



ANGELS
OF HISTORY

Angels of History

ARJAHN COX

DATA BOOK

ANGELS OF HISTORY
ARJAHN COX

*Parsons School of Design
Lucia Cuba and Carolina Obregon
Systems and Society
2022-2023*

*Data Assistance from
The New School SexTechLab*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

24	INTRODUCTION
51	TERMS
51	PARTICIPANT IDENTITIES
71	PARTICIPANT IDENTITIES
78	CLOTHING OPTIONS AND GENDER EXPRESSION
77	NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION
72	MESSAGES TO SOCIETAL NORMS
73	CONCLUSION

Angels of History
ARJAHN COX

INTRODUCTION

THE DATA IN THIS BOOK IS FROM A GENERAL SURVEY THAT WAS CONDUCTED VIA GOOGLE SHEETS FROM OCTOBER 10,2022 TO NOVEMBER 9,2022. THE SURVEY WAS POSTED ON INSTAGRAM, TIKTOK AND AROUND THE NEW SCHOOL. A TOTAL OF 118 RESPONSES WERE RECEIVED. THIS SURVEY WAS OPEN TO ANYONE TO SPEAK ABOUT THEIR OPINIONS ON GENDER AND CLOTHING IN RELATION TO THEMSELVES AND THEIR IDENTITIES. THE GOAL WAS TO SEE PEOPLES OPINIONS ON GENDER AND FASHION AS WELL AS TO FIND TRANSGENDER PEOPLE OF COLOR TO ACT AS MODELS AND MUSES FOR ARJAHN'S FINAL THESIS COLLECTION: *Angels of History*.

RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED FOR THEIR AGE, RACE, GENDER IDENTITY AND SEXUALITY TO PROVIDE DATA POINTS OF INDIVIDUAL IDENTITY. ADDITIONALLY RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED IF THEY FELT LIKE THEY WERE ABLE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES AND THEIR GENDER IDENTITY THE WAY THAT THEY WOULD LIKE VIA CLOTHING AS WELL AS WHAT THEY FELT COULD BE DONE TO MAKE CLOTHING MORE SUITABLE FOR THEM AND THEIR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE. THE RESULTS ARE AS FOLLOWS.

TERMS

THE FOLLOWING TERMS ARE TERMS USED BY PEOPLE WHO TOOK THE SURVEY. THESE TERMS ARE NOT AN ALL ENCOMPASSING LIST OF TERMS POPULAR OR AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE TO IDENTIFY WITH.

PLEASE LOOK UP OTHER TERMS IF YOU ARE OF INTEREST.

GENDER RELATED TERMS

PRONOUNS:

a word used to reference a noun (person,place,or thing) without mentioning it by name. Popular pronouns used by people include she/her/hers, he/him/his, and they/them/theirs

GENDER:

How someone chooses to identify themselves, can relate to a range of expressions besides just man or woman. Gender often times is dictated in relation to ones sex

SEX:

Usually decided based on the sexual organs that a person posseses. Usually categorically placed as male, female, or intersex

INTERSEX:

a person born with sexual organs that are not exclusively categorizable as male or female

TRANSGENDER:

Someone who does not agree with the gender they were assigned at birth.

CISGENDER:

Somone who agrees with the gender they were assigned at birth.

AFAB:

Assigned Female at Birth

AGENDER:

someone who does not see themselves as having a gender

GENDERQUEER:

Overarching term for someone who does not identify as male or female

GENDERFLUID:

Someone who's does not see their gender as stagnant

DEMIGIRL/DEMIBOY:

Someone who partially identifies as a woman/girl in the case of demigirl or partially identifies as a man/boy in the case of demi boy

NON-BINARY:

Someone who identifies outside of the gender binary of man or woman. Often times identifying with both femininity and masculinity in different ways

SEXUALITY RELATED TERMS

SEXUALITY:

of sexual feelings, usually used to indicate who someone is attracted to in a sexual manner

GAY:

typically used to describe men who are attracted to men

PANSEXUAL:

having sexual feelings that are not based on the other person's gender

GREYSEXUAL:

someone who rarely experiences sexual attraction

STRAIGHT/ HETEROSEXUAL:

having sexual feelings exclusively towards someone of the "opposite" sex

LESBIAN:

typically used to describe women who are attracted to women

QUEER:

A general term for people whose identity is outside of the norm, likely in reference to heterosexuality and the cisgender ideal.

T4T:

stands for "trans for trans", trans people who are only interested in being sexual with other trans people

GAY/HOMOSEXUAL:

having sexual feelings exclusively towards someone of the same sex

BISEXUAL:

having sexual feelings towards people who are your same sex or other sexes

ASEXUAL:

