QUEER AND TRANS* 101

A SUPER SIMPLE COMIC GUIDE

THE I'M LOCAL PROJECT

The I'm Local Project aims to help queer & trans* youth all over Aotearoa to feel valued, recognised and supported in their local communities. So, we've put together *Queer & Trans* 101 - a super simple comic guide* to help explain the basics of sexuality and gender idenitity for anyone who wants to learn!

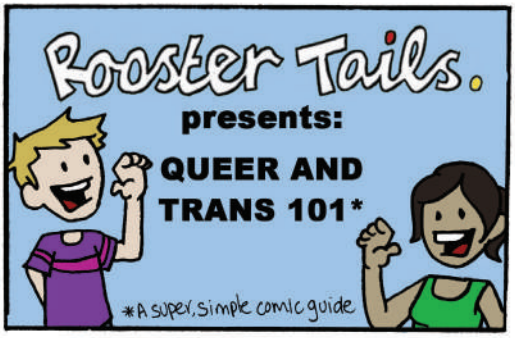
If you, or someone you know is having a tough time with their gender identity or sexual orientation, there's plenty of help out there. Head to the back page of this comic for infomation about some useful contacts in your area and around NZ.

Check out the *I'm Local Project's* YouTube to watch stories shared by queer and trans* kiwis who have grown up in communities like yours all around the country.

WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/IMLOCALNZ

TO GET IN TOUCH, VISIT US ON OUR WEBSITE: WWW.IMLOCAL.CO.NZ

Comic: Queer and Trans* 101
by Sam Orchard - copyright 2013
www.roostertailscomic.com

