

meridian

Language beyond the binary

From the time we are born, we learn gender concepts and binary language from our family, peers, schools, communities, media, culture and religion, even if we don't realise it.

Rigid gender concepts, gender roles and stereotyped constructions of masculinity and femininity are unhelpful. When you unpack gender stereotypes, you find a whole gender spectrum beyond the binary.

Here are some gender-neutral, inclusive words and terms you can use, allowing everyone to feel embraced, valued and respected.

- > Adult(s)
- > All gathered
- > Allies
- > Assembled guests
- > Associate(s)
- > Chair or chairperson
- > Child or children
- > Citizen or citizens
- > Community or communities
- > Collaborator(s)
- > Colleague(s)
- > Comrade(s)
- > Companion(s)
- > Everyone
- > Family
- > Folk(s)
- > Friend(s)
- > Guest(s)
- > Human(s)
- > Humankind
- > Kinfolk
- > Leader(s)
- > Parent(s)
- > Partner(s)
- > Patron(s)
- > Peer(s)
- > Person or people
- > Resident(s)
- > Sibling(s)
- > Spouse
- > Student(s)
- > Team.

