

TRANS SAFER SPACE – GUIDELINES

Definitions

For this document, we use the following definitions:

- Transgender or trans includes anyone whose lived gender, gender identity or subconscious sex is different from that assigned to them. Non-binary and non-transitioning transgender people are fully included and equal under this definition.
- Cis means not transgender, transsexual, or intersex.

Note: We acknowledge that gender variance is described differently in other times and cultures – our aim is neither to erase or appropriate, but to learn from, these ways of describing gender

Guidelines

We aim to keep working to make this space/all spaces safer for all trans people.

We affirm that:

Trans people need their own voice

- Trans people are who they say they are.
- Trans people (and all people) are the experts on their own lives.
- One trans person cannot know about or speak for all trans people.
- Trans people should be supported to speak for themselves, not spoken for by cis people except as respectful, informed allies.

Trans people are oppressed

- There is a kind of oppression that only happens to trans people. We stand against that oppression.
- “Cis privilege” is a valid way of talking about the absence of trans related oppression. Cis people can be oppressed in other ways, but not because they are cis.
- Only trans people get to define how they are oppressed and how they will be liberated.

Trans people need well-informed allies

- Trans people need us to support, accept and not exclude them.
- It is our responsibility to learn about trans issues from trans people.
- We need to challenge all words that belittle, undermine, disrespectfully theorise about, objectify, sexualise or ridicule trans people.
- Cis people should respect and support trans people to voice their oppression, needs and differences.
- Feminism has a role to promote good/better practice for trans safer spaces.
- Creating safer spaces means listening to and respecting concerns over triggers, sensitivity, mis-gendering and use of language.

Trans people need representation

- Trans people need full representation on LGBT issues.
- We need to consult the trans community when developing projects and services that may affect them.

Trans lives are diverse

- Trans people come from all walks of life and are subject to all other forms of oppression – other [oppressions](#) complicate trans oppression.
- There are lots of ways to be a binary or non-binary trans person – all valid, all equal.
- Trans people have rights to access free medical treatment, or not, in a way that is right for them – their body, their rules.
- Colonialist views on gender have erased support of gender variance that exists in other cultures.

Trans children have specific needs and experiences

- Trans children have the same [rights](#) as all children.
- It is wrong to equate the socialisation experience of a trans girl with that of a boy, and vice versa.
- Parents of trans children share their children's struggle and also need the support of feminist allies.

Please pledge your support of these guidelines at
<https://nottstranshub.wordpress.com/sign-up/>