About SOJOURN
Advancing LGBTQ empowerment and affirmation across the South.

Today’s Agenda:
• Introductions
• Ryland’s Story
• Vocabulary and Terminology
• The Gender Unicorn
• Question Break 1
• Pronouns, How and Why They Matter
• Sexual Orientation vs Gender Identity
• Debi Jackson
• Question Break 2
Vocabulary and Terminology

Gender Identity: A person’s internal view or interpretation of their gender

Gender Expression: The outward manifestation of one’s gender, including clothing, make-up, and other style choices.

Sex Assigned at Birth: The conflation of sex + gender assigned to a person at birth by their doctor, based on assumptions made by the presence of certain external/visible genitalia. “AFAB/AMAB” = “Assigned Female/Male at Birth”

Biological/Chromosomal Sex: An outdated term used to describe the “sex assigned at birth” of transgender people, often with an inference that, while one’s gender expression or identity may change, deep down, they are still a man/woman. This is damaging and should be avoided, as science has shown multiple biological/chromosomal variations in existence.
Vocabulary and Terminology

Transgender: A person whose sex assigned at birth does not match their gender. (Latin prefix “trans” = across)

Cisgender: A person whose sex assigned at birth matches their gender. (Latin prefix “cis” = “on the same side as”.)

Transition/Transitioning: The process of changing one’s outward appearance to match their gender identity.

Transsexual: An outdated term for transgender. A small minority prefer this term, however. For some there is an association of medical intervention.

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Vocabulary and Terminology

Gender Binary: The (incorrect) assumption that there are only two genders, male and female.

Genderqueer/Genderfluid: A person whose gender is non-binary; is beyond genders; is multiple genders; or some combination thereof.

Gender Non-Conforming/Gender Variant/Gender Expansive: A person who does not participate in the cultural expectations for gender expression as dictated by society.

Cissexism/Cisnormativity: The assumption or belief that everyone is or should be cisgender (non-transgender).
Vocabulary and Terminology

Intersex: A person who is born with discordant external or internal biological sex characteristics or chromosomes. (Formerly: Hermaphrodite, now considered to be offensive/inappropriate.)

Internalized Transphobia/Internalized Oppression: Fear or self-hate of one’s own transgender identity; often occurs in those who grew up hearing negative messages about transgender people.

Coming Out: The never-ending process of revealing one’s sexual orientation or gender, whether to oneself or to others.
The Gender Unicorn

Gender Identity:
- Female
- Male
- Genderqueer/Non-Binary

Gender Expression/Presentation:
- Feminine
- Masculine
- Androgynous

Sex Assigned at Birth:
- Female
- Male
- Intersex

Sexually Attracted To:
- Men
- Women
- Non-Binary Genders

Romantically/Emotionally Attracted To:
- Men
- Women
- Non-Binary Genders

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To learn more go to:
www.transstudent.org/gender

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Question Break 1
Pronouns: How and Why They Matter
What You’re Actually Saying When You Ignore Someone’s Gender Pronoun

I know you better than you know yourself.

I would rather hurt you repeatedly than change the way I speak about you.

Your sense of safety isn’t important to me.

I want to teach everyone around me to disrespect you.

Offending you is fine if it makes me feel more comfortable.

I can hear you talking, but I’m not really listening.

Being who you truly are is an inconvenience to me.

I would prefer it if you stopped being honest with me.

I’m not an ally, friend, or someone you can trust.

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Sexual Orientation vs. Gender Identity

Gender/Gender Identity
- How a person sees themselves inwardly and expresses their gender outwardly.

Innate
- Unchangeable through "reparative therapy"
- Not up for debate or discussion

Sexual Orientation
- How or why a person is attracted to someone in a romantic or sexual manner.

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Question Break 2
SOJOURN
Southern Jewish Resource Network for Gender and Sexual Diversity

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