

who are gender non-binary reject the gender roles that are expected of their gender assignments and are crafting new ways to present and interact with the world.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GENDER, SEX, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION?

The terms sex, gender and sexual orientation are often used interchangeably. Despite sounding similar, they actually have three distinct meanings.

Sex typically refers to biological maleness or femaleness. Males typically have XY chromosomes. Females typically have XX chromosomes. Some people are intersex (or have a condition of sex differentiation) and they may have a different chromosome pattern or not identify as solely "male" or "female."

Gender refers to the behavioral, cultural, and psychological traits typically associated with one sex. Babies are usually assigned a male gender at birth if they have a penis, and a female gender if they have a vulva. Gender identity is how someone feels about their gender assignment. Gender is a spectrum and some people identify as male, some female, some transgender, non-binary, gender fluid or gender queer. Others are agender and don't associate with gender at all.

Sexual orientation: Who someone is attracted to romantically and sexually

Sexual orientation

An inherent or immutable enduring emotional, romantic or sexual attraction to other people.

Gender identity

One's innermost concept of self as male, female, a blend of both or neither – how individuals perceive themselves and what they call themselves. One's gender identity can be the same or different from their sex assigned at birth.