Fin: feeling attraction to fem(me) identifying people

Fray: only experiencing attraction towards those you are less familiar with; the feeling is lost when they become closer or more familiar; the opposite of demi-

Gerontosexuality: Attraction primarily to elderly people.

Grey: the feeling of usually not having any attraction except occasionally depending on the situation; typically paired with asexual and aromantic

Gray-A:

1) do not normally experience sexual attraction, but can sometimes.

2) Have sexual attraction but a low sex drive

3) Have sexual attraction and drive but no desire to act upon it.

4) Those who have sexual attraction and drive but only under limited and specific circumstances.

Alternative definition:

Gray-A: (also spelled "Grey-A") is a gray area between asexuality and sexuality

Gynephilia is an attraction primarily toward women or feminine-inclined people.

Gynosexual: Sexual attraction towards **women** or those with feminine characteristics.

Heteroflexible: the feeling of having mostly hetero- attraction yet having an openness for other genders

Heterosexual: the feeling of being attracted to a gender other than your own

Homosexual: the feeling of being attracted to your own gender

Iculasexual: being asexual but open to having sex

Intrasexual: a member of a multiple system who is only attracted, romantically or sexually, to other members of the same system. "Intraromantic" is a more commonly-used term, due to the difficulties of two members of the same system engaging in a sexual relationship.

Idemromantic: being able to categorize others as having either a platonic or romantic attraction based on outside factors yet feeling no difference in the type of attraction

Kalosexual: the desire to have a sexual relationship yet never feeling sexual attraction; part of the ace spectrum

Lamvano: feeling no desire to do sexual/romantic things to someone, but wanting to be on the receiving end; opposite of placio-

Lesbian: someone who identifies fully or partially as a woman who is attracted to other fully or partially identified women

Limno: experiencing attraction towards depictions of attraction (writing or drawings) but not the physical acts

Ma: feeling attraction to men

Menosexual: A little-known orientation, menosexuality is attraction primarily or entirely to people who are menstruating. It is the opposite of antihaemosexuality.

Min: feeling attraction to masculine identifying people

Multisexuality: a sexual orientation wherein one is only attracted to members of multiple systems. In some cases, a multisexual is only attracted to one member of a system; in others, they may be attracted to several members of the same system, to everyone in the same system, or to people from separate systems. One thing all multisexuals have in common, though, is that they only experience romantic or sexual attraction toward members of multiple systems.

Neu: feeling attraction towards people who are genderless

Nin: feeling attraction towards androgynous identifying people

Nocisma: feeling attraction to everyone except cis men because of associated oppression

Noma: experiencing attraction to every gender except for self identifying men

Novi: feeling complicated attraction or lack thereof in such a way that it is difficult or impossible to fit into one word or term

Novo: when one's orientation changes with gender

Nowo: experiencing attraction to every gender except for self identifying women

Only 90's kids will remember
these genders



Traditional frames of attraction:

Sexual attraction (“I want to have sex with you”)

Romantic attraction (“I want to date you”)



THE PBHS CLOSET

SEXUALITIES

as a few other LGBT+ terms) and their definitions

SEXUALITY

Romantic Orientation- Who you are romantically attracted to meaning wanting to be in a romantic relationship with and is unrelated to sexual attraction.

Sexual Orientation- Who you are sexually attracted to meaning who you get turned on by or who you would want to engage in sexual behaviors with.

Newer frames of attraction:

Sexual attraction (“I want to have sex with you”)

Romantic attraction (“I want to date you”)

Aesthetic attraction (“I want to look at you”)

Sensual attraction (“I want to hug you”)

Platonic attraction (“I want to be friends with you”)

Alterous attraction (“emotional closeness that is neither platonic nor romantic but sits within a grey area between the two”)

Queer Generations: Interviews and Focus Groups (1970s)

Broadly: “I identify as L/G/B/Q, but” (clarification / experience / nuance).

Queer Generations: Interviews and Focus Groups (1990s)

“I identify as bisexual. Previously, was identifying as lesbian but then my partner was like, ‘I’m **non-binary**’ and I was like, ‘Okay, so I need to re-adjust or re-identify here.’”

“I’m 22, and I identify as **asexual**. So um, that was a learning process for me, going through high school just figuring that something was just fucked up, but figured out a couple of years ago what it was.”

“I identify as **gender fluid, um demi-sexual, bi-romantic, pan-romantic**, but I’ve always gone by bi, so I just say **bi-romantic**. Um, I would like to study youth work, probably like next year.”

Challenging the Dominant – critiquing the “just x..”

- These are not “**just theatrics**” but deeply-felt attachments to specific identity articulations. *Performative, negotiated, reiterative, policed.*
- These are not “**just online**” articulations (Virtual) in contrast to an embodied traditional hetero/homo or LGBT identity (Real)—that contrast is no longer meaningful.

The identity labels expressed by (particularly but not exclusively) younger people are:

- Deeply felt, meaningful—dignity, respect, recognition
- Challenge older gender/sexual knowledge frameworks,
- Have implications for education and health service provision, client relations, inclusivity.

Common Criticisms

- 1. Simplistic/ridicule:** a range of labels will lead to the legitimization of bestiality (apparently...)
 - “If I had a dollar for every gender I’d have two dollars and a pile of counterfeits” (Facebook comment)
 - The problem of the “**alphabet soup**” claim.

- 2. Political:** New labels **complexify** strategic political arguments (LGBTIQ)
 - Pro- Marriage Equality advocacy
 - e.g., call for ‘simple message’ same-sex and opposite-sex marriage as two available positions.
 - Anti- *Safe Schools Coalition*
 - e.g., common journalistic (*The Australian!*) mis-reading that SSC curriculum over-complexifies sexuality/gender, claims it is a result of “Cultural Marxism” (collapsing Mxm/QT).

Criticisms

3. **Lenore Bell (2017):** More substantial criticism based on justice claims:
 - New labels are primarily expressed by comfortable “middle class” white western persons with the freedom to experiment beyond tight political coalitions.
 - New labels are founded on competitive claims around who is “more oppressed than the next” [Neoliberal purchase of “oppression claims”]

4. **Rob / Labour / Surveillance:** Added “labour” involved in talking about gender/sexuality and justifying one’s identity. Some examples of young people ‘policing’ each others identity claims online. Nascent discussions of stress and anxiety related to identity ‘choosing’.

What are the conditions that make these new labels possible?

Sexual Citizenship

- Growing sense that people are encouraged “to define themselves both in terms of personal and collective identities by their sexual attributes, and to claim recognition, rights and respect as a consequence” (Weeks 1998).
 - Those who previously “fell through gaps” or were excluded in LGBTQ formulations can be better represented/included/named.
 - More-nuanced accounts can produce more nuanced ‘rights’ (e.g., *non-binary gender definitions in passports*)
 - Digital networking helps the marginal-within-the-marginal to talk about identities and develop ways of recognising similarities with others (e.g., *Tumblr*).

Implications for Health Service Providers

Health and mental health service providers:

- Younger people using labels as short-hand that is not easily recognised by their health service providers
- “Change” across labels and identifications more common
- Difficulty keeping up with explanatory frameworks of gender/sexuality
- Anxious not to offend client
- Simplified HIV-prevention related labels (e.g. MSM) no longer useful as basic categories in health research, as both gender (M) and sexuality (S) may no longer be sensible for many young people.

WUN Project: “Resilience among health service providers providing a service to gender- and sexually-diverse young people”.