



SERVING THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

NATE CANNON

BIO



Nate Cannon is a nationally recognized speaker and the author of two books: *Running on a Mind Rewired*, and *Dying to Hang with the Boys*. His essay, “The Invisible Man,” appears in the 2019 anthology, *Queer Voices*.

Nate earned his BA from the University of Minnesota in Sociology of Law, Criminology, and Deviance, a post-bacc paralegal certificate, and an MFA in Creative Writing from Hamline University. He has over 10 years of experience working with dementia, law, mental health, and chemical dependency.

www.runningrewired.com

KEY TERMS

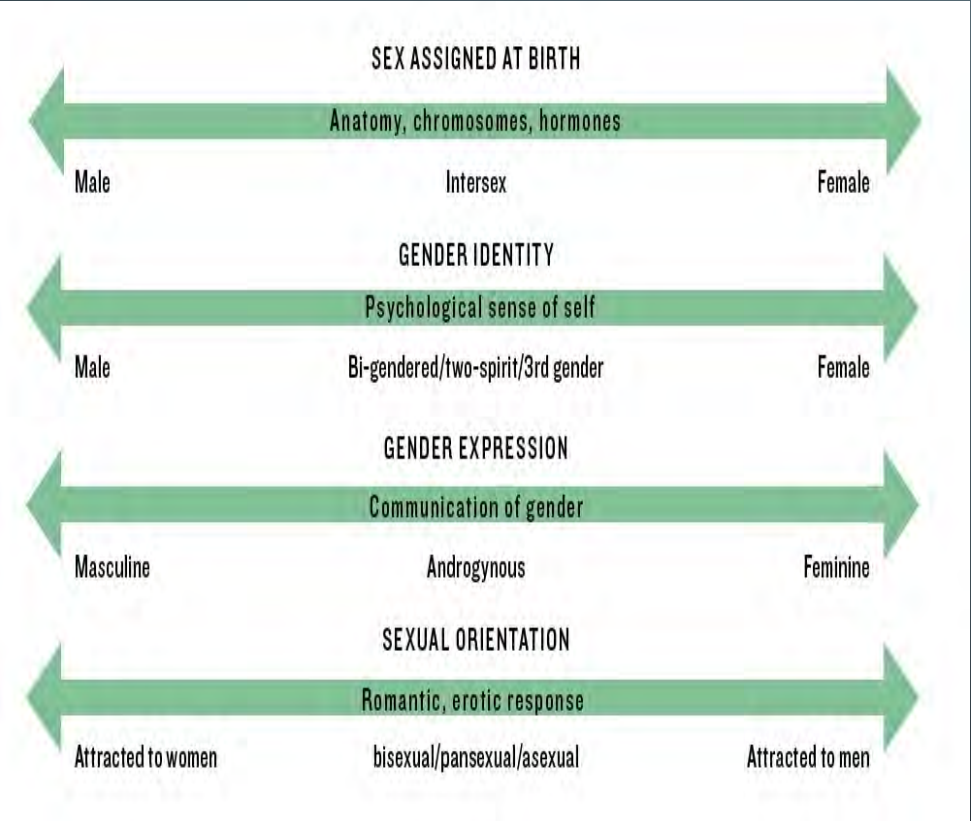
- SOGIE: Sex Assigned at Birth, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression
 - Gender Identity / Sexual Orientation
 - Transgender / Cisgender
 - Transgender Woman
 - Transgender Man
 - Non-Binary
 - Gender Non-Conforming
- Intersectionality