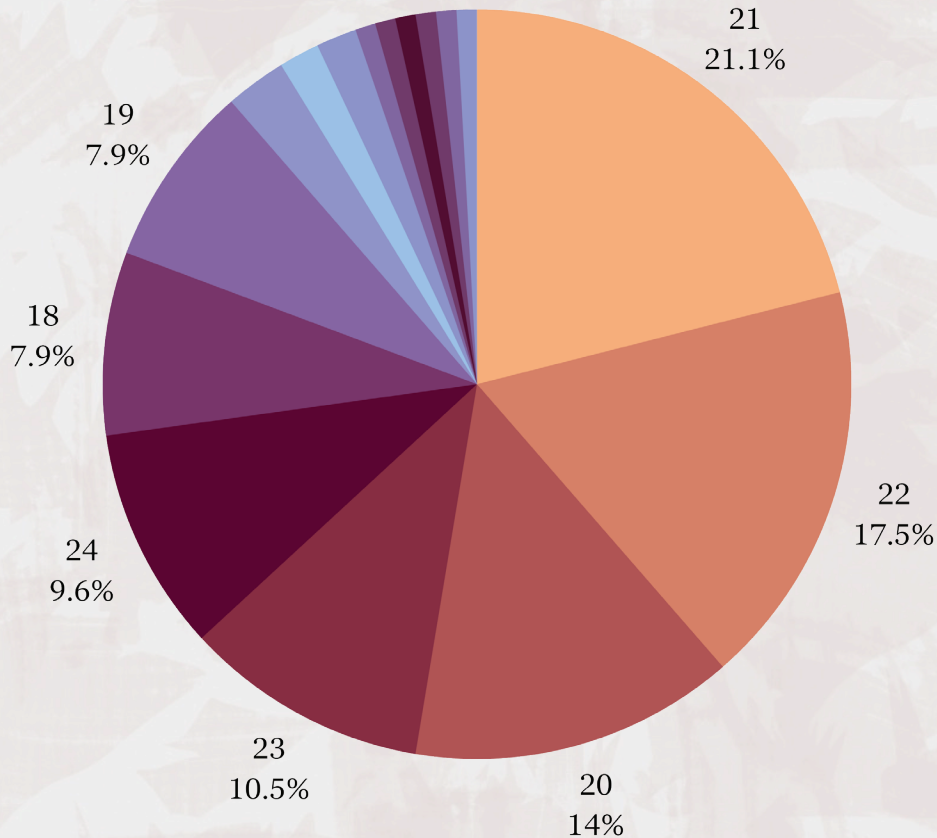
having little or no sexual feelings towards other people

PANROMANTIC:

Romantic attraction to people not based on their gender

INFORMATION
DESIGN

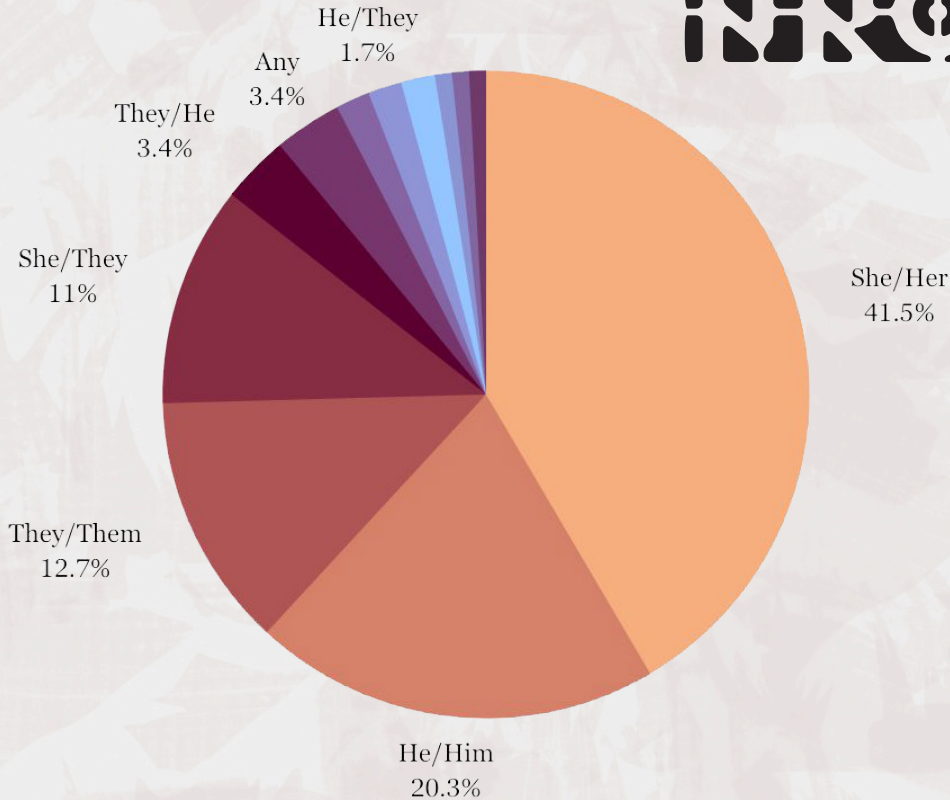




THE MAJORITY OF PARTICIPANTS WERE YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 18-24). THE OLDEST PARTICIPANT WAS 58 YEARS OLD AND THE YOUNGEST PARTICIPANT WAS 14 YEARS OLD.



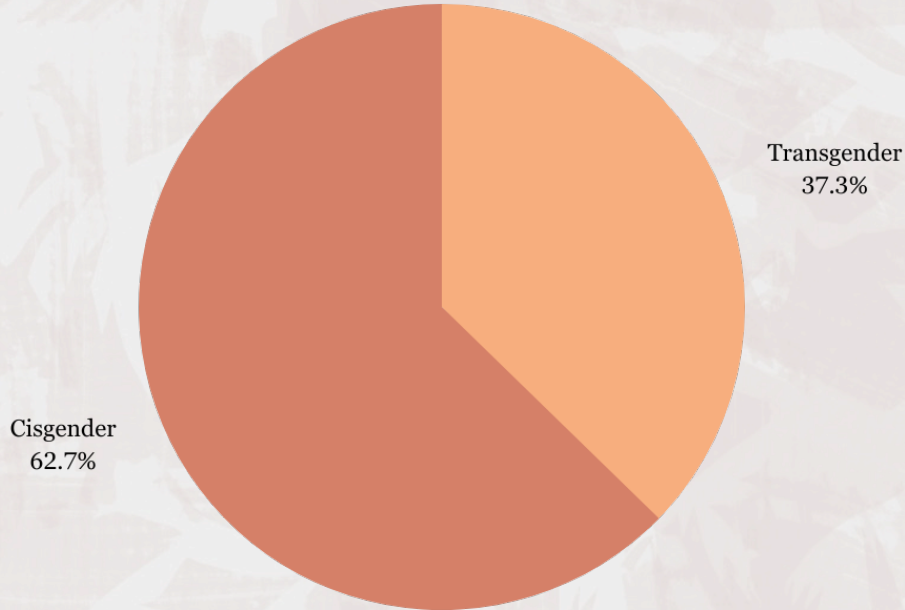
PRONOUNS



THE MOST POPULAR PRONOUNS WERE SHE/HER (49 PEOPLE) AND HE/HIM (24 PEOPLE). THEY/THEM WAS THE THIRD MOST POPULAR SET OF PRONOUNS (15 PEOPLE). THE FOLLOWING PRONOUNS USED WERE USUALLY MIXTURES OF THE MOST POPULAR THREE (EX: SHE/THEY IN WHICH A PERSON WOULD LIKE TO BE REFERRED TO WITH SHE/HER AND THEY/THEM PRONOUNS. OTHER NOTABLE RESPONSES INCLUDED 4 PEOPLE WHO USED ANY PRONOUNS AND ONE PERSON WHO PREFERRED TO BE REFERRED TO BY NAME.



