



Sexuality & Gender Identity 101 (and Beyond)

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Luther Seminary



Terminology

- **Sexual/Affectional Orientation or Identity**
 - lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, pansexual, demisexual, etc.
- **Gender Identity and Expression**
 - cisgender, transgender (trans man, trans woman), gender queer, agender, gender fluid, etc.

LGBTQIA2S+...

THE SPECTRUM

Our sexuality and gender identity aren't set in stone. In fact, people's identities can be fluid. THE SPECTRUM can help you visualize how you feel at any given time. Mark how you identify today on each line, but don't feel limited – it's ok to mark something different tomorrow!

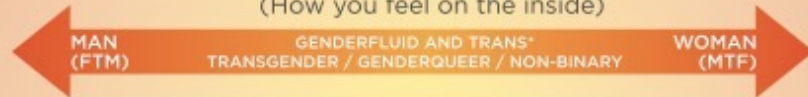
BIOLOGICAL SEX

(What the doctor assigned you at birth)



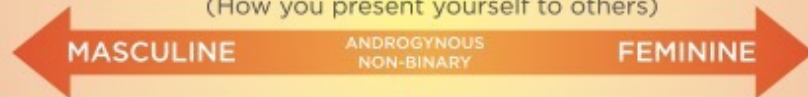
GENDER IDENTITY

(How you feel on the inside)



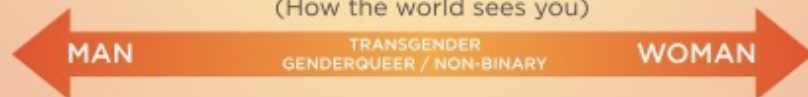
GENDER EXPRESSION

(How you present yourself to others)



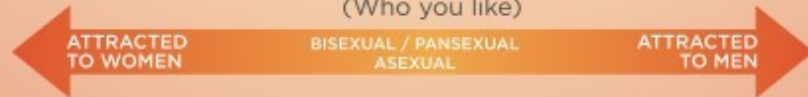
GENDER PRESENTATION

(How the world sees you)



SEXUAL ORIENTATION

(Who you like)



Beyond the Binary

We all have sexualities and gender identities and expressions that exist along a spectrum.

They are each somewhat independent but intersecting.

Where do you see yourself on each of these spectra?



You're LGBTQ-Affirming, Now What?

Proclaim your affirming in ways that LGBTQ people can easily understand

Develop your knowledge and competencies related to gender identity

Get involved in LGBTQ rights on a local level

Uncover and regularly tell the stories of the queer and trans faithful

Develop trauma-aware care across intersecting identities & lifespan

Practice a posture of compassionate curiosity to learn from queer lives

Ask: What will you risk to protect LGBTQ+ lives in the coming season?

Common Situations that Call for Care

LGBTQ Youth Homelessness & Family Rejection: “28% of LGBTQ youth reported experiencing homelessness or housing instability at some point in their lives — and those who did had two to four times the odds of reporting depression, anxiety, self-harm, considering suicide, and attempting suicide compared to those with stable housing” (Trevor Project, 2021).

[see also Family Acceptance Project:
familyproject.sfsu.edu]



Common Situations that Call for Care

LGBTQ Suicide: as a result of mistreatment, stigmatization, rejection, and violence, LGBTQ+ young people are **more than four times as likely** to attempt suicide than their peers. Trevor Project (2023) found that found that **41% of LGBTQ+ young people** seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year, including **roughly half of transgender and nonbinary youth** (n=28,000).



Common Situations that Call for Care

Anti-LGBTQ School Climate: GLSEN (2021) found that 81.8% reported feeling unsafe, 32.2% missed at least one day of school in the last month because of this, 76.1% reported in-person verbal harassment and 31.2% physical harassment in past year (n=22,298).



LGBTQ+ Elder Care

- Survived disproportionate amount of trauma, rejection by family, religious alienation, legal inequality, workplace harassment, health disparities, etc. (see Paasche-Orlow, 2021).
- Entering care facilities may prompt lack of trust in institution to provide competent care for LGBTQ+ people, and feel isolated as one of the only LGBTQ+ residents.
- Can also be a time of great freedom: retirement removes potential workplace repercussions, loss of spouse may prompt exploration of long-denied aspects of sexuality/gender, etc.
- Deathcare choices: Will family honor wishes? Will obituary or eulogy express important aspects of one's life? Will my body be treated with care according to my gender identity/expression?