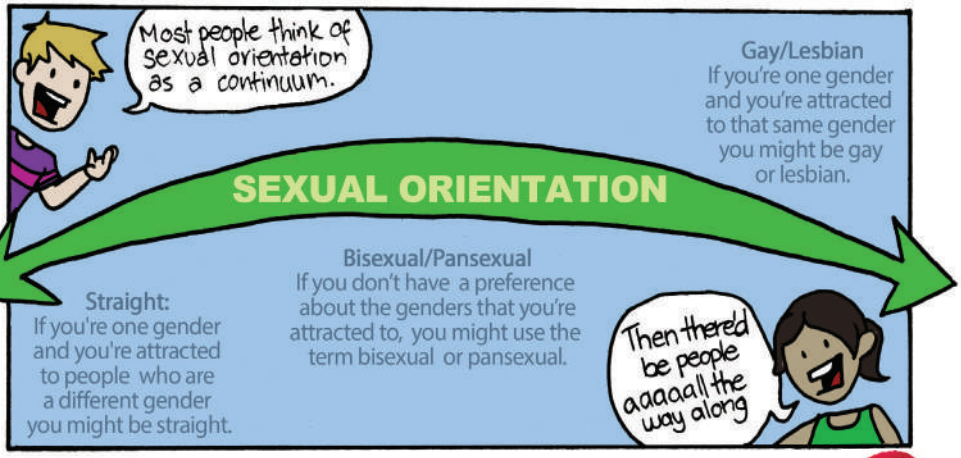

Rooster Tails.
presents:
QUEER AND TRANS 101*
*A super, simple comic guide

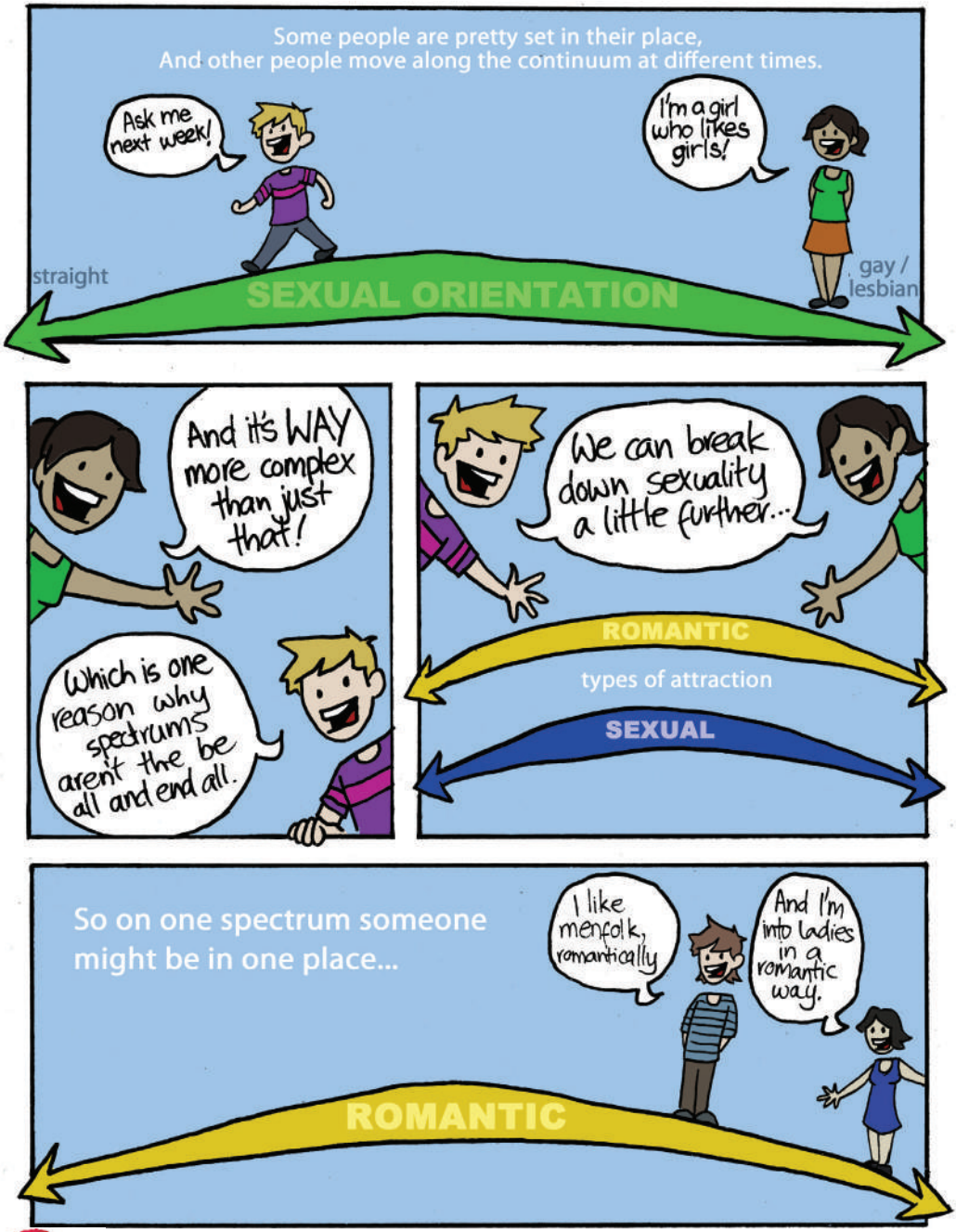
Queer & Trans is a phrase I like to use
But not everyone does, & that's cool.

