

Gender Identity and Transgender Participants in Treatment Court

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DISCLOSURE

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Points of views or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Why this session? To help you:

1. Identify where **disparities** occur with transgender participants in treatment court.
2. Learn the difference between **sexual orientation, sexual Identity, and gender identity**.
3. Identify several **treatment needs** of transgender treatment court participants
4. Recognize **specific barriers** to meeting the needs of transgender treatment court participants.
5. Identify **specific strategies** to overcoming the barriers to meeting the needs of transgender participants.

Let's Check-In

1) My name is _____

2) My pronouns are _____

3) For me, it's important to understand the needs of transgender participants in treatment court because _____



What is Gender?

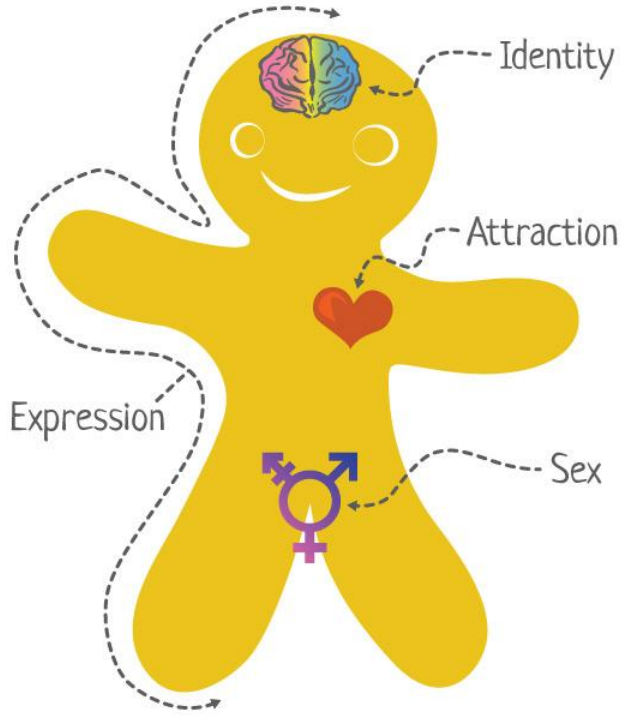
Photo credit: <https://phaylen.medium.com/meet-mmamoriri-the-transgender-lioness-bc729ab0a9a4>



Gender Diversity

- ❖ Genotype- genetic composition
- ❖ Phenotype - physical traits
- ❖ Hormones - chemical
- ❖ Assigned at birth
- ❖ Self

The Genderbread Person v3.3 by its pronounced METROsexual.com



Gender Identity



Woman-ness

Man-ness



Gender Expression



Feminine

Masculine



Biological Sex



Female-ness

Male-ness

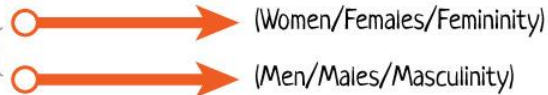
Sexually Attracted to



(Women/Females/Femininity)

(Men/Males/Masculinity)

Romantically Attracted to



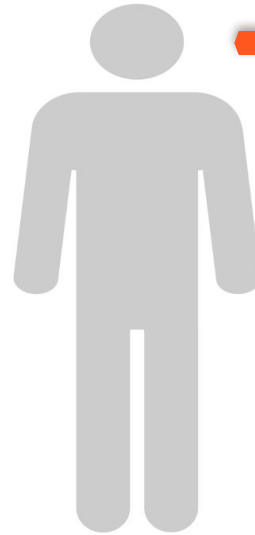
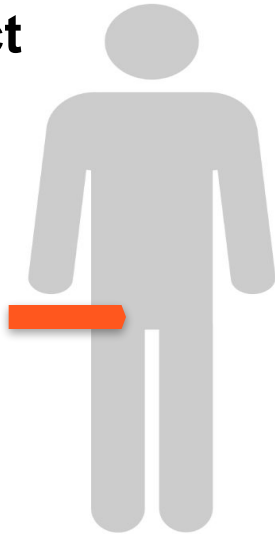
(Women/Females/Femininity)