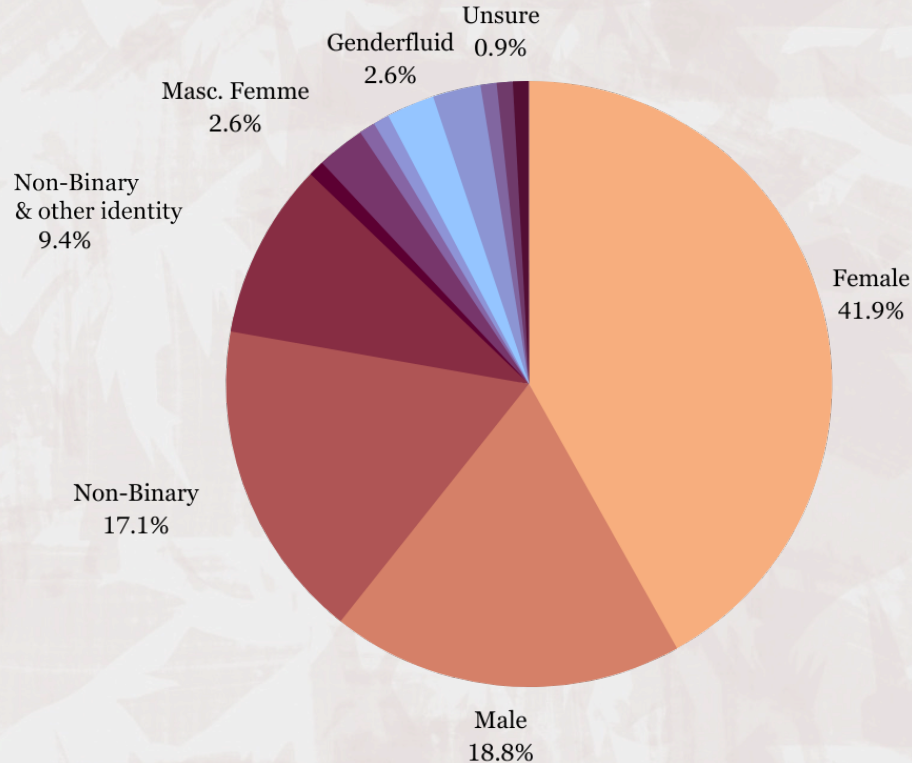
IDENTITIES OR GIFS



74 PEOPLE WERE CISGENDER AND
44 PEOPLE WERE TRANSGENDER.

IN THIS CHART PEOPLE COUNTED AS
TRANSGENDER INCLUDES ANYONE
WHO DOES NOT IDENTIFY WITH
THE GENDER THEY WERE ASSIGNED
AT BIRTH. THE TRANSGENDER
CATEGORY ALSO INCLUDES PEOPLE
WHO IDENTIFY AS NON-BINARY,
GENDERFLUID, ETC.