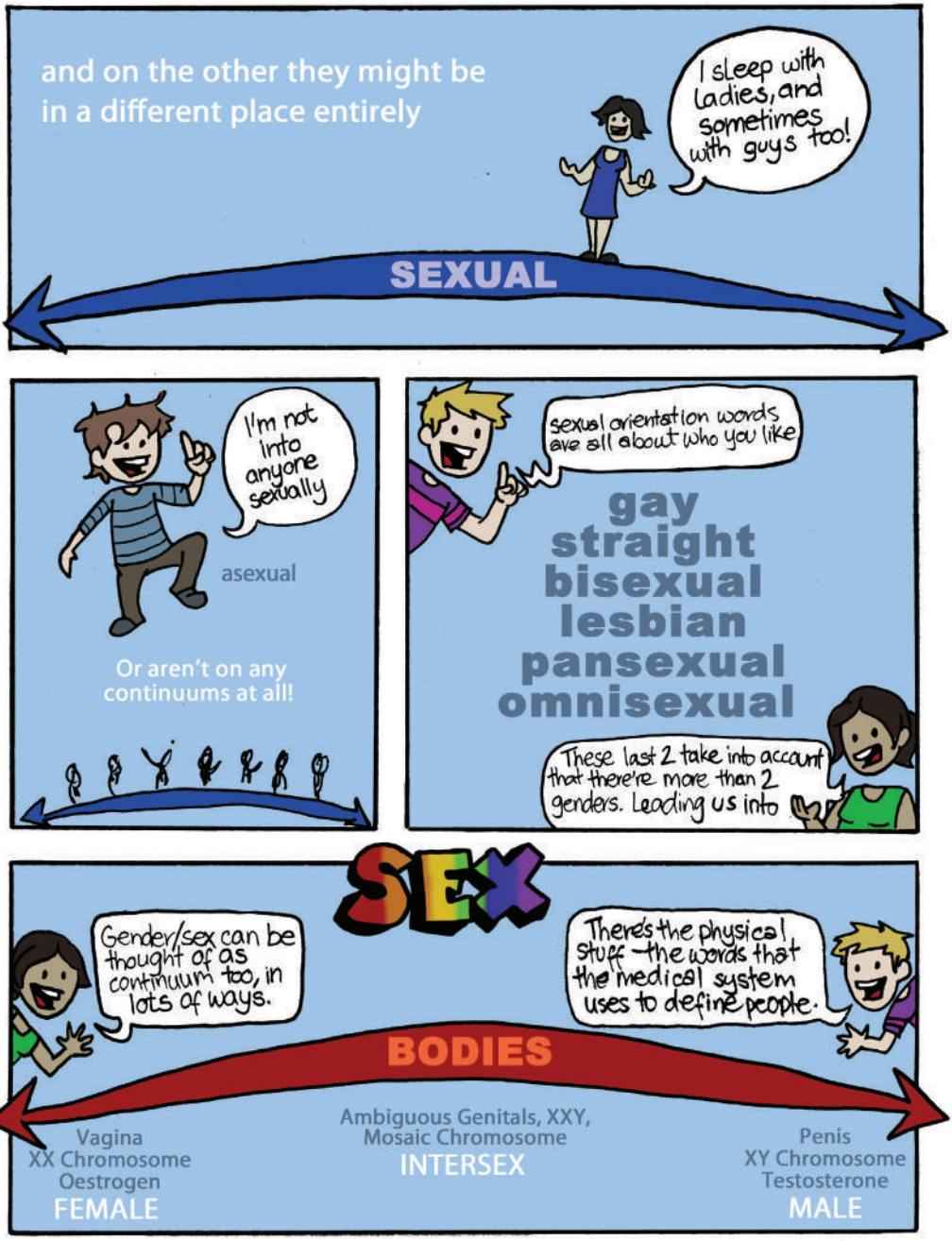
omnisexual
mtf
trans
gay
pan
lesbian
androgynous
fa'afafine
ftm
curious
bi
takataapui
camp
intersex
questioning
genderqueer
asexual
ia
It's one umbrella term used to describe sexuality & gender/sex identities.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION
is all about who you're into.

It could be who you feel romantic, sexual, or curious towards...
or who you don't!

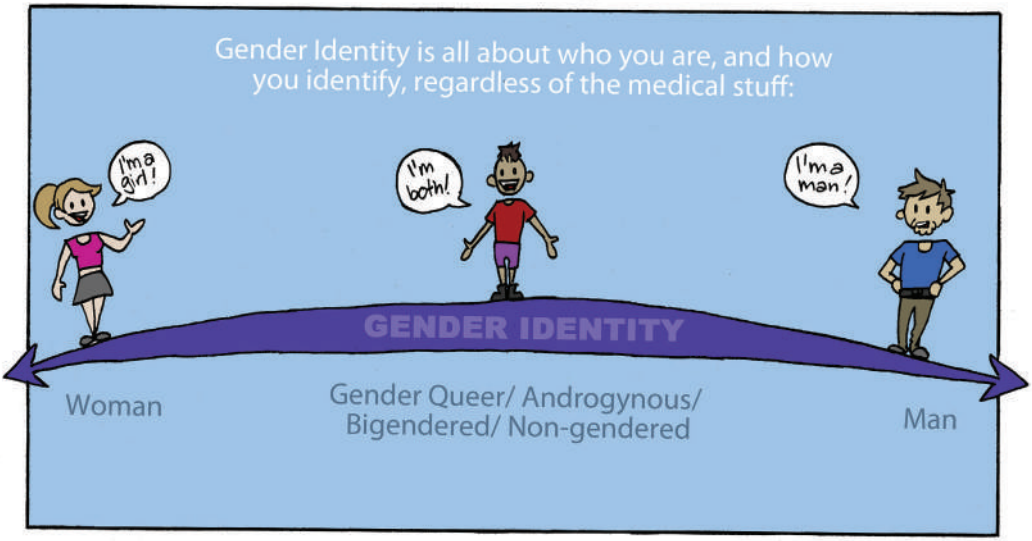

Most people think of sexual orientation as a continuum.
SEXUAL ORIENTATION
Gay/Lesbian
If you're one gender and you're attracted to that same gender you might be gay or lesbian.
Straight:
If you're one gender and you're attracted to people who are a different gender you might be straight.
Bisexual/Pansexual
If you don't have a preference about the genders that you're attracted to, you might use the term bisexual or pansexual.
Then there'd be people aaaaall the way along