(Men/Males/Masculinity)

CONSTRUCTS OF GENDER IDENTITY

Biological Construct

Gender identity
begins here

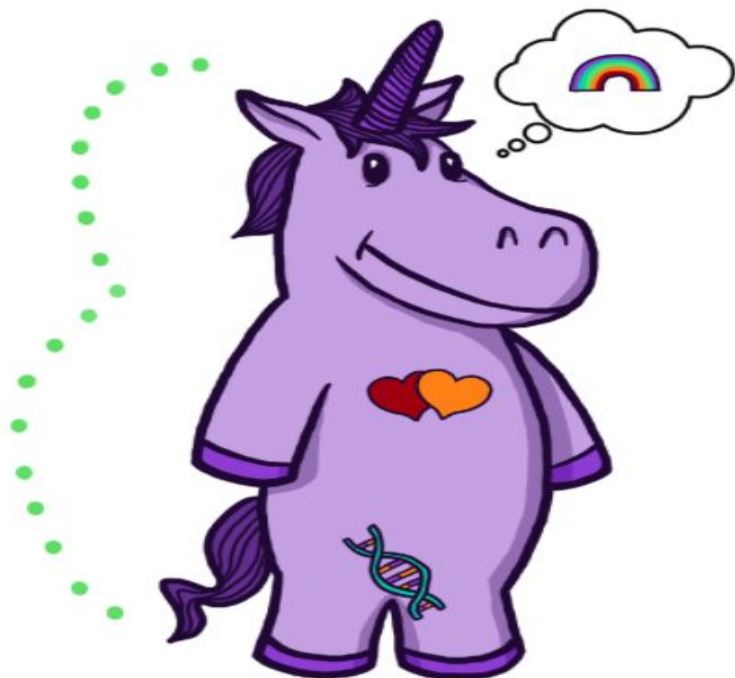


Gender identity
begins here

Person-centered Construct

The Gender Unicorn

Graphic by:
TSER
Trans Student Educational Resources



Gender Identity



Female / Woman / Girl

Male / Man / Boy

Other Gender(s)



Gender Expression



Feminine

Masculine

Other



Sex Assigned at Birth

Female

Male

Other / Intersex



Physically Attracted to



Women

Men

Other Gender(s)



Emotionally Attracted to



Women

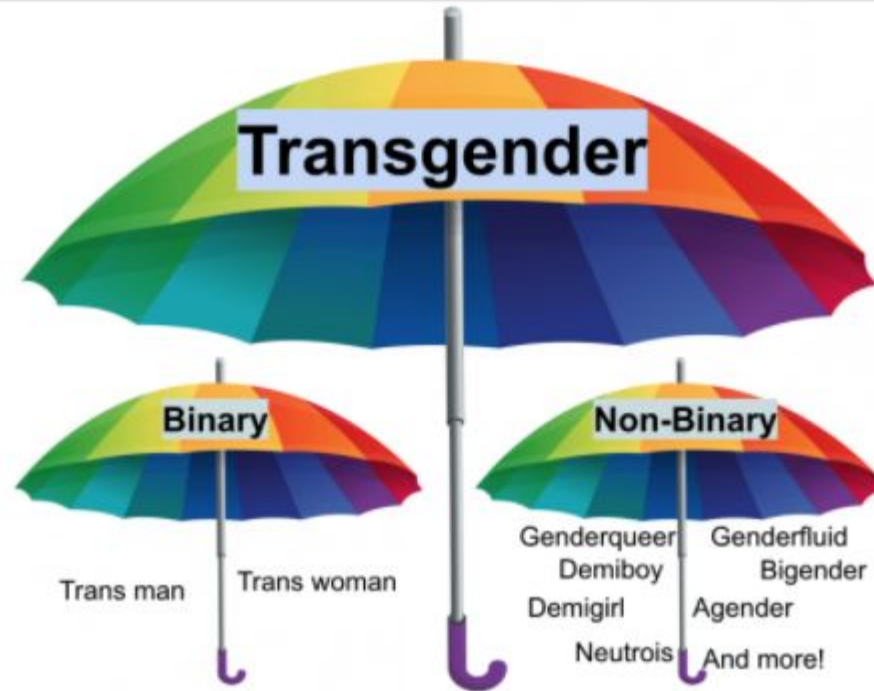
Men

Other Gender(s)

