Basic Assumptions

- Sexuality is a spectrum
- Gender is a spectrum
- The LGBTQ+ community is dynamic and ever changing
- The LGBTQ+ community and its members should have self-determination of their lexicon
The Problem

- Many entity management platforms and name authorities allow to record gender for people.
- A person’s gender may change over the course of their lifetime and may fall beyond the binary.
- Traditional controlled vocabularies lack terminology to describe the diversity of gender and sexuality for the LGBTQ+ community.
The Solution

- Create and maintain an open linked data thesaurus for the worldwide LGBTQ+ community
- Maintained “by us for all”
- Open platform
- Constantly changing and growing to meet the needs of our community
Mission

The Homosaurus is an international linked data vocabulary of LGBTQ terms that supports improved access to LGBTQ resources within cultural institutions. Designed to serve as a companion to broad subject term vocabularies, the Homosaurus is a robust and cutting-edge vocabulary of LGBTQ-specific terminology that enhances the discoverability of LGBTQ resources.
History

- Began in the Netherlands in 1982
- Revised a few times in 1990s and early 2000s
- In 2015, became a linked data vocab hosted by the Digital Trans Archive
- In 2016, Editorial Board established
- In 2019, version 2.0 released as exclusively queer vocab
- In 2021, received grant to expand and further develop the vocabulary
Controlled Vocabulary Hierarchies

- Broader term (BT)
- Narrower term (NT)
- Related term (RT)
- Use for (UF)
- Scope note (SN)
Expanded Possibilities: 
Queer Lexicon and Culture

LCSH

Butch and Femme (Lesbian Culture)
BT Lesbian culture

Butch (Dog)

Homosaurus

Butch-femme relationships
RT Femmes
RT Stone butches
RT Butches
RT Role behavior
RT Sexual identity
BT Relationships LGBTQ
BT Lesbian culture
Expanded Possibilities: *Intersectional Queer Identity*

**LCSH**
- Gays, [race/ethnicity]
- Gay men, [race/ethnicity]
- Lesbians, [race/ethnicity]
- [race/ethnicity] Gays
- [race/ethnicity] Gay men
- [race/ethnicity] Lesbians

**Homosaurus**
- LGBTQ ethnic groups
  - NT People of colour (LGBTQ)
  - NT Asians (LGBTQ)
  - NT Jews (LGBTQ)
  - NT Latinx (LGBTQ)
  - NT White people (LGBTQ)
  - NT LGBTQ Roma
  - NT LGBTQ biracial people
  - NT LGBTQ multi-racial people
  - NT Black people (LGBTQ)
Expanded Possibilities: Spiritual Queer Identity

LCSH

Buddhist Gays

Gays

Homosaurus

Buddhists (LGBTQ)

NT Queer Buddhists

NT Bisexual Buddhists

NT Gay Buddhists

NT Transgender Buddhists

NT Lesbian Buddhists

BT LGBTQ Religions
Expanded Possibilities: Specificity

LCDGT
Gender minorities
Intersex people
Transgender
Transsexuals
Transvestites

Homosaurus

https://homosaurus.org/v3/homoit0001378
Homosaurus in Practice

**Broader term (BT)**
LGBTQ people

**Narrower term (NT)**
- Agender people
- Androgynous people
- Demigender people
- FtXs
- Gender fluid people
- MtXs
- Non-binary people
- Older transgender people
- Pangender people
- Third gender people
- Trans men
- Trans women
- Transfeminine people
- Transgender children
- Transgender daughters
- Transgender fathers
- Transgender mothers
- Transgender parents
- Transgender sons
- Transgender youth
- Trans masculine people
- Transsexual people
- Trigender people

**Use for (UF)**
- Trans
- Trans*
- Transgender
- Transgendered
- Transgendered people
- Trans-identified people
- Trans-people
- Trans people
- Trans people
- Trans people

**Related term (RT)**
- Cisgender people
- Crossdressers
- Eonist people
- Gender confirming surgery
- Gender dysphoria
- Gender identity
- Gender identity disorder
- Gender markers
- Gender non-conforming people
- Genderqueer people
- Hormone therapy (Gender)
- Men
- No hormone identity
- Non-operative
- Parents of transgender people
- Partners of transgender people
- Passing (gender)
- Persecution of transgender people
- Post-operative
- Pre-operative
- Pronouns
- Stealth (Transgender)
- Transgender characters
- Transgender community
- Transgender community centres
- Transgender identity
- Transgenderism
- Transitioning status
- Transitioning (Transgender)
- Transphobia
- Transvestites
- Women

**Scope note (SN)**
Broad term for people who do not conform to their gender assigned at birth. Add more specific terms when possible.
The Homosaurus in Practice

https://library.bard.edu/record=b2500110
The Homosaurus in Practice

| 600 | 10 | Krist, Lee.
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The Homosaurus in Practice
The Homosaurus in Practice

[Image of a webpage from homosaurus.org showing a table with details about "Trans men" and links to broader terms like Males, Transgender people, and Men.]
**The Homosaurus in Practice**
The Homosaurus in Practice
Best Practices

- Generally, don’t record gender unless the person explicitly and publicly states their gender identity.
- If you record gender, use the words the person uses to describe themselves.
- Select a term from a controlled vocabulary such as the Homosaurus.
- When in doubt, leave it out!
Shoutout to the Editorial Board!

Marika Cifor
Jay L. Colbert
Janaya Kizzie
Clair Kronk
Chloe Noland
K.J. Rawson
Bri M. Watson
Jack van der Wel
Adrian Williams

https://homosaurus.org/about