Some people are pretty set in their place,
And other people move along the continuum at different times.
Ask me next week!
I'm a girl who likes girls!
straight
SEXUAL ORIENTATION
gay / lesbian
And it's WAY more complex than just that!
Which is one reason why spectrums aren't the be all and end all.
We can break down sexuality a little further...
ROMANTIC
types of attraction
SEXUAL
So on one spectrum someone might be in one place...
I like menfolk, romantically
And I'm into ladies in a romantic way.
ROMANTIC

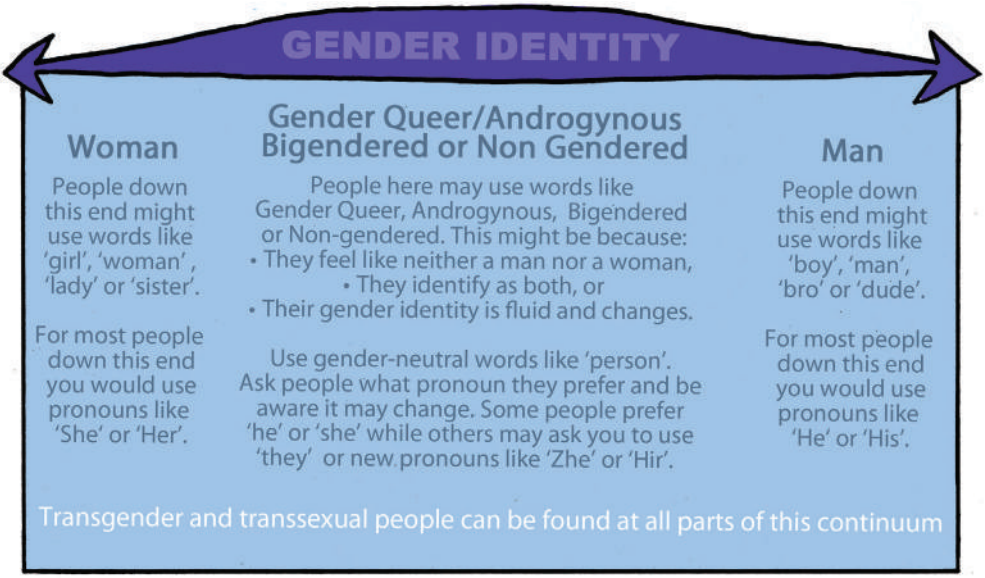

and on the other they might be in a different place entirely
I sleep with ladies, and sometimes with guys too!
SEXUAL
I'm not into anyone sexually
asexual
Or aren't on any continuums at all!
sexual orientation words are all about who you like
gay
straight
bisexual
lesbian
pansexual
omnisexual
These last 2 take into account that there're more than 2 genders. Leading us into
SEX
Gender/sex can be thought of as continuum too, in lots of ways.
There's the physical stuff - the words that the medical system uses to define people.
BODIES
Vagina
XX Chromosome
Oestrogen
FEMALE
Ambiguous Genitals, XXY, Mosaic Chromosome
INTERSEX
Penis
XY Chromosome
Testosterone
MALE

A QUICK NOTE ABOUT
INTERSEX
Intersex is a general term some of us use when our reproductive or sexual anatomy doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of male or female.
I didn't know that I was intersex until my body changed at puberty.
Other people decided to change my body when I was a little kid.
I chose to change my body when I grew up.
And we're all different...
my diagnosis is important to me.
Don't label me as a medical condition.
DIAGNOSES
Plus! Intersex can be an identity too!

And not everyone's gender identity matches with what the medical definitions err...define...
GENDER IDENTITY
IS ALL ABOUT WHO YOU ARE.