To learn more, go to:
www.transstudent.org/gender

Design by Landyn Pan and Anna Moore





Source: <https://alterheros.com/en/home/>

Transgender People and the Criminal Justice System

___ percent of U.S. adults reporting having spent time in prison or jail

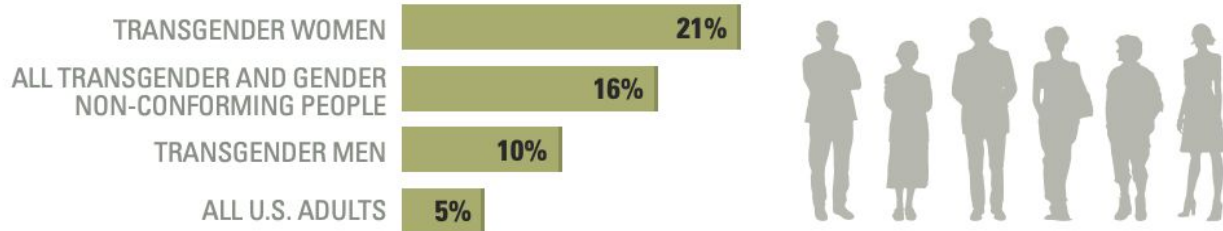
- a) 2%
- b) 16%
- c) 5%
- d) 10%

___ percent of all transgender and gender non-conforming people reporting having spent time in prison or jail

- a) 2%
- b) 16%
- c) 5%
- d) 10%

TRANSGENDER PEOPLE ARE OVERREPRESENTED

PERCENT OF ADULTS REPORTING TIME SPENT IN PRISON OR JAIL



WHY ARE TRANSGENDER PEOPLE OVERREPRESENTED?