As of June 1, 2024

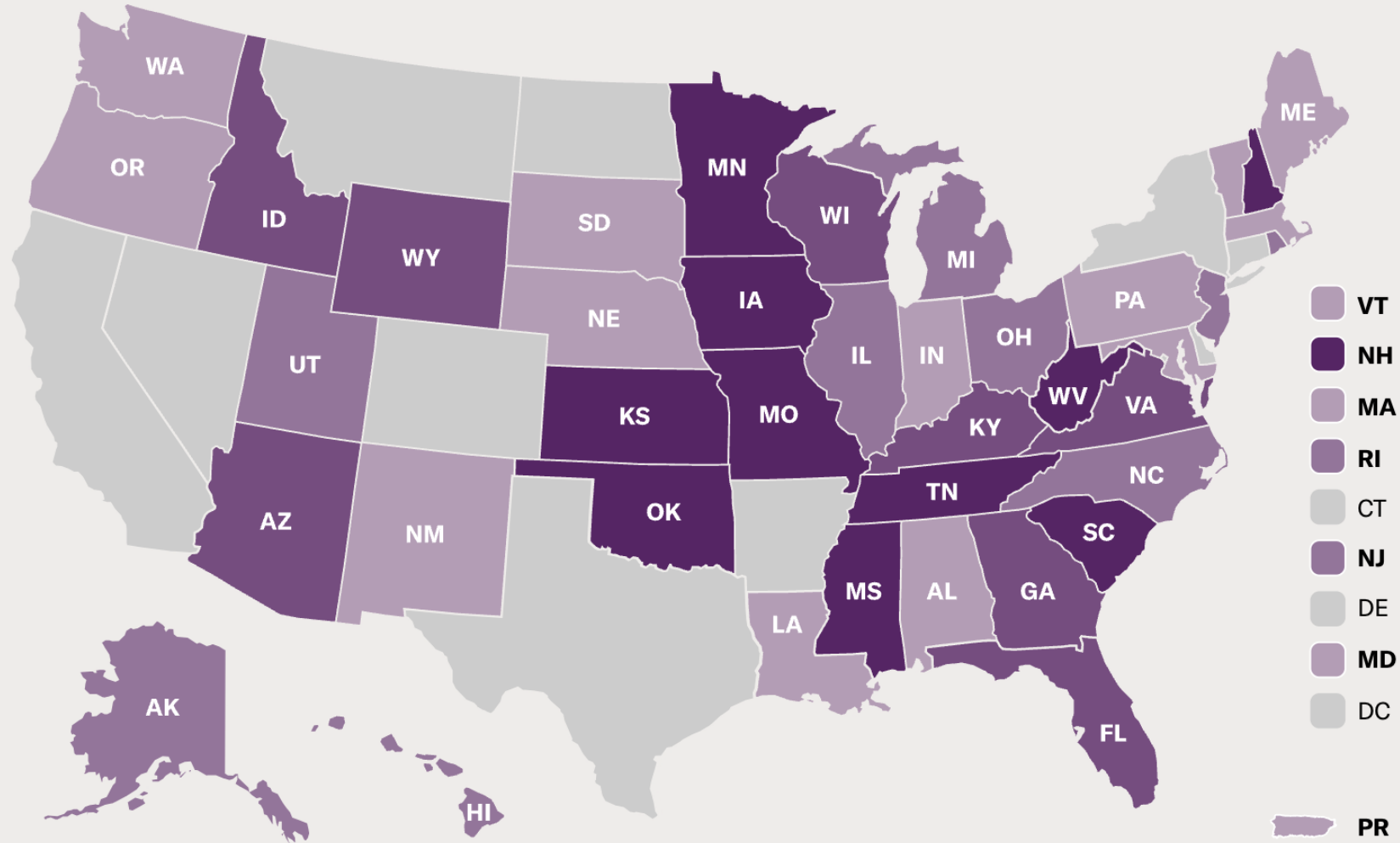
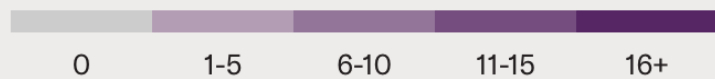
▼ 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACLU is tracking **515** anti-LGBTQ bills in the U.S.