GENDER

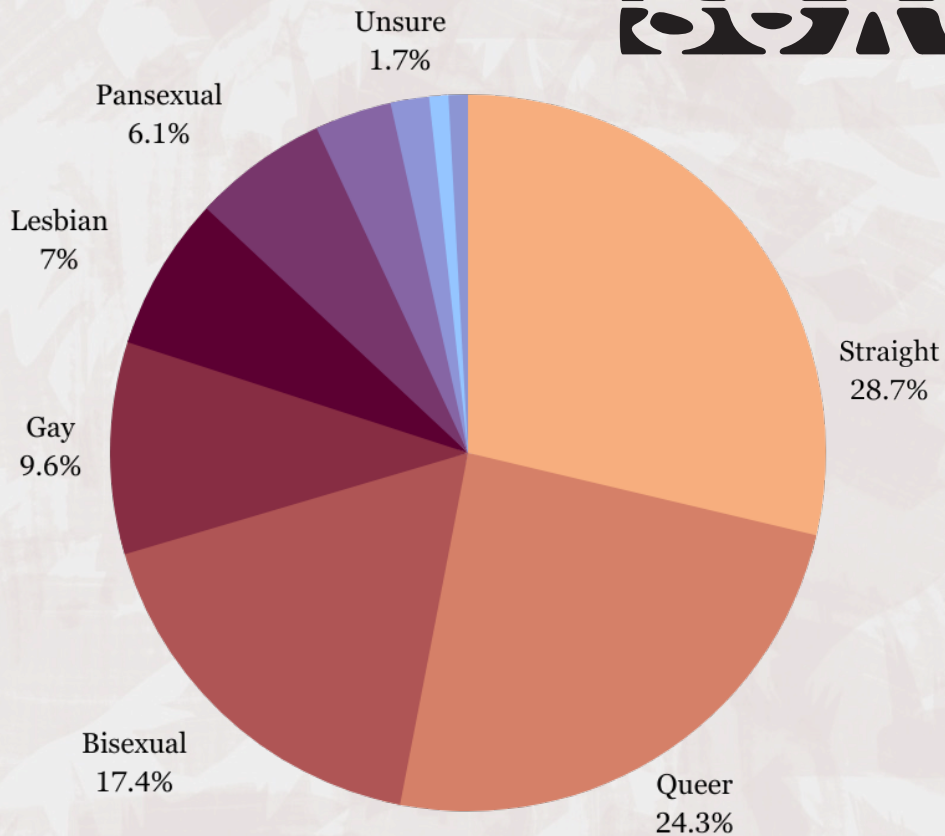


THE THREE MOST POPULAR GENDERS WERE FEMALE (49 PEOPLE), MALE (22 PEOPLE), AND NONBINARY (20 PEOPLE). AS YOU CAN SEE THERE ARE DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE WHO USE HE/HIM PRONOUNS AND THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE WHO IDENTIFY AS MALE, THIS IS BECAUSE USING A CERTAIN SET OF PRONOUNS DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY MAKE YOU THE GENDER MOST ASSOCIATED WITH THOSE PRONOUNS AND VICE VERSA.

IN THIS CHART “NON-BINARY & OTHER IDENTITY” DESCRIBES PARTICIPANTS WHO DESCRIBED THEIR GENDER AS AND ANOTHER IDENTITY SUCH AS “NON-BINARY/FLUID”.



SEXUALITY

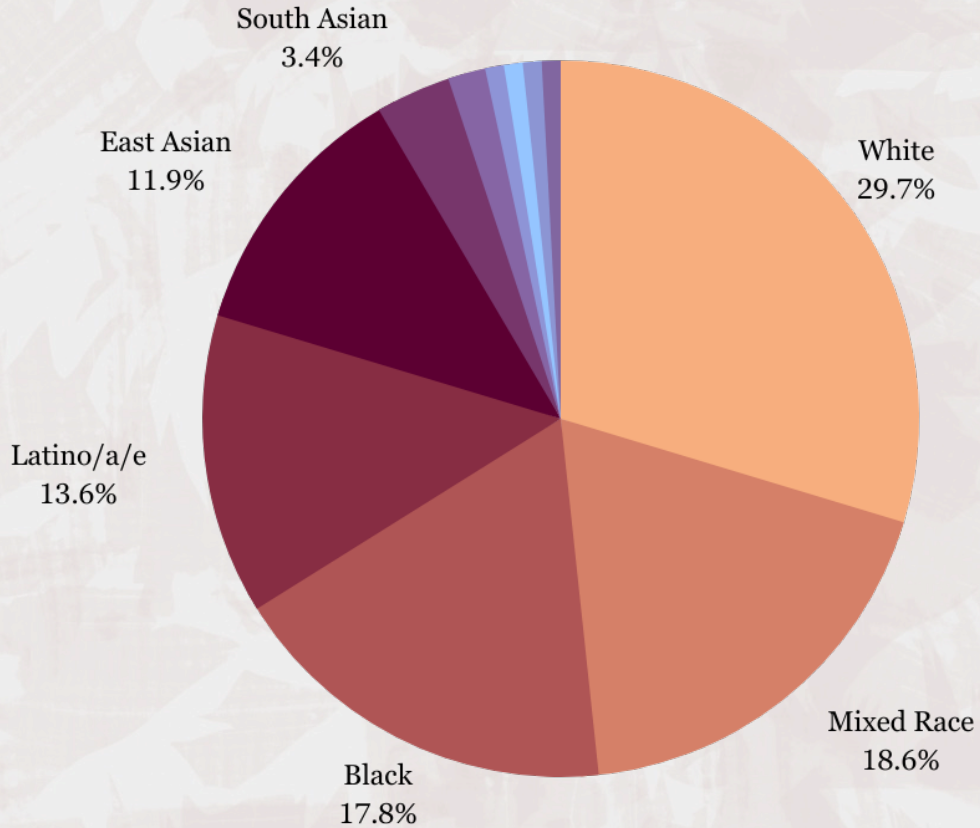


THE THREE MOST POPULAR SEXUALITIES WERE STRAIGHT (33 PEOPLE), QUEER (28 PEOPLE), AND BISEXUAL (20 PEOPLE). PANSEXUAL IS ALSO A NOTABLE SEXUALITY WITH 7 PEOPLE IDENTIFYING AS PURELY PANSEXUAL AND 4 PEOPLE IDENTIFYING AS BISEXUAL/PANSEXUAL.

THESE IDENTITIES CORRELATE TO THE DOMINANT AGE GROUP OF THE SURVEY BEING 18-24 AS GEN Z PEOPLE TEND TO IDENTIFY WITH LESS BINARY SEXUALITIES AS GEN Z IS LESS BINARY IN THEIR GENDER/GENDER EXPRESSION.