TRANSGENDER PEOPLE ARE MORE VULNERABLE

Family Rejection & Homelessness



Unsafe Schools & Unfair Disciplinary Policies



Pervasive Discrimination in All Areas of Life



Employment



Housing



Identity Documents



Health Care

TRANSGENDER PEOPLE ARE MORE VULNERABLE

Family Rejection & Homelessness



Unsafe Schools & Unfair Disciplinary Policies



Pervasive Discrimination in All Areas of Life



Employment



Housing



Identity Documents



Health Care

TRANSGENDER PEOPLE ARE PUSHED INTO THE SYSTEM

Bad Laws



- HIV Criminalization Laws
- Drug Laws
- Criminalization of Sex Work

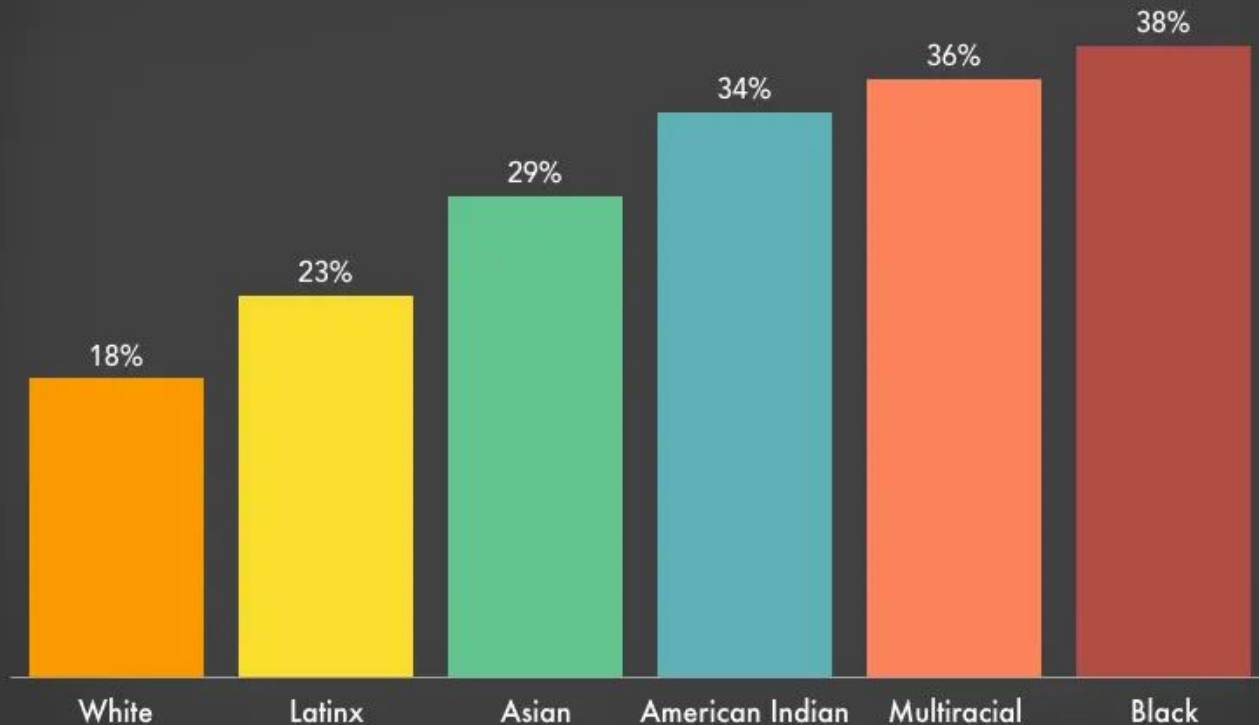
Policing Strategies



- Profiling
- Collaboration Between Police and Immigration Enforcement
- Misgendering and Inaccurate Identity Documents
- Discrimination and Mistreatment
- Violence When Seeking Assistance

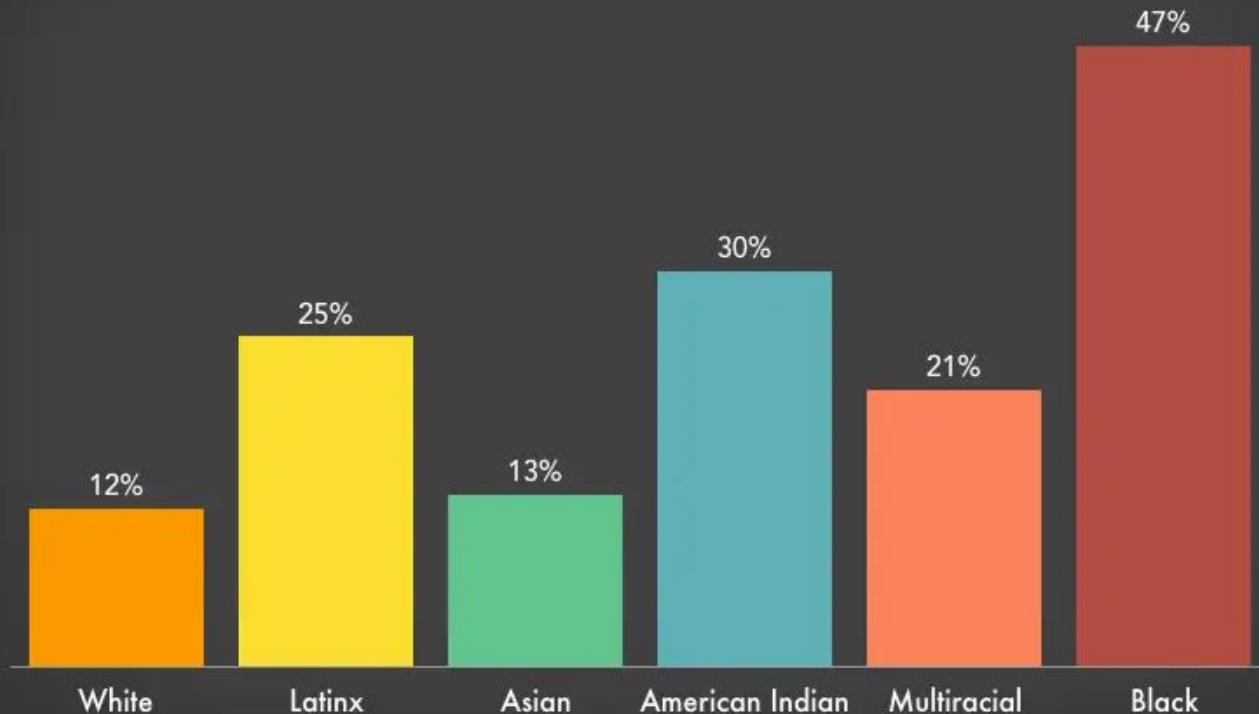
BIPOC transgender people are disproportionately harassed by police

