

GENDER SENSITIVE TERMINOLOGIES

Abuse

Misuse of power through which the perpetrator gains control or advantage.

Advocacy

Speaking or acting in ways that support or espouse a cause, issue, group, or institution.

Binary

Something made or based on two parts, often in opposition to one another; often used in discussing the social construction of identities in binary and structural opposition or as either/or dichotomy (e.g. masculinity–femininity; white-black; straight–gay; young-old; rich-poor; able-bodied-disabled, etc.).

Child marriage

Formal marriage or informal union before the legal age of marriage in context of respective state which effects both girls and boys.

Cisgender

Cisgender refers to where someone's gender aligns with the sex they were assigned at birth.

Coercion

The act of compelling a person to do, or to abstain from doing, something by show of physical force, threats, intimidation, extortion or other forms of duress which prey on fear or desperation.

Consent

When someone unambiguously and voluntarily agrees to do something, fully understanding the consequences of their decision, and they do so without any coercion, such as the use of force or threats to their safety.

Domestic Violence

Any physical abuse or threat or pattern thereof, between intimately involved partners, or members of a family or household.

Forced marriage

Forced marriage describes a marriage that takes place without the free or valid consent of one or both of the partners and involves either physical or emotional duress.

Gender

A concept that refers to the difference between men and women that are socially constructed, changeable over time and have variations within cultures.

Gender Discrimination

Any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of socially constructed gender roles and norms which prevents a person from enjoying full human rights.

Gender Equality

Equal treatment of women and men in laws, policies, and equal access to resources, services, education, health care, occupational positions, etc.

Gender Equity

Gender equity means fairness of treatment for women and men, according to their respective needs. This may include equal treatment or treatment that is different but considered equivalent in terms of rights, benefits, obligations, and opportunities (e.g., equal treatment before the law, equal access to social provisions; education; equal pay for work of the same value).

Gender Identity

One's internal gender, which may or may not match the physical sex, or the presenting gender. Unlike biological sex which is assigned at birth and based on physical characteristics gender identity refers to a person's innate, deeply felt sense of being male or female (sometimes even both or neither).

Gender-based violence

Any act that results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual, psychological, economic harm, or suffering based on gender of a person.

Human Rights

Agreed international standards that recognize and protect the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of every individual, without any distinction as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origins, property, birth or other status.

Harassment

Word, conduct or action (usually repeated or persistent) that, being directed at a specific person, annoys, alarms or causes substantial emotional distress in that person and serves no legitimate purpose.

Informed Consent

To be distinguished from 'consent' above, as it refers specifically to the approval or assent when someone carefully understands the consequences of a decision and consents freely without any force.

Intersex

A physical condition in which the individual is born with biological characteristics that are divergent from typical female and male. This may include variations in chromosomal, physical, gonadal, hormonal, or other attributes, and may include a combination, rearrangement, or lack of biological male or female features.

Intimate partner violence (IPV)

Refers to behavior by an intimate partner or ex-partner that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse, and controlling behaviors.

Patriarchy

Social system in which men hold the greatest power, leadership roles, privilege, moral authority and access to resources and land, including in the family. Most modern societies are patriarchies.

Prejudice

Unfavorable or discriminatory attitude (not action) towards persons of different categories.

Rape

Non-consensual and unlawful sexual activity and usually sexual intercourse carried out forcibly or under threat of injury against a person's will. Rape is a form of physical violence, based on coercion and physical force without or against the will or consent of the person.

Sex

Refers to the biological characteristics between men and women, which are universal and do not change.

Sexual Abuse

A broad category incorporating various forms of sexual violence, including, but not limited to, rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment.

Sexual Harassment

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

Sexual Violence

Any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person's sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work.

Transgender

The category of a person or people who have a gender identity or gender expression that differs from their assigned sex.

Trans men / Trans women

Trans men are those who were assigned female at birth but who identify as men. Those assigned male at birth but identifying as women may be referred to as 'trans women'.

Victim

A person harmed, injured, or killed as a result of a crime, accident, or other event or action.

Violence Against Women (VAW)

Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women.

Vulnerable

Able to be easily physically, emotionally, or mentally hurt, influenced, or attacked.

Women Empowerment

Giving Empowerment to women.