

TRANSGENDER / QUEER -GENDER -IDENTITY

The scientific debate on gender is multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary. Sociologically, gender is a structural category. According to this, our social positioning is determined by our gender allocation or affiliation, linked to this is the socio-psychological level, according to which gender constitutes a central part of our identity (gender identity). Gender also includes biological (sex) and social aspects (gender) as well as sexual desire.

In contrast to this normative gender order, adult education must assume a diversity of gender and gender identities and a diversity of desires. This requires knowledge about Gender Studies.

People whose gender identity does not correspond to their physical sexual characteristics are called transgender. The corresponding behavior or sensation is also defined as transgender. Man-to-woman is called transwoman and woman-to-man transman. However, transgender people also prefer not to be assigned to any category and insist on the general term transgender. Transgenders normally do not include intersexual people who have both male and female sexual characteristics. Intersexuality refers to people who, genetically or anatomically and hormonally, cannot be clearly assigned to the female or male sex.

The presupposed binary (sexual) determines the distinction between "sex" and "gender", which was important in order to show that the corresponding gender identity does not necessarily follow from the biological gender, i.e. that these two terms are not coherent, a male body, for example, can also feel like a woman, i.e. a female gender identity must not be destiny.

The philosopher Judith Butler points out that a binary appearance of the biological sex cannot be interpreted as an equally binary gender identity. She writes consciously "appear" because she is convinced that the anatomical sex was also produced discursively. This means that the body is not recognized as a subject without attributing a gender by means of language; the linguistic inscription of a

gender in a body describes only the perception that is socially necessary for it to exist as such, but it does not correspond to the truth.

Discussion plan: transgender

- What is a person?
- What does the term "gender" mean?
- What is the difference between sex and gender?
- Which gender identities do we perceive?
- What does gender identity on the Internet mean?

Exercise: Discuss the following thesis

Very early in the debate about gender, Simone de Beauvoir emphasized that gender is a socially constructed category

“One is not born a woman, but becomes one.”

Simone de Beauvoir 1908 -1986, French writer and philosopher

Literatur

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Materials

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