Percentage of transgender people who have had police interactions and report being harassed by police, by race



BIPOC transgender people have especially high lifetime rates of incarceration

Percentage of transgender people, by race, who have ever been sent to prison or jail for any reason



Transgender People and Substance Use

A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a beige ribbed turtleneck sweater, is sitting on a dark brown couch. She is looking out a window with a view of greenery and a blue sky. Her hand is resting near her face, and she has a thoughtful expression. The background is slightly blurred, showing a window with a view of trees and a blue sky.

DEFINING MOMENTS

with OZY:

Dominique Jackson

A Hulu Original Documentary

**Listening to Dominique's story...
what are some of the health and safety needs of transgender
people seeking treatment for substance use disorder?**

Culturally Relevant Strategies and Self-Assessment

TGNC-Affirming Clinical Skills Self-Assessment Tool

Nadal's 10 distinct microaggression classifications (2013) highlighted for transgender and gender non-conforming (TGNC) people:

-  **1. Using Transphobic Terminology**
-  **2. Endorsing Gender Normative Culture and Behavior**
-  **3. Assumption of Universal Transgender Experience**
-  **4. Exoticization**
-  **5. Discomfort with or Disapproval of Transgender Experience**
-  **6. Assumption of Sexual Pathology, Deviance, or Abnormality**
-  **7. Denial of the Reality of Transphobia**
-  **8. Physical Threats or Harassment**
-  **9. Denial of Bodily Privacy**
-  **10. Systemic Microaggressions**