**THERE IS NO SUCH THING
AS A SINGLE-ISSUE
STRUGGLE BECAUSE
WE DO NOT LIVE
SINGLE-ISSUE LIVES.**

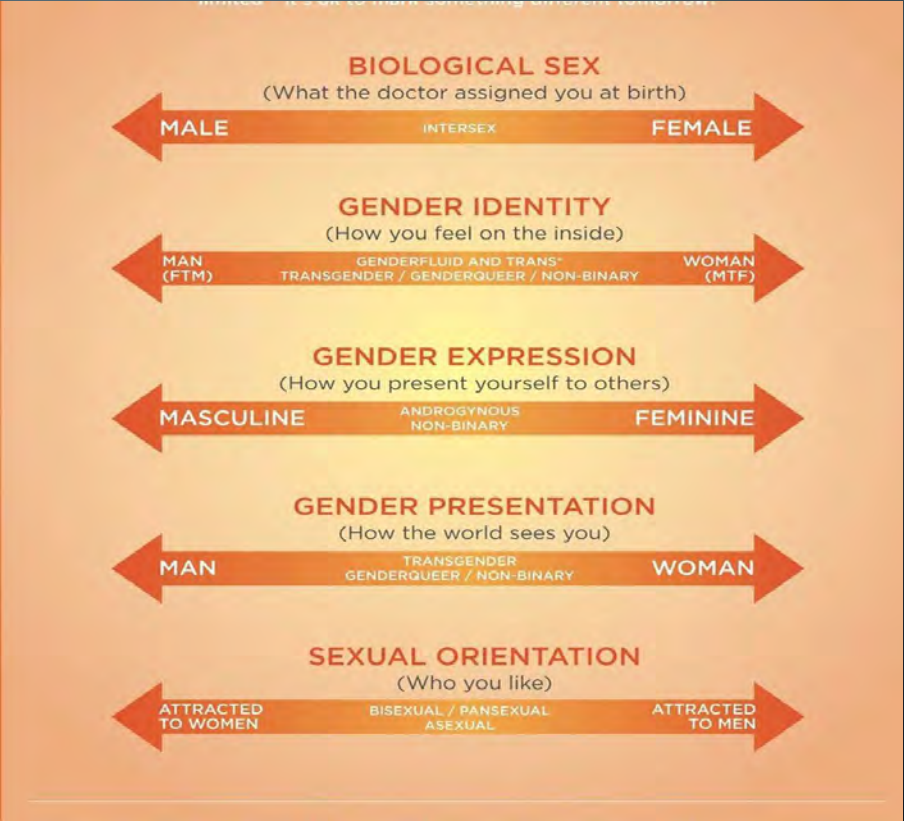
- AUDRE LORDE

THE SPECTRUM OF GENDER AND SEXUALITY

Minnesota Juvenile Justice Model



Trevor Project Model



<https://www.aecf.org/resources/lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transgender-youth-in-the-juvenile-justice-system/>
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/about/programs-services/coming-out-as-you/the-spectrum/#SM.0000017ZGWX6M6E5CS8O26HZ18JHV>

COMMON CHALLENGES AND RISK FACTORS

- Family rejection
- Peer rejection and/or unjust disciplinary practices at school
- Pervasive discrimination
- Sex work laws
- Laws that criminalize drug use and HIV
- Profiling, including mistreatment when seeking help

Result? The vicious circle...

High rates of homelessness, suicide, sex trade work, chemical dependency, mental health challenges.

THE NUMBERS



- 16% of all transgender persons will do time in jail or prison
 - 22% of all transgender women
 - 50% of all transgender women of color
 - 10% of all transgender men

What's the rate of criminal justice involvement in the general population?

Approximately 5%

POLICE INTERACTION

- Transgender individuals report high rates of mistrust of police
- Roughly 22% report having been harassed by police
- Transgender women, especially of color, are at increased risk of physical and sexual abuse, yet are less likely to report it to police

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM CONCERNS

- Improper placement may increase safety risk and impair an individual's ability to receive gender appropriate services, including hormone therapy and garments.
- Transgender persons are at increased risk of physical and sexual assault in jail and prison settings, from both fellow inmates and staff.
- Post-release barriers have traditionally failed to support a transgender individual's attempts at successful reintegration with society.

[HTTP://WWW.LGBTMAP.ORG/FILE/LGBT-CRIMINAL-JUSTICE-TRANS.PDF](http://www.lgbtmap.org/file/lgbt-criminal-justice-trans.pdf)

TIPS AND BEST PRACTICES

- Ask preferred name and pronouns when needed.
- Resist assuming gender identity based on appearance.
- Be aware of factors that may prevent individuals who wish to do so from changing legal documents, starting hormones, or undergoing surgery.
- Be aware that individuals may not wish to self-disclose in a binary system.
- Ensure policies are in place to protect LGBTQ+ and GNC clients.
- Validate and affirm the individual's identity through active listening.
- Think outside the box: remember gender and sexuality exist on a continuum and how individuals identify might change over time.

[HTTP://WWW.LGBTMAP.ORG/FILE/LGBT-CRIMINAL-JUSTICE-TRANS.PDF](http://www.lgbtmap.org/file/lgbt-criminal-justice-trans.pdf)

[HTTPS://WWW.LAMBDALLEGAL.ORG/PROTECTED-AND-SERVED/JAILS-AND-PRISONS](https://www.lambdalegal.org/protected-and-served/jails-and-prisons)

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?



RESOURCES

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