

TITLE – SEXUAL ORIENTATION VS GENDER IDENTITY (PAGE)

DATE:
31/3/25



In today's lesson we will:

- Outline the key differences between a person's gender identity and their sexual orientation.
- Learn the difference between sex and gender through learning about the Gender Recognition Act.
- To challenge prejudices and stereotypes that are out there today.



TODAY'S
BIG
QUESTION

Why is it important for everyone to be able to be themselves and not be discriminated against?

DEFINITIONS TO CLARIFY FOR TODAY'S LESSON

WRITE THE KEY WORD IN WITH THE CORRECT DEFINITION ON PAGE 17



- "Discrimination"** Discrimination is unfair treatment of one person or group of people. It is treating someone unfairly based on one of 9 protected (by law) characteristics – age, disability, **gender reassignment**, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, **sex**, and **sexual orientation**
- "Sex"** is the term we use to refer to a person's sexual anatomy (his or her sexual body parts). So, if a doctor were to say that a girl is female in terms of her sex chromosomes, her sex organs, and hormonal make-up, the doctor is referring to the girl's sex (her body)
- "Gender"** is the term we use to refer to how a person feels about themselves as a boy/man, as a girl/woman or non-binary (neither male nor female). Gender identity is the term for how a person self-identifies.
- "Gender reassignment"** is one of the protected characteristics and covers those who are trans and reassigning their sex by changing physiological or other attributes of sex as well as a person moving away from the sex they were born as, which includes those who are non-binary or anywhere on the spectrum.
- "Pronoun"** Pronouns are words we use in everyday language to refer to ourselves or others. They can be an important way to express your gender identity. 'I', 'me', 'she/her', 'he/him' and 'they/them' are some examples of pronouns. 'They' has been used as a singular pronoun since 1375! We use a singular 'they', 'them' or 'their' often. For example, if you find a jacket that was left behind in the office, you may ask: 'Did someone leave their jacket here? 'They' is considered a gender-neutral pronoun, compared to pronouns like 'he/him' or 'she/her' which are generally perceived as gendered terms.
- "Sexuality or Sexual orientation"** this term refers to those you are attracted to and who you feel drawn to romantically, emotionally and sexually. Gender identity is who you are, and sexual orientation is who you are attracted to. For example; your gender identity may be a female and you may be physically attracted to females, you may be non-binary and attracted to males.



DISCUSSION
QUESTION #1 FOR
TODAY

USE THE SPACE AT
THE TOP OF PAGE 18
TO WRITE DOWN
YOUR IDEAS

Have you ever been in a situation
where everyone else disagrees or
questions your choice over
something?

Taste in music, food, sports,
clothing etc...

How did it make you feel?



Time to talk

We discuss ideas, not individuals. No one has to share personal experiences. Respect and kindness come first.

Pair yourself A&B

Discuss the following:

How do you think it must feel for someone who has their gender identity questioned and challenged?

