

# RAINBOW TICK

## Some Common Terms in New Zealand

(N.B. This list is not exhaustive)

Asexual	A person who feels low or no strong sexual interest in others of any gender
Bisexual	A person who is emotionally and sexually attracted to both men and women
Cisgender	A person whose gender identity matches their biological sex
Fa'afafine	Fa'afafine are Samoan biological males who behave in a range of feminine-gendered ways
Gay	A person who is emotionally and sexually attracted to the same sex. This is more widely used by men than women, and can be both a personal and community identity
Gender	The socially accepted/expected ideas of how a man or woman should be (see Sex)
Genderfluid	A person who does not subscribe to conventional gender distinctions but identifies with neither, both, or a combination of male and female genders (same as Genderqueer)
Homophobia	An irrational fear or prejudice against same-sex love and behaviour
Intersex	People who are born with ambiguous sexual characteristics that do not fit typical binary notions of female and male bodies
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex; the combination and number of letters varies but LGBTI is well-recognised.
Lesbian	A woman who is emotionally and sexually attracted to other women. This is used as both a personal identity and community identity
Mahu	The same as Fa'afafine but in Hawai'i and Tahiti
Pansexual	A person who is not limited in sexual choice with regard to biological sex, gender, or gender identity
Queer	Once an insult, this word has been reclaimed and is used by many to cover the entire range of human sexual and gender diversity in the same way that Rainbow is
Rainbow	An umbrella term that covers all forms of sexual and gender minorities and avoids the alphabet soup of LGBTI etc. This is used to identify a community, not an individual
Sex	The biological characteristics of being female or male (see Gender)
Sexuality	This term describes the direction of one's sexual attraction to other humans. Heterosexuality and Homosexuality represent two ends of the spectrum rather than the only two possibilities

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- Takatāpui** The Māori term used to describe same-sex romantic and physical attraction and identity and increasingly used as an umbrella term to cover variety in gender expression
- Transgender** This term describes a wide variety of people whose gender identity is different from the sex they were assigned at birth. Some transgender people opt for some form of medical intervention (e.g. surgery or hormones) but many do not (see Transsexual)
- Transphobia** An irrational fear or prejudice against people who change their gender or break social gender rules
- Transsexual** This term is typically used today for a person has had or is in the process of changing their body to conform with their gender identity.