Choose a state on the map to show the different bills targeting LGBTQ rights and take action. While not all of these bills will become law, they all cause harm for LGBTQ people.

Last updated on May 31, 2024 ⓘ

Bills per state



Note: Texas is on a biennial legislative session and was not in session this year.

Anti-Trans Legislation in 2023

Over 520 anti-LGBTQ+ bills have been introduced in state legislatures, a record;

Over 220 bills specifically target transgender and non-binary people, also a record; and

A record 70 anti-LGBTQ laws have been enacted so far this year, including:

Laws banning gender affirming care for transgender youth: 15

Laws requiring or allowing misgendering of transgender students: 7

Laws targeting drag performances: 2

Laws creating a license to discriminate: 3

Laws censoring school curriculum, including books: 4 (HRC, May 2023)





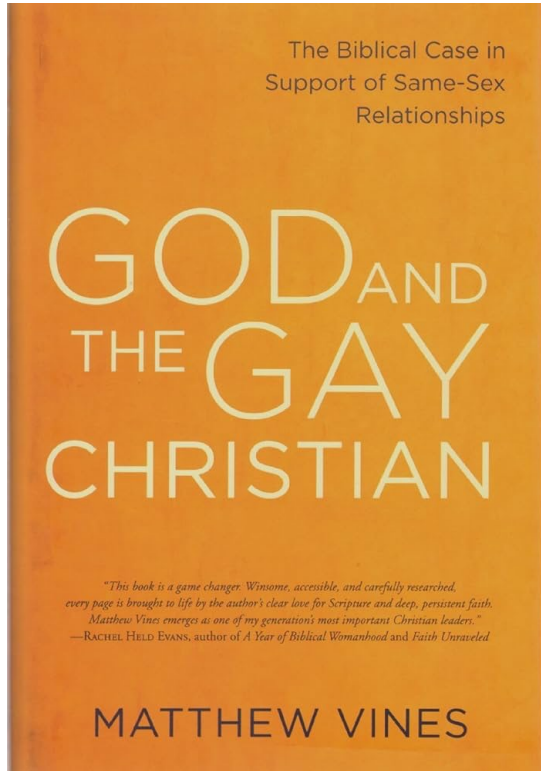
MINNESOTA'S LARGEST LGBTQ+ ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION

OUTFRONT MINNESOTA



What does this mean to you and your church?


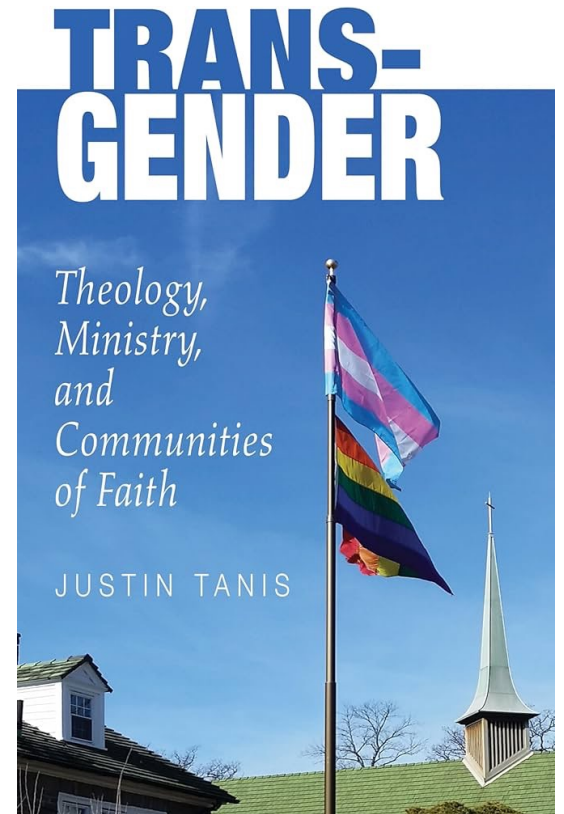




James V. Brownson
Foreword by Wesley Granberg-Michaelson

Bible
Gender
Sexuality

Reframing the Church's Debate on Same-Sex Relationships



transforming

The Bible & the Lives of Transgender Christians

Austen Hartke

Foreword by Matthew Vines, author of *God and the Gay Christian*