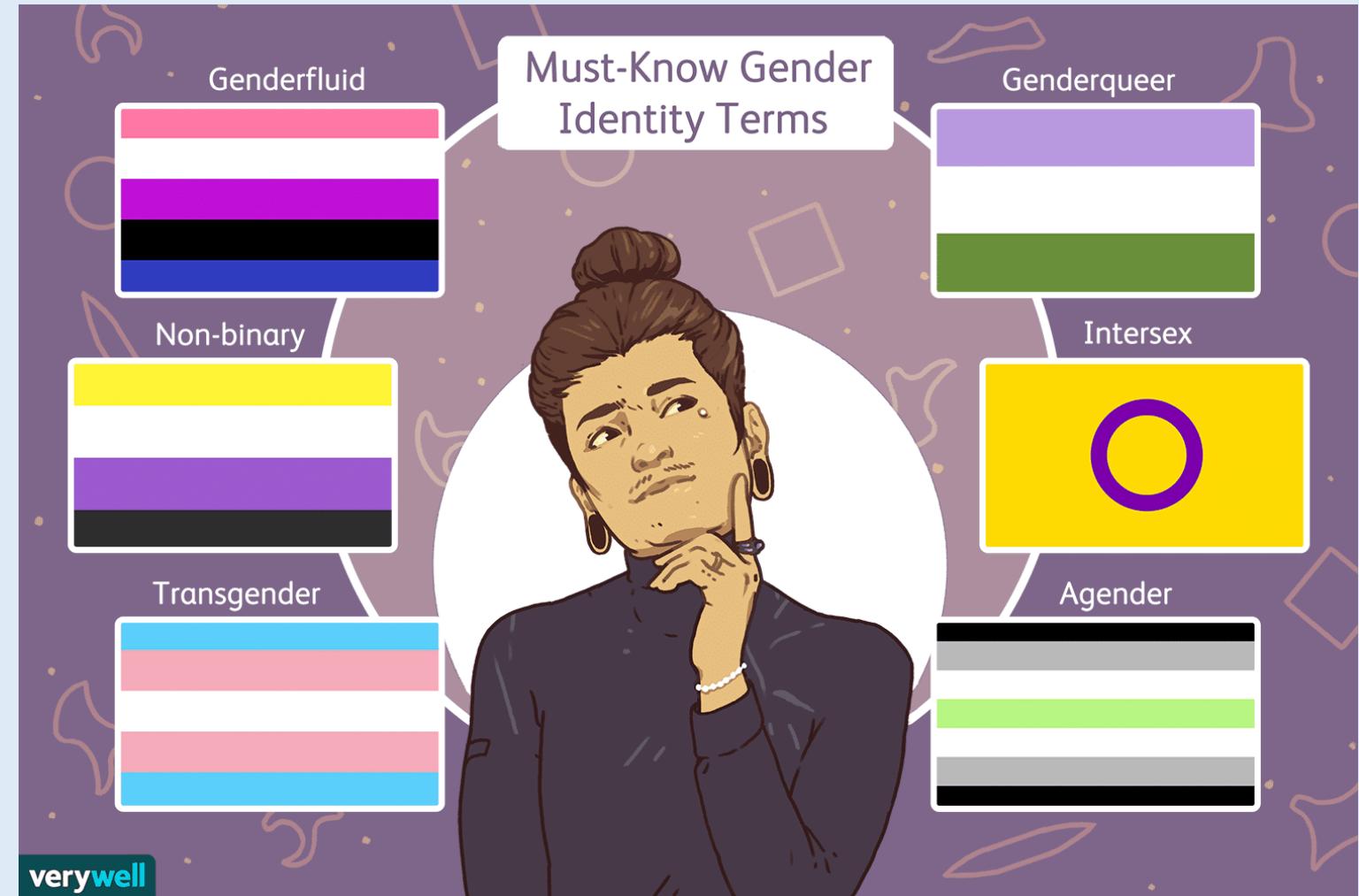
Discussion prompts:

I think it might feel _____ if someone's gender identity was questioned.

- Someone might feel upset because _____.
- Being challenged about who you are could make a person feel _____.
- If people didn't accept my identity, I might feel _____.
- I imagine it would be hard because _____.
- Someone in this situation might feel worried about _____.
- It could affect someone's confidence by _____.
- Feeling accepted is important because _____.

GENDER IDENTITY

Now we have looked at some key definitions and had a chance to empathise and put ourselves in the shoes of another. Let's educate and empower ourselves



Gender-Queer =

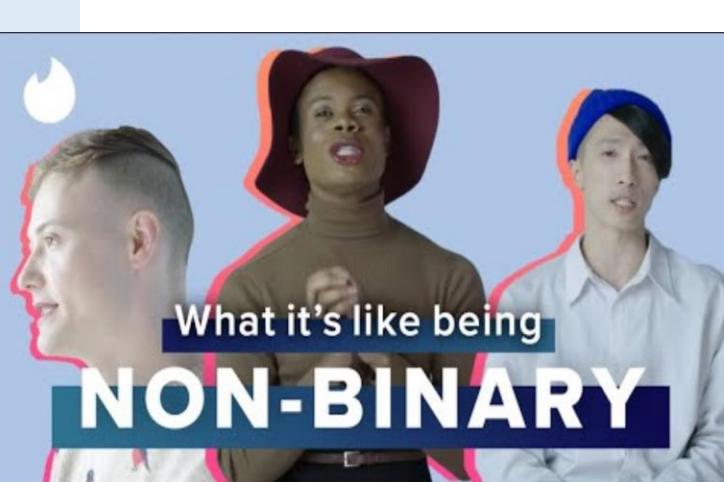
Genderqueer means someone who doesn't follow binary gender norms.

Cis gender = you identify with the sex you were born as (a baby born with male anatomy identifying as a male)

Gender Fluid = Gender-fluid people are people whose gender changes over time. A gender-fluid person might identify as a woman one day and a man the next.

GENDER IDENTITY KEY TERMS
MAKE NOTES OF WHAT THEY MEAN ON PAGE 18 OF YOUR BOOKLET

Non-Binary = a person whose gender falls outside the traditional male/ female binary



[CLICK HERE TO WATCH VIDEO](#)

Agender = A person who does not identify with gender

CLICK TO FIND OUT WHAT EACH TERM MEANS

Transgender = An umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth.