INCOME & ETHNICITY

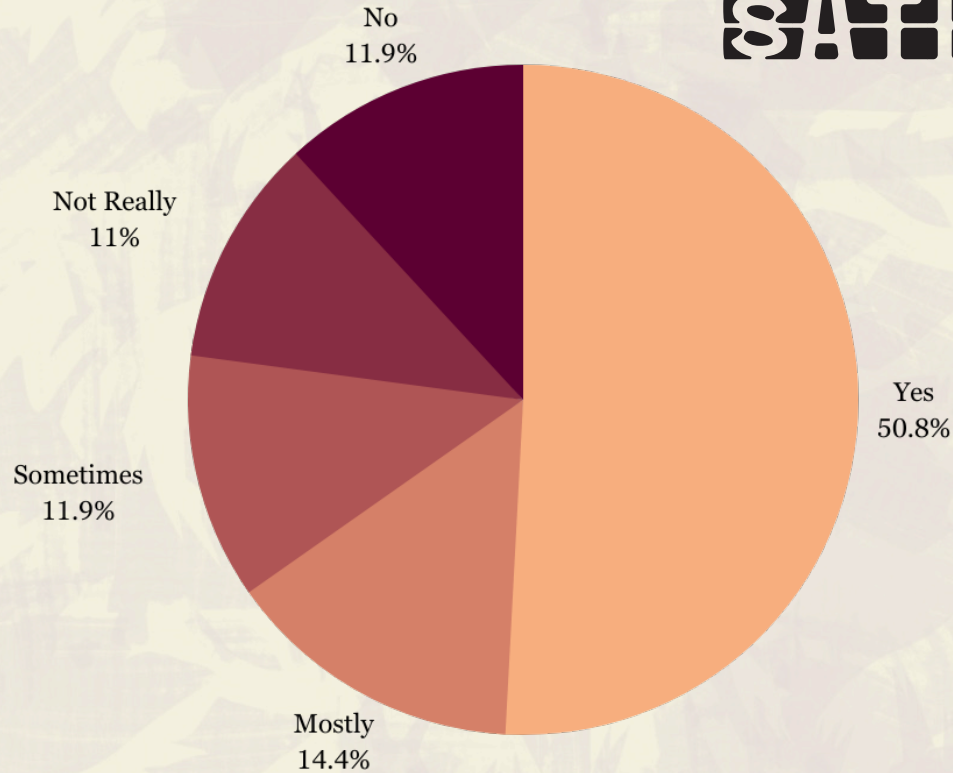


THE MOST COMMON RACE/ETHNICITY WAS WHITE (35 PEOPLE), FOLLOWED BY MIXED-RACE (22 PEOPLE) AND BLACK (21 PEOPLE). MIXED-RACE INCLUDES ANYONE IN THE SURVEY WHO IDENTIFIED THEMSEL AS MIX RACE OR OF MULTIPLE RACES/ETHNICITIES.

WHILE THE SURVEY WAS AVAILBLE FOR ANYONE TO TAKE, (TRANS) PEOPLE OF COLOR WERE EXPLICITLY ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE AS THE FINAL OUTCOME IS TO MAKE CLOTHING FOR TRANS PEOPLE OF COLOR.

INTEGRATING CONNECTIONS

GOING SUSTAINABLE



OUT OF THE 118 PARTICIPANTS, ONLY 51% FELT THAT CLOTHING OPTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO THEM ADEQUATELY EXPRESS THEIR IDENTITY. MEANING THAT CURRENT FASHION SYSTEMS ARE NOT WORKING FOR EVERYONE, BUT RATHER FOR A PRIVILEGED FEW.

DISCREPANCIES HIGHLIGHTED IN THE SURVEY RESPONSES INCLUDED A STRICT GENDER BINARY IN CLOTHING OPTIONS, CLOTHING NOT COMING IN SPECIFIC SIZES OR FOR CERTAIN BODY TYPES, AND AFFIRMING CLOTHING BEING TOO EXPENSIVE.

INTERVIEWS

PARTICIPANTS WERE ASKED:

DO YOU FEEL LIKE THE CLOTHING OPTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU HELP YOU EXPRESS YOURSELF AND YOUR GENDER IDENTITY IN THE WAY YOU WOULD LIKE?

WHAT, IF ANYTHING, DO YOU FEEL COULD BE DONE TO MAKE CLOTHING MORE SUITABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR PERSONAL EXPRESSION?

AS WELL AS FOR

ANY OTHER THOUGHTS ON GENDER, RACE, CLOTHING AND SELF EXPRESSION THAT YOU MAY HAVE (RELATED TO YOURSELF OR GENERALLY SPEAKING)

PARTICIPANT RESPONSES HAVE BEEN CATEGORIZED AND ARE AS FOLLOWS

ALL RESPONSES ARE ANONYMOUS AND ARE MARKED AS P(NUMBER) IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER OF THEIR SURVEY RESPONSE

ANSWERS TO QUESTION 1:

CLOTHING OPTIONS AND GENDER EXPRESSION

THEMES:

GENDER BINARIES - PG 19

PERCEPTIONS OF DRESS - PG 20

BODY EXCLUSIVITY - PG 22

MONETARY EXCLUSIVITY - PG 26

CLOTHING OPTIONS AND GENDER BINARIES

DO YOU FEEL LIKE THE CLOTHING OPTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU HELP YOU EXPRESS YOURSELF AND YOUR GENDER IDENTITY IN THE WAY YOU WOULD LIKE?




YES, BUT THAT'S LARGELY BECAUSE I HAVE A CIS MALE PARTNER WHO LOVES TO SHARE AND SWAP CLOTHES
– PARTICIPANT 6

EH NOT REALLY. HARD TO FIND MASC CLOTHES THAT FIT AFAB BODIES WITH CURVES
– P 4

ONLY WHEN I DON'T NARROW MYSELF DOWN TO ONE GENDER OF A CLOTHING SECTION
– P94

NOT NECESSARILY, I ALWAYS SAY FEMALES HAVE MORE RANGE WITH THEIR CLOTHING AND IS EASILY EXPRESSIBLE
–P103

GENERALLY, THE WAY CLOTHES ARE SOLD IS VERY HETERONORMATIVE (I.E WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SECTION), I FEEL LIKE ADVERTISING HAS STRAYED FROM THE TYPICAL CLOTHING CHOICES EXPECTED IN TERMS OF SOMEONE'S GENDER, WHICH I AM ALL FOR. AS FOR ME, I MOSTLY DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE JUST STICKING TO SECTIONS OF THE STORE LABELED FOR WOMEN, EVEN THOUGH I IDENTIFY AS ONE. BASICALLY, I JUST DON'T LIKE THE BOUNDARIES PLACED AROUND CLOTHING.
– P30

 yes  sometimes  not really

CLOTHING OPTIONS AND PERCEPTIONS OF DRESS

DO YOU FEEL LIKE THE CLOTHING OPTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU HELP YOU EXPRESS YOURSELF AND YOUR GENDER IDENTITY IN THE WAY YOU WOULD LIKE?