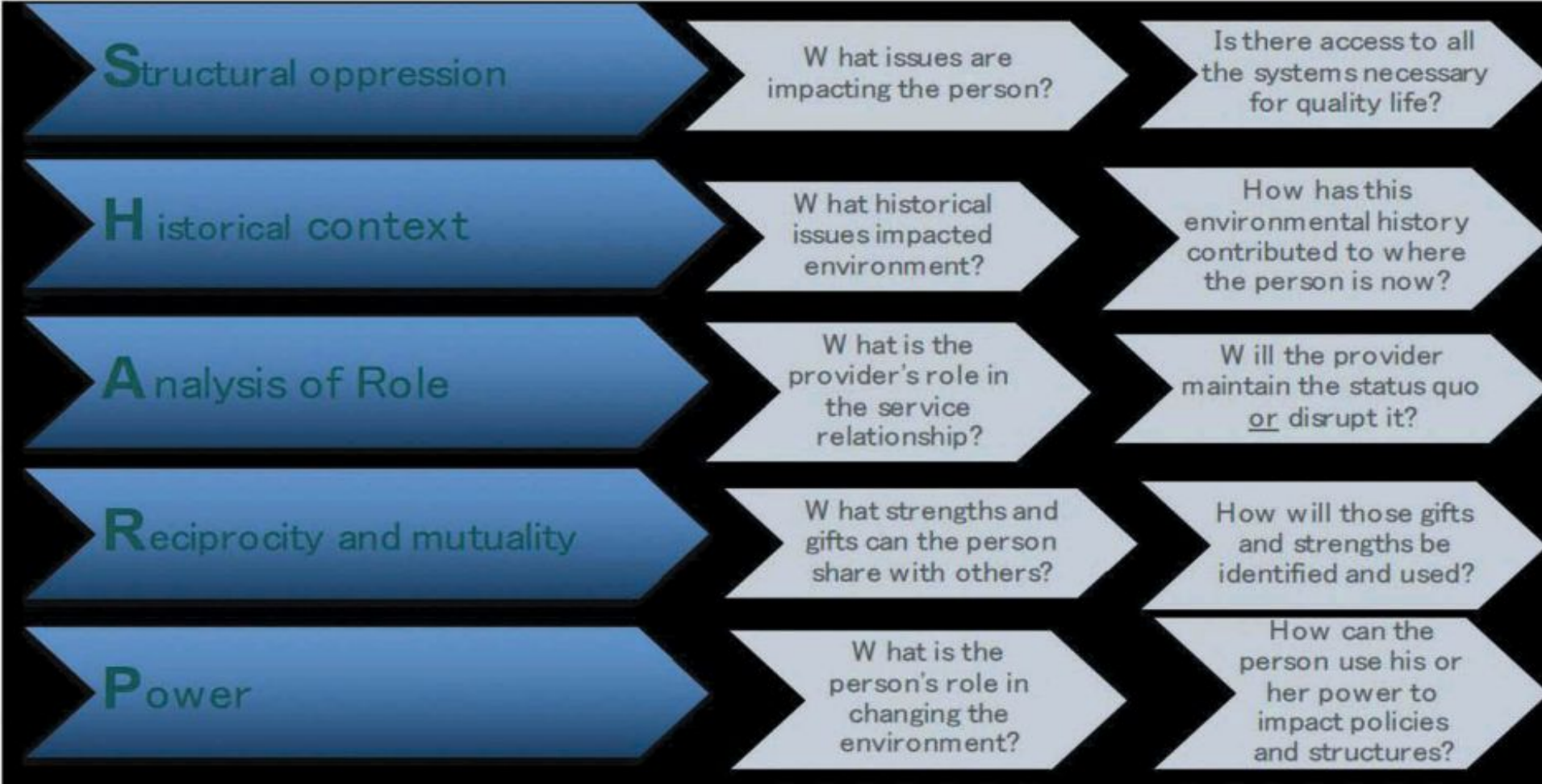


Figure 1. The SHARP framework (Shaia, 2019).



We know the
streets.

We know your
struggle.

ARE YOU MEMBER OF THE TLGBQIA COMMUNITY
IN SURVIVAL MODE, OR
EXPERIENCING HOUSING INSECURITIES?

BALTIMORE SAFE HAVEN IS HERE FOR YOU.

<https://www.baltimoresafehaven.org/>



Photo by [No Revisions](#) on [Unsplash](#)

**“I can’t keep track
of all the
pronouns. I’m just
going to call you
by your name.”**

=

**“I don’t see
color. I treat
everyone the
same.”**



PRONOUNS

Meeting the needs of Transgender participants in Treatment Courts

- Share your **pronouns**, invite participants to share theirs
- Use their pronouns (**practice saying they/theirs *before*** participants shares their pronouns)
- Use **gender neutral language**
- **Do a program audit**
 - ◆ at every interaction point, how can this be safe for transgender and gender non-conforming participants?

Person First Language

Instead of Saying This...	Say This...
“Real” sex, “real” gender	Sex assigned at birth
a Transgender	Transgender person
Transgenders	Transgender people
Transgendered	Transgender
MtF, used to be a man, born a male	Transgender woman
FtM, used to be a woman, born a female	Transgender man
Sex change, pre-operation, post-operation	Medical transition
Crossdresser, transvestite	Genderqueer
Hermaphrodite	Intersex person