Transgender man

A term used to describe someone who is assigned female at birth but identifies and lives as a man. This may be shortened to trans man, or FTM, an abbreviation for female-to-male.

Transgender woman

A term used to describe someone who is assigned male at birth but identifies and lives as a woman. This may be shortened to trans woman, or MTF, an abbreviation for male-to-female.

WHAT IS THE GENDER RECOGNITION ACT? Page 19



- ❑ As things stand, if you are legally recognised as male and wish to be legally regarded as female, the law for you is the 2004 Gender Recognition Act (GRA).
- ❑ It allows for the issuing of a gender recognition certificate subject to conditions: you need to live as another gender for at least two years, and have your transition confirmed by a doctor, who either diagnoses gender dysphoria (a medical condition) *or* affirms that you've had surgery to change your sexual characteristics.
- ❑ Some find this law unreasonable. They object to having what they see as a matter of personal identity 'medicalised': why should they need a doctor's approval to be recognised as the person they feel themselves to be?

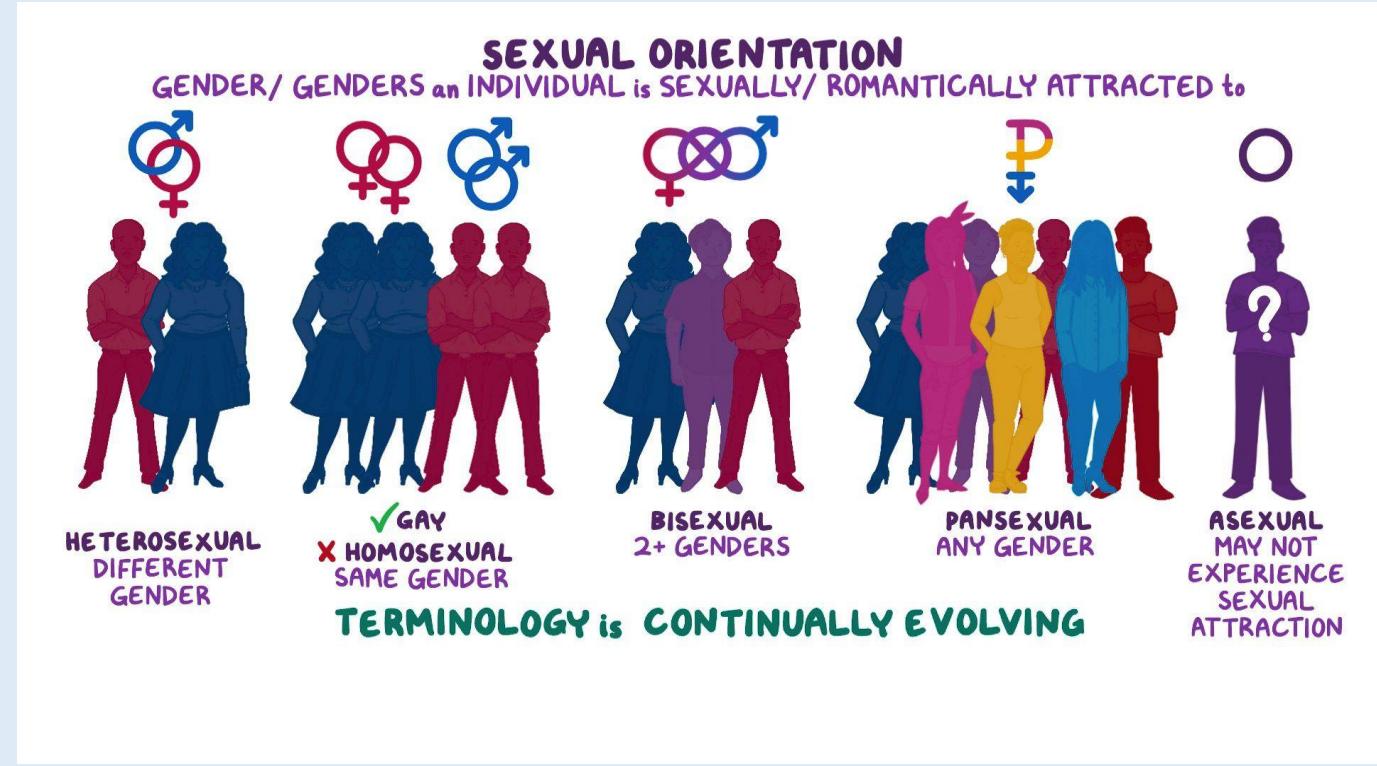
Task

What is the Gender Recognition Act?