FOR THE MOST PART I AM ABLE TO PRESENT MYSELF IN A WAY THAT ALIGNS WITH MY FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS ABOUT MY GENDER AND GENDER EXPRESSION, HOWEVER I FEEL LIKE THIS IS THEN MET WITH SOCIETAL VIEWS OF WHAT I AM WEARING AND IT BECOMES MISCONSTRUED TO BE SEEN AS MORE FEMININE JUST BECAUSE I AM AFAB
– PARTICIPANT 1

...SINCE I LOOK LIKE A WOMAN THERE'S LOTS OF PRESSURE TO DRESS MORE FEMININELY AND I WANT TO PUSH MYSELF TO GO OUTSIDE OF THAT MOLD MORE SOMETIMES.
– P11

SOMEWHAT, I THINK SO BUT IT'S WHETHER OR NOT I LET MY HEAD GET IN THE WAY OF LETTING ME WEAR THE CLOTHING I WANT TO
-P31

 yes  sometimes



CLOTHING OPTIONS AND PERCEPTIONS OF DRESS

YES, I THINK SO. I OFTEN FIND MYSELF PLAYING WITH BOTH MY OWN FEMININITY AND MASCULINITY IN FASHION. WHENEVER I PUT ON AN OUTFIT I THINK ABOUT THE GENDER BINARY (IS THIS OUTFIT MORE FEMININE/ MASCULINE.

WHAT AM I GOING FOR TODAY? HOW DO I FEEL TODAY? MORE OF A MASCULINE OR FEMININE LOOK?) AND I WISH IT WAS MORE FLUID. BUT I THINK THAT'S A MINDSET I WAS RAISED IN THIS SOCIETY WHERE I UNCONSCIOUSLY THINK ABOUT THE MALE GAZE.

-P 77

...I TYPICALLY FEEL MOST COMFORTABLE BLENDING IN WITHIN PUBLIC SPACES. THE CLOTHING OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO ME HELP ME FEEL SAFE FROM JUDGMENT OR FEELINGS OF SHAME FOR THE MOST PART. HOWEVER, IF I WERE TO FEEL MORE INCLINED TO EXPRESS MY INTERNAL SELF THROUGH FASHION, IT WOULD BE MUCH MORE OF A CHALLENGE TO FIND PIECES THAT REFLECT THIS QUASI-ALTER EGO. CURRENTLY, I TRY TO MAINTAIN AVERAGE SILHOUETTES AND ENSEMBLES THAT HELP ME FLY UNDER THE RADAR WHILE INCORPORATING SMALL STATEMENTS OF QUEER EXPRESSION (ALBEIT STEREOTYPICAL ONES) FOR THOSE WHO CARE TO LOOK, I.E. CUFFING MY PANTS OR WEARING SOMEWHAT UNDERSTATED JEWELRY (I ALWAYS HAVE AN EARRING IN MY "GAY EAR", OF COURSE). HOWEVER, I DO HOPE TO GRADUALLY BUILD MY CONFIDENCE IN TAKING A MORE INDIVIDUALISTIC AND CREATIVE APPROACH TO DRESSING MYSELF.

-P87

yes mostly

CLOTHING OPTIONS AND BODY EXCLUSIVITY

DO YOU FEEL LIKE THE CLOTHING OPTIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU HELP YOU EXPRESS YOURSELF AND YOUR GENDER IDENTITY IN THE WAY YOU WOULD LIKE?

YES, ALTHOUGH I THINK MY BODY TYPE AND PHYSIQUE MAKES ME DOUBT THE CLOTHING OPTIONS' SUCCESS.

– PARTICIPANT 15

I HAVE DONE A LOT OF SEARCHING TO FIND BRANDS AND VINTAGE CLOTHING THAT I FEEL HELP ME PROPERLY EXPRESS MY GENDER IDENTITY. AS A MID TO PLUS SIZE PERSON THOUGH I DO STRUGGLE TO FIND MORE MASCULINE CLOTHING THAT ACCOMMODATES MY BREASTS AND HIPS. I FIND MYSELF GRAVITATING TOWARDS MORE TRADITIONALLY FEMININE CLOTHING OUT OF A NECESSITY AT TIMES BECAUSE I FEEL LIKE THERE AREN'T MANY MASCULINE OPTIONS THAT FIT WELL AS A PERSON WHO HAS NOT GOTTEN TOP SURGERY.

–P18

YES BUT ONLY BECAUSE I HAVE A VERY TRADITIONAL IDENTITY

– P55

 yes  mostly



CLOTHING OPTIONS AND BODY EXCLUSIVITY

IT CAN SOMETIMES BUT A LOT OF THE TIME I HAVE TO MAKE IT WORK FOR ME. I WISH MORE CLOTHING WOULD COME IN PLUS SIZES THAT WOULD MAKE ME FEEL LIKE I COULD EXPRESS MY GENDER MORE
– P20

FOR THE MOST PART, YES, BUT THAT'S SOLELY BECAUSE I'M A TWIG WITH A FEMININE STYLE, NOT EXACTLY NICHE. STILL, SOMETIMES IT'S DIFFICULT TO DRESS MY BODY IN A FLATTERING WAY THAT DOESN'T SACRIFICE THAT FEMININITY. A MAJORITY OF FEMME CLOTHING IS MADE UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE WEARER HAS FULL BREASTS AND WIDE HIPs, SO I HAVE TO PASS ON A LOT OF PIECES I WOULDN'T HAVE OTHERWISE.
– P44

YES, AND THIS IS DUE TO THE CLOTHING OPTIONS BEING “STANDARDIZED” TO MY SHAPE AND FIT. I HAVE THE PRIVILEGE TO HAVE OPTIONS THAT MANY PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE.
– P47

SOMETIMES, I'M SMALL SO FINDING MASCULINE CLOTHING IS HARD BECAUSE I CAN'T REALLY SHOP IN THE MEN'S SECTION
– P49

 yes  sometimes






CLOTHING OPTIONS AND BODY EXCLUSIVITY

YES BUT I ALSO AM LIKE THE CONVENTION AND I THINK THERE SHOULD BE A WIDER VARIETY BC
I'VE TALKED WITH A LOT OF FRIENDS WHO STRUGGLE
– P56

