

LGBTQ Terminology September 2017

English	Definition	Sesotho Equivalents
Advocate	a person who actively works to end intolerance, educate others, and support social equity for a marginalized group	Molwanedi
Agender	A person with no (or very little) connection to the traditional system of gender, no personal alignment with the concepts of either man or woman, and/or someone who sees themselves as existing without gender. Sometimes called gender neutrois, gender neutral, or genderless.	Sekgothadi/molebedi
Alley	Someone who advocates for and supports members of a community other than their own. Reaching across differences to achieve mutual goals.	Molwanedi
Androgyny	A gender expression that has elements of both masculinity and femininity; 2 occasionally used in place of “intersex” to describe a person with both female and male anatomy.	Adorogene
Aromantic	Experiencing little or no romantic attraction to others and/or has a lack of interest in romantic relationships	Seshomane/lenngwe
Asexual	Someone who does not experience sexual attraction to others	Seshomane /lenngwe
Bias	Prejudice; an inclination or preference, especially one that interferes with impartial judgment.	Leeme/bokgetholli
Bigender	A person who fluctuates between traditionally “woman” and “man” gender-based behavior and identities, identifying with both genders	Mokopanedi/
Biological sex	A medical term used to refer to the chromosomal, hormonal and anatomical characteristics that are used to classify an individual as female or male or intersex.	Tlhaho

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Biphobia	A range of negative attitudes (e.g., fear, anger, intolerance, invisibility, resentment, erasure, or discomfort) that one may have or express towards bisexual individuals.	Nqasese
Bisexual	A person who is attracted on different levels (eg emotional, physical, intellectual) to and/or has sex with both men and women and who identifies with this as a cultural identity	Mothophetho/ lembohle
Butch	Person who identifies themselves as masculine, whether it be physically, mentally or emotionally. 'Butch' is sometimes used as a derogatory term for lesbians, but is also be claimed as an affirmative identity label.	Seqhenqha/ sehanyatha
Cisgenderism	Assuming every person to be cisgender therefore marginalizing those who identify as trans* in some form. It is also believing cisgender people to be superior, and holding people to traditional expectations based on gender, or punishing or excluding those who don't conform to traditional gender expectations.	Leeme/nyefolo
Cross dresser	Someone who wears clothes associated with another gender part of the time. This term has replaced "transvestite," which is now considered outdated and offensive.	Seswasi
Discrimination	The act of showing partiality or prejudice; a prejudicial act	Nyefolo/discrimination
Domestic Partner	One who lives with their beloved and/or is at least emotionally and financially connected in a supportive manner with another. Another word for spouse, lover, significant other,	Molekane

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Dominant Culture	The cultural values, beliefs, and practices that are assumed to be the most common and influential within a given society	Setsongatana
Drag king	Someone who performs masculinity theatrically.	Seswasi
Drag queen	someone who performs femininity theatrically	Seswasi
Emotional attraction	A capacity that evokes the want to engage in romantic intimate behavior (e.g., sharing, confiding, trusting, interdepending), experienced in varying degrees (from little-to-none, to intense). Often conflated with sexual attraction, romantic attraction, and/or spiritual attraction.	Tjheseho/tsamaelano/kgohedi
Gay	A man who is attracted on different levels (eg emotional, physical, intellectual) to and/or has sex with other men and who identifies with this as a cultural identity	Tsala/Setabane
Gender	Differences in social roles and relations	Bong
Gender binary	The idea that there are only two genders and that every person is one of those two.	Boseolli
Gender expression	The external display of one's gender, through a combination of dress, demeanor, social behavior, and other factors, generally made sense of on scales of masculinity and femininity. Also referred to as "gender presentation.	Moiketsisi/boitlhahisi
Gender fluid	Gender fluid is a gender identity best described as a dynamic mix of boy and girl. A person who is gender fluid may always feel like a mix of the two traditional genders, but may feel more man some days, and more woman other days.	Leqhwele
Gender-Blind	erson, policy, or institution that does	Boiphapanyo

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	not recognize that gender is an essential determinant of the life choices available to us in society.	
Heterosexism	Behavior that grants preferential treatment to heterosexual people, reinforces the idea that heterosexuality is somehow better or more “right” than queerness, and/or makes other sexualities invisible.	Nyenyefatso
Heterosexual	Having sexual, romantic, and intimate feelings for or a love relationship with a person or persons of a gender other than one’s own	Tiholeho/Phethahalo/mothotsep a
Homophobia	An irrational fear of and/or hostility towards lesbian women and gay men, or same-sex sexuality more generally	Mothoyasabatlengdikgathatso
Homophobia	An umbrella term for a range of negative attitudes (e.g., fear, anger, intolerance, resentment, erasure, or discomfort) that one may have towards members of LGBTQ community.	Kemokgahlano
Intersex	A term referring to a variety of conditions (genetic, physiological or anatomical) in which a person’s sexual and or reproductive features and organs do not conform to dominant and typical definitions of female or male.	Bongpedi/ Therasi
Lesbian	A woman who is attracted on different levels (eg emotional, physical, intellectual) to and/or has sex with other women and who identifies with this as a cultural identity	Lembohle/Tsala/lesbiene

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LGBTQ; GSM; DSG	Shorthand or umbrella terms for all folks who have a non-normative (or queer) gender or sexuality, there are many different initializes people prefer. LGBTQ is Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Queer	LGBTQ; GSM; DSG
Pansexual	Attracted to people of any gender, or attracted to people irrespective of their gender	Mojatlhafuna/sekwalakgohlo
Sex	Biologically determined differences between male and female	Bong
Sexual preference	The types of sexual intercourse, stimulation, and gratification one likes to receive and participate in. Generally when this term is used, it is being mistakenly interchanged with "sexual orientation," creating an illusion that one has a choice (or "preference") in who they are attracted to.	Kgetho
Sexuality	A central and lifelong aspect of being human and encompasses sex, gender identities and roles, sexual orientation, eroticism, pleasure, intimacy and reproduction.	Bong/botho
Transgender	Someone who have a strong exoerience that their gender is different to that assigned by birth	Tharasi/transe
Transman	Someone who starts his life with a female body but whose gender identity is male (female to male)	Transmonna/Ntidi
Transphobia	An irrational fear of and/or hostility towards people who are transgender or who otherwise transgress traditional gender norms	Lekwala/nqasese

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Transwoman	Someone who starts her life with a male body but whose gender identity is female	Ntidi/transmosadi