What is the Process someone would have to follow to gain a Gender Recognition Certificate?

SEXUAL OREINTATION

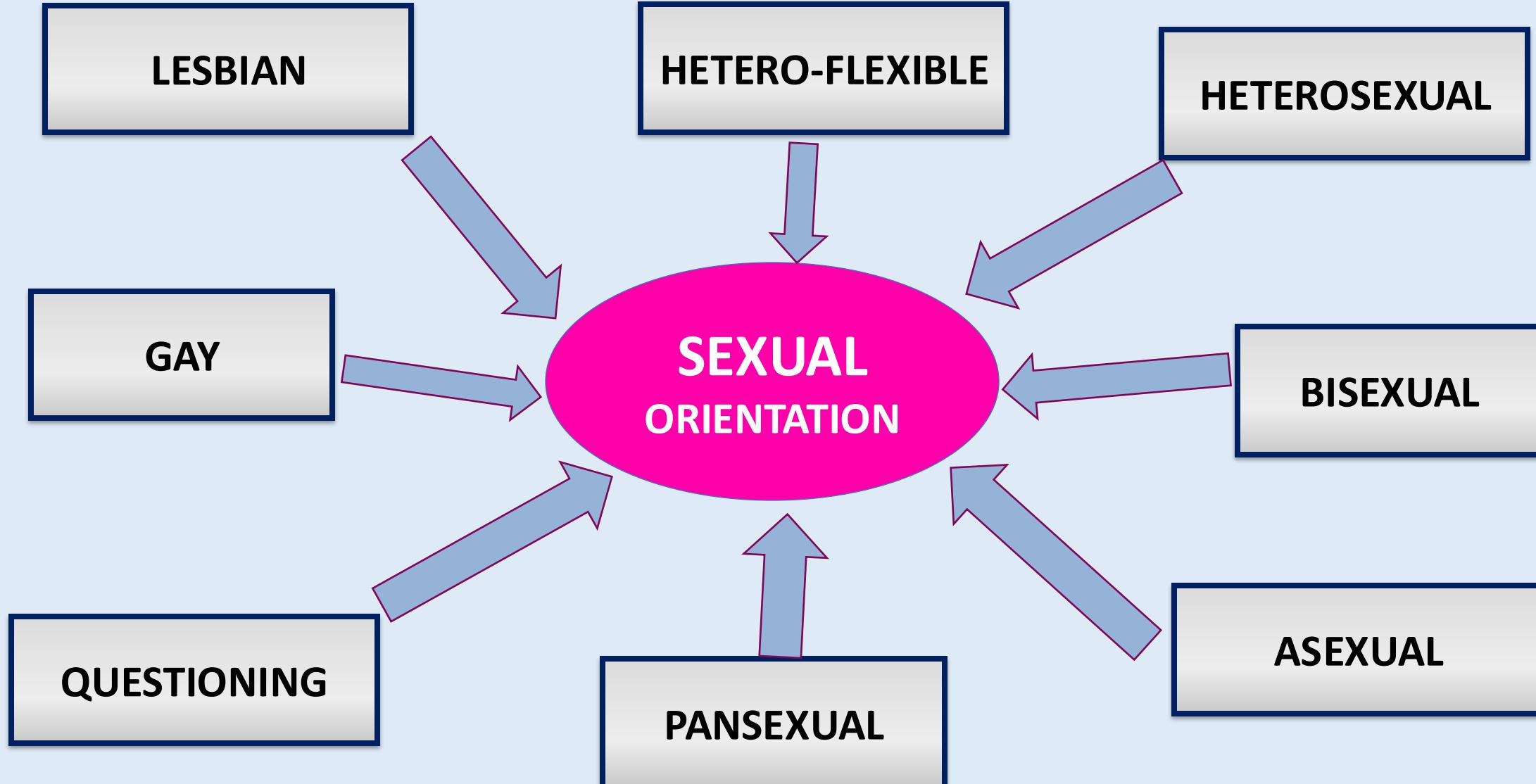
Now we have looked at how we can be more understanding of how we identify, let's look at how this is different to a person's sexual orientation.



REMEMBER - "Sexuality or Sexual orientation" this term refers to those you are attracted to and who you feel drawn to romantically, emotionally and sexually. **Gender identity is who you are, and sexual orientation is who you are attracted to.** For example; your gender identity may be a female and you may be physically attracted to females, you may be non-binary and attracted to males.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION? - PAGE 19

[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT ABOUT
SOME OF THESE TERMS \(YOU CAN
STOP AFTER 5 MIN 30\)](#)



Find out definitions on the next slide

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION?