Gender Identity is all about who you are, and how you identify, regardless of the medical stuff:
I'm a girl!
I'm both!
I'm a man!
GENDER IDENTITY
Woman
Gender Queer/ Androgynous/ Bigendered/ Non-gendered
Man

So, when we think about this spectrum there are some words that get associated with others.
Here, let's add some words in
GENDER IDENTITY


GENDER IDENTITY
Woman
People down this end might use words like 'girl', 'woman', 'lady' or 'sister'.
For most people down this end you would use pronouns like 'She' or 'Her'.
Gender Queer/Androgynous Bigendered or Non Gendered
People here may use words like Gender Queer, Androgynous, Bigendered or Non-gendered. This might be because:
• They feel like neither a man nor a woman,
• They identify as both, or
• Their gender identity is fluid and changes.
Use gender-neutral words like 'person'. Ask people what pronoun they prefer and be aware it may change. Some people prefer 'he' or 'she' while others may ask you to use 'they' or new pronouns like 'Zhe' or 'Hir'.
Man
People down this end might use words like 'boy', 'man', 'bro' or 'dude'.
For most people down this end you would use pronouns like 'He' or 'His'.
Transgender and transsexual people can be found at all parts of this continuum

Some people move from one end to the other.
Or to the middle.
I'm a woman, but the doctor assigned me male at birth. I am a transwoman.
I'm just me. You can call me genderqueer
I identify as a man; I was told I was female but now live as a guy. I'm a transguy.
GENDER IDENTITY
Woman
Gender Queer/ Androgynous/ Bigendered/ Non-Gendered
Man

Plus, the cool thing about this spectrum is that there are plenty of ways to travel.*
*this is often referred to as TRANSITIONING

Some people change their names and pronouns, or dress differently.
'He' for me!
Some people change parts of their body.
And others just know that who they are doesn't match what society assumes.
Plus! There's Gender Expression too!
Which is all about how you express your masculinity or femininity - and we all do it in different ways...
Feminine to me is wearing pink laces in my shoes!
My cat brings out my feminine side.
We love showing off our femininity!
Using spectrums is just ONE way to think about gender, sex and sexuality
There're HEAPS of other ways too!

I use takataapui to describe myself as a Māori guy who has relationships with guys.
I'm Tangata ira tane & takataapui: a Māori mān who was born in a female body.
I am proud to be Samoan & Fa'afa. Being fa'afafine is part of my identity as Samoan. It describes my relationships to my family and our home village. There have always been Fa'afa in our village & I knew that was how I belonged.
But, whatever words you use, and wherever you are on any of the spectrums (or whichever model you use)
And wherever, or however you travel, remember–
YOU'RE AWESOME!
THE END

GOT QUESTIONS?
STUFF ON YOUR MIND?
HERE'S SOME USEFUL CONTACTS

CURIOUS
Don't fit in. Stand out!

Curious is a hub for queer & trans* youth. It has a region-by-region directory of all the queer & trans* groups in Aotearoa. **Find a group in your area!**

WWW.CURIOUS.ORG.NZ
INFO@CURIOUS.ORG.NZ

OUT LINE NZ

OUTLine provides free and confidential GLBTTI telephone & online infomation, support, counselling & referral. Face-to-face counselling is alsoavaliable.
Mon - Fri: 9am - 9pm. Sat - Sun : 6pm - 9pm
WWW.OUTLINE.ORG.NZ / 0800 688 5463

This comic was created by Sam Orchard. Sam's been drawing since he was a little girl. Check out his autobiographical webcomic *Rooster Tails*.

WWW.ROOSTERTAILSCOMIC.COM
WWW.THESAMORCHARD.COM

VILLAGE COLLECTIVE

A charitable trust that aims to support Pasefika communities with sexual health needs. *The Rainbow collective* represents the arm of the organisation that supports the Pasefika Rainbow community.
WWW.VILLAGECOLLECTIVE.ORG.NZ

Youthline
Changing lives.

Need support or want to talk? *Youthline's* here to help! *Youthline* works with young people, their families and those supporting them.
Helpline: 0800376633 FreeTxt:234
WWW.YOUTHLINE.CO.NZ

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RY

RainbowYOUTH is a registered charitable organisation that provides support, information, education and advocacy for queer & trans* youth, their friends, whānau and those working with them

www.ry.org.nz
info@ry.org.nz

THANKS FOR READING!
TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT:
WWW.IMLOCAL.CO.NZ