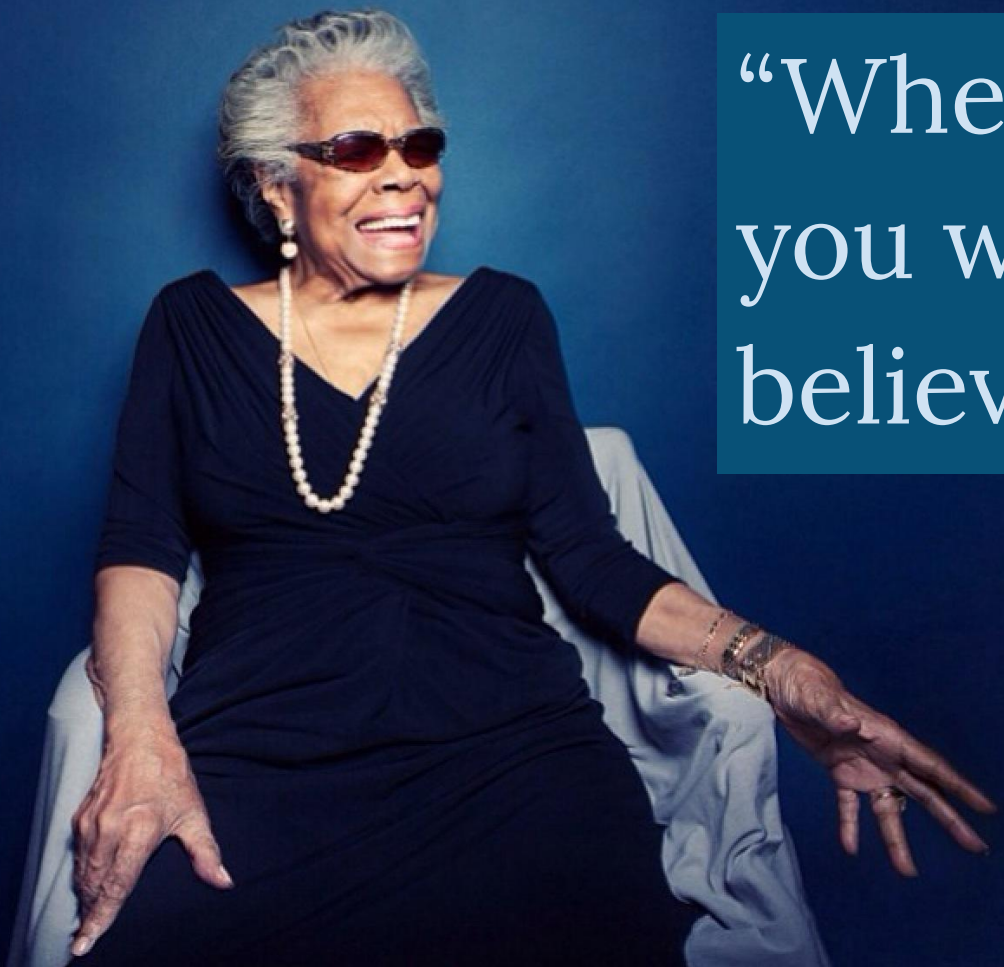
Meeting the needs of Transgender participants in Treatment Courts

- Focus on the **strengths** and **unique needs** of transgender people
- Connect with transgender supports in the community
- Make it welcoming and affirming for transgender people to be who they are
- If you misgender, apologize and move on quickly
- Ask transgender, non-binary and gender nonconforming folks what they need



**Randall Leonard, they/them, LCSW,
licensed clinical therapist**

Photo credit: Randall Leonard Buzzfeed April 3, 2020



“When people show
you who they are,
believe them.”

– Maya Angelou



Miss Major Griffin-Gracy is a veteran of the infamous Stonewall Riots, a former sex worker, and a survivor of Dannemora Prison and Bellevue Hospital’s “queen tank.” Her global legacy of activism is rooted in her own experiences, and she continues her work to uplift transgender women of color, particularly those who have survived incarceration and police brutality.

Image credit: Mickalene Thomas

Dr. Rachel Levine has been sworn in as a four-star admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, which she was already leading in her role as assistant secretary.



Image Credit: Nate Palmer for The New York Times

Raffi Freedman-Gurspan is an American transgender rights activist and the first out transgender person to work as a White House staffer. She was also the first out transgender legislative staffer to work in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. She currently serves as director of external relations at the National Center for Transgender Equality

Image Credit: NetRoots Nation





Thank you!

Photo credit: nbcnews.com March 26, 2019

May the transgender and gender
non-conforming participants in your treatment
court
feel seen, welcomed and affirmed