

# Components of Gender and Sexual Identity



**1. Sex:** Our biological "package" (chromosomes, genitalia, hormones, etc.)



**Female**

**Intersex**

**Male**

**2. Gender Identity:** The psychological knowledge of our gender (regardless of "the package")

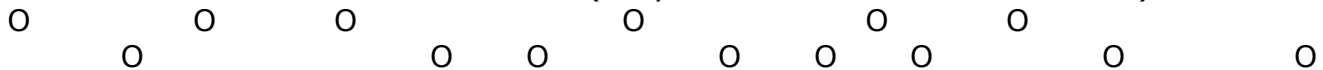


**Woman**

**Neither/Both/Genderqueer/Other**

**Man**

**3. Gender Expression:** How we tell others our gender using commonly understood cultural and social cues (may be conscious or unconscious)

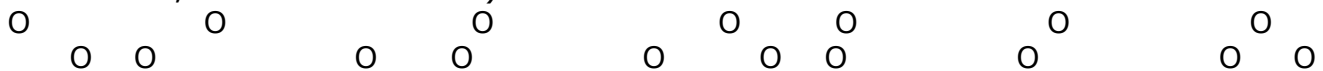


**Feminine**

**Androgynous**

**Masculine**

**4. Sexual Orientation:** Who we are attracted to (attraction may be affectional, romantic or erotic)

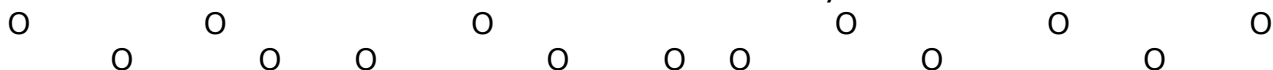


**Attracted to Men**

**Bisexual/Pansexual/Asexual**

**Attracted to Women**

**5. Sexual Behaviors:** What we do sexually



**With Men**

**With Both/With No one/With Anyone**

**With Women**

\* Based on the work of Shively & DeCecco, Components of Sexual Identity Journal of Homosexuality, 1977, Vol. 3 p. 41-48

"There isn't really one simple way to sort out males and females...humans like categories neat, but nature is a slob." - Alice Dreger, Professor of Medical Humanities and Bioethics at Northwestern University