

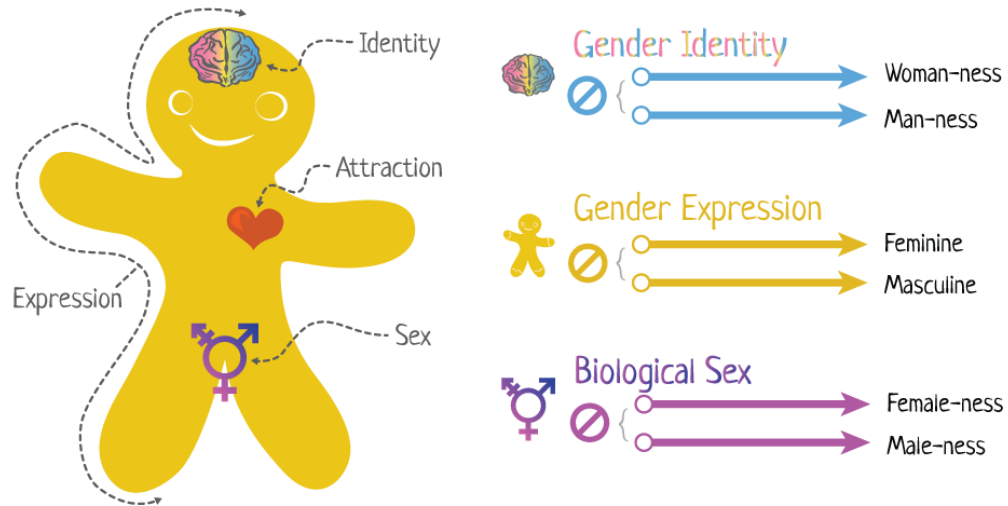
Gender-Based Analysis and Op-Ed Writing

The Example of Sexual Minority Reproductive Health

What is gender?

What is sexual orientation?

The Genderbread Person v3.2 by its pronounced METROsexual.com





Background reading: Charlton et al, 2013

- Sexual minority females are at increased risk of pregnancy compared with their non sexual minority counterparts
- Implications that could be translated into policy or practice?

Charlton et al. Sexual orientation differences in teen pregnancy and hormonal contraceptive use: An examination across two generations. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2013 Sep; 209(3): 204.e1-8.



Op-ed Elements

- *Knowing your audience*
 - To whom would you want to direct your op-ed?
- *Personal narrative*
 - How could you bring a personal experience or story into the narrative?
- *Timeliness*
 - What are some current events or debates that you could use as a hook?



Op-ed Elements

- *Clear, concise argument*
 - What is the one point you want to make?
- *Action recommendation*
 - What do you want your audience to actually do?



Op-Ed Writing Style

- Avoid scientific jargon
- For example:
 - “[Sexual minorities] may engage in strategies to avoid or cope with stigma about their sexual orientation including sexual intercourse with the opposite sex and subsequent pregnancy involvement” (Charlton)
 - “Women who do not identify as heterosexuals might actually have sex with men as a way to avoid or cope with the social stigma surrounding their sexual orientation.” (op-ed version)

Homework Assignment

Write your own op-ed on a topic of their choosing, taking into account the elements of a successful op-ed that were delineated in class.