LESBIAN – a female who is attracted to other females only

HETERO-FLEXIBLE – mostly heterosexual but finds the same sex attractive

HETEROSEXUAL – attracted to the opposite sex

GAY – a male who is attracted to other men

BISEXUAL – sexually attracted to both men and women

QUESTIONING – exploring and may be unsure of their sexual identity as of yet

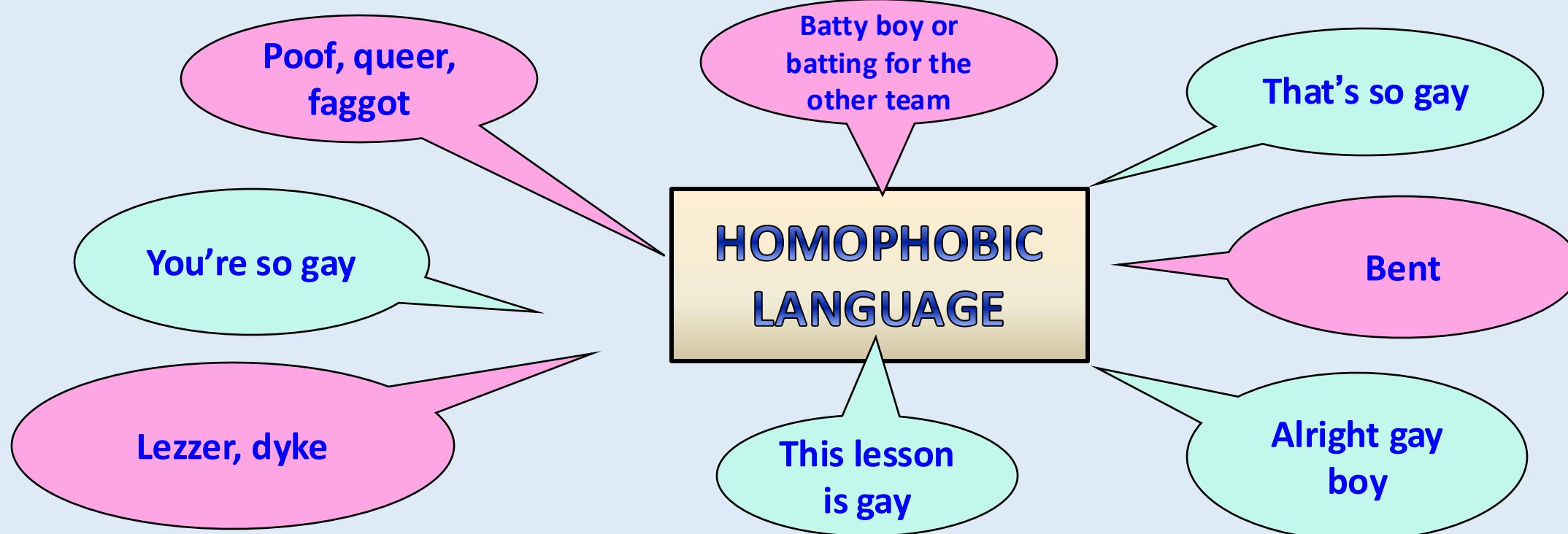
PANSEXUAL – attracted to all genders

ASEXUAL - doesn't find any identity sexually attractive

WHAT IS HOMOPHOBIC LANGUAGE?

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH A VIDEO SHOWING THE IMPACT AND HOW WE CAN ALL STAND UP! \(STOP AFTER 6 MIN 15\)](#)

Homophobic language is derogatory language that is often aimed towards perceived lesbian, gay and bisexual people, or those thought to be LGBTQ+. In addition, homophobic language is also often used to refer to something or someone as inferior. Phrases such as 'you're such a lemon!' or 'those socks are super gay!', for example, may be used to insult someone or something, but without referring to actual or perceived sexual orientation.



The language above **is NOT acceptable** and cannot be dismissed as harmless "banter" **EVEN IF THIS IS NOT YOUR INTENTION!** Be very careful about the language that you use as it can be very hurtful and incredibly upsetting for others to hear you liken the term gay to something that is wrong or inferior

REFLECTION POINT PAGE 20

Your best friend of 10 years tells you one day that they don't feel right in their own body and want to be known by a different name. What would you say to them and how would you support them?

How would you help?



Complete your EXIT
TICKET questions on
page

These link to the key
knowledge you need
to know for this block
of work