SOMEWHAT- I THINK THE CURRENT CUTS OF CLOTHING AVAILABLE DO NOT SUIT EVERYONE'S BODY
TYPE- OFTEN I FIND MYSELF IRRITATED BY HOW WOMEN'S CLOTHING IS CUT TO HUG THE BODY.
THIS IRRITATION IS FURTHERED BY THE FACT THAT I AM A BIT ON THE HEAVIER SIDE.
– P68

RARELY. IN THE BEGINNING OF MY TRANSITION IT WAS HARD TO FIND STUFF THAT FLATTERED MY
BODY TYPE THE WAY I LIKED.
– P90

SOMETIMES.. THE PROBLEM FOR ME IS THE FORM OF MY BODY AFTER TRANSITIONING. I'M NOT
THAT TALL SO I DON'T ALWAYS FIND NICE STUFF. ALSO MY HIPS AND UPPER THIGHS ARE NOT
TYPICALLY "MANLY" SO YEAH..
– P91

 yes  sometimes  not really

CLOTHING OPTIONS AND BODY EXCLUSIVITY

SOMETIMES. CLOTHING IS HARD BECAUSE EVERYTHING WOULD BE SO GREAT IF TAILORING FELT/WAS MORE ACCESSIBLE. MY SHAPE IS ALSO A FACTOR— I HAVE A FLAT CHEST, BUT ALSO SOME CURVES IN THE LOWER PART OF MY BODY AND IT'S HARD TO FIND CLOTHING THAT FITS MY MEASUREMENTS. I'M TOO SHORT FOR "MENSWEAR" A LOT OF THE TIME BUT "WOMENSWEAR" DOESN'T ALWAYS FIT WELL SO IT CAN BE A STRUGGLE.
– P109

BECAUSE I AM FAT / HAVE CURVIER HIPS ETC — IT'S HARDER FOR ME TO FIND CLOTHES THAT REALLY MAKE ME FEEL COMFORTABLE AND ALIGNED W MY GENDER IDENTITY AND FIND BINDERS THAT MAKE ME FEEL COMFY
– P110

LOL NO. ESPECIALLY AS A DISABLED PERSON WHO USES MULTIPLE KINDS OF MOBILITY AIDS. THINGS DON'T FIT THE SAME WHEN YOU'RE STANDING WITH A CANE VERSUS WHEN YOU'RE SITTING IN A WHEELCHAIR. I FEEL LIKE I ALWAYS LOOK LIKE I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DRESS MYSELF.
– P113

● not really ● no

CLOTHING OPTIONS AND MONETARY EXCLUSIVITY

YES, I SEE CLOTHING AVAILABLE THAT I WANT TO EXPRESS MYSELF WITH. I JUST CAN'T AFFORD ANY OF IT LOL
– P9

I LIKE THE CLOTHES I HAVE BUT I WISH I HAD MORE MONEY TO EXPLORE OTHER ASPECTS OF FASHION. I LIKE FEMME CLOTHING AND MASCULINE CLOTHING AND I WANT TO EXPLORE BOTH OF THOSE THINGS. I JUST FEEL LIKE I DON'T HAVE THE RESOURCES TO DO THAT.
– P10

NO, BUT AS A DESIGNER I FEEL A LEVEL OF PRIVILEGE AND EMPOWERMENT TO BE ABLE TO CREATE THOSE GARMENTS, VERY RARELY DO I FIND ONE ALREADY MADE AND AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE WITHIN MY BUDGET!
– P13

YES, HOWEVER NOT SPECIFICALLY IN THE CITY I LIVE, AND IT OFTEN REQUIRES ME TO PURCHASE CLOTHING ONLINE OR THRIFT AND RECONSTRUCT SOMETHING MYSELF DUE TO HIGH PRICES
– P21

YES..? SORT OF. I FEEL LIKE SOMETIMES THEY AREN'T ACCESSIBLE MONEY WISE
– P59

 yes  no

ANSWERS TO QUESTION 2:

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION

THEMES:

VARIED FIT OPTIONS - PG 28

GENDERLESS CLOTHING - PG 29

RID THE GENDER BINARY - PG 34

CHANGE OF PERCEPTIONS - PG 36

BODY INCLUSIVITY - PG 37

PRICING INACCESSIBILITY - PG 41

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: VARIED FIT OPTIONS

WHAT, IF ANYTHING, DO YOU FEEL COULD BE DONE TO MAKE CLOTHING MORE SUITABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR PERSONAL EXPRESSION?

I THINK A LARGER RANGE OF FIT OPTIONS WITH FITS THAT CAN ALLOW COMPRESSION AND LOOSENESS AT THE SAME TIME. ADDITIONALLY I THINK JUST MORE OPTIONS TO TRANS CLOTHING ITEMS
– P1

TRANSFORMATIVE CLOTHING, THINGS YOU CAN WEAR IN DIFFERENT WAYS
– P53

I WISH CLOTHING COULD HAVE MORE 'EDITABLE' FEATURES. WAYS IN WHICH I CAN CHANGE I LOOK IN THE CLOTHING THROUGHOUT THE DAY
– P42

I FIND I REALLY ONLY WEAR LIKE- 12 THINGS CONSISTENTLY OVER AND OVER. I THINK MORE TRANSITIONAL CLOTHES ARE KEY, BUT LESS INDIVIDUAL PIECES. THE FREEDOM TO CHANGE THE WAY ONE PIECE LOOKS NOT ONLY HELPS THE VERSATILITY BUT ALSO LIKE- THE EXPRESSION OF MY INDIVIDUALITY.
– P70

IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE PIECES THAT HAVE ALL OF MY FACETS OF STYLE AND SELF IDENTITY IN A SINGLE CONTIGUOUS PIECE RATHER THAN HAVING TO LAYER AND OVERLAP AND COLLAGE MY SENSE OF STYLE TOGETHER. THERE AREN'T REALLY MANY CLOTHES MADE W GENDERWEIRD PPL LIKE ME IN MIND
– P107

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: GENDERLESS CLOTHING

WHAT, IF ANYTHING, DO YOU FEEL COULD BE DONE TO MAKE CLOTHING MORE SUITABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR PERSONAL EXPRESSION?

I FIND THAT CLOTHING IS STILL SUPER GENDERED, AND MAKES ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE BODIES THAT INHABIT IT. “GENDER NEUTRAL” CLOTHING IN THE MAINSTREAM SEEMS TO REALLY JUST BE “MENS” CLOTHING MARKETED TO A WIDER AUDIENCE. I NEVER SEE THINGS THAT ARE MORE TRADITIONALLY “FEMALE” LIKE SKIRTS OR DRESSES IN THESE COLLECTIONS. AND THESE DESIGNS ARE ALWAYS IN “NEUTRAL” COLOURS. I ALSO WISH THAT CONCEPTS OF MASCULINITY AND FEMININITY COULD BE BROKEN DOWN MORE TO THE POINT THAT THEY ARE ABOLISHED. I WANT COMPLETE FREEDOM. I WANT BEAUTIFUL THINGS IN ALL FORMS.

– P6

TO BE ABLE TO HAVE OPTIONS AND HYBRIDS BETWEEN TRADITIONAL MASCULINE, FEMININE, AND NEUTRAL SILHOUETTES THAT ARE BUILT INTO THE GARMENTS WITHOUT HAVING TO MIX AND MATCH INDIVIDUAL GARMENTS THAT WHOLLY REPRESENT ONE OF THE THREE...

– P13

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: GENDERLESS CLOTHING

MAKING CLOTHING
MORE ACCESSIBLE TO
MORE PEOPLE WHO
APPRECIATE THEM AND
MORE GENDERLESS
DESIGNS
– P8

I THINK ACCESS TO CLOTHING MADE TO ACCENTUATE YOUR BODY IN BOTH
MASC/FEMME WAYS. BINDERS AREN'T ENOUGH, IT'D BE HELPFUL IF (FOR
EXAMPLE) MENS CLOTHING MADE FOR SHORTER STATURES EXISTED, OR EVEN
SHOES THAT AREN'T TOO OBVIOUSLY PLATFORMS, OR EVEN DRESSES WITH THE
INTENTION TO ACCENTUATE CURVES AND CHEST AREAS FOR EVERYONE AND
NOT JUST WOMEN.
– P15

I DON'T THINK
GENDER INCLUSIVE
OR "ANDROGYNOUS"
STYLES SHOULD
INHERENTLY BE
DEVOID OF COLOR OR
SHAPE.
– P18

I WISH THERE WERE MORE THINGS THAT FIT ME CORRECTLY BUT LOOKED
MORE MASCULINE, AND ITEMS THAT WERE NON GENDERED BUT ALSO NOT
BORING
– P17

MORE GENDERLESS CLOTHING OPTIONS THAT ALLOW FOR AN DIVERSE ARRAY
OF COLORS, TEXTURES, AND FORMS THAT CAN BE WORN BY AND FOR ANYONE
– P45



NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: GENDERLESS CLOTHING

HAVING LARGER FASHION COMPANIES AND ETC TAKING ANDROGYNOUS AND NON-BINARY PEOPLE MORE SERIOUSLY IN A WAY THAT ISN'T ALWAYS PURELY NEUTRAL COLORED CLOTHING WITH THE MOST BASIC DESIGNS BECAUSE THE BRANDS THAT DO PROVIDE THIS ARE LESS ACCESSIBLE (PRICE, LOCATION ETC)
– P21

NOT LIMITING THE COLOR-WAYS WHEN IT COMES TO DIFFERENT GENDERS
– P55

DIFFERENT SIZE RANGES, CLOTHING BRANDS THAT ARE MORE FEMININE STYLED THAT ARE TARGETED TOWARDS ALL GENDERS
– P67

A LESS “GENDERED” CUT OF CLOTHING- GOING AWAY FROM THE IDEA THAT THERE IS A STANDARD EVERYTHING CAN DERIVE FROM
– P68

NOT CONFORMING MY CLOTHING TO A GENDER, WEARING IT AS AN ITEM, NOT NECESSARILY IN A MASC OR FEM DIRECTION
– P75

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: GENDERLESS CLOTHING

CLOTHING STORES ARE STILL TOO BINARY, THINKING THAT THERE ARE ONLY MEN, WOMEN AND KIDS. FORGETTING DIFFERENT SIZES, SHAPES AND FORMS
– P78

...“UNISEX” OR NON-BINARIC, GENDER NEUTRAL CLOTHING SECTIONS!
– P93

THERE AREN'T REALLY MANY CLOTHES MADE W GENDERWEIRD PPL LIKE ME IN MIND
– 107

I THINK SOME MORE FLUIDITY WHICH I THINK IS SLOWLY CHANGING IN FASHION. I'M A BIG LOVER OF TRENDS THAT BREAK NORMS. I OFTEN FIND MYSELF SHOPPING IN MENS SECTIONS/MY BROTHER'S CLOSET AND I WISH THINGS WERE MORE GENDERLESS. I THINK WE OFTEN FEEL THIS IN THRIFT STORES WHICH IS WHY I THINK OUR GENERATION IS SO FOND OF THEM. IT'S NOT A STORE THAT JUST HAS WOMEN'S OR MENSWEAR, BUT INSTEAD A BIG MIX OF IT ALL UNDER THE SAME RACK
– P77

I TEND TO DRESS VERY “GENDER NEUTRAL”. I WISH THERE WAS MORE REALLY COOL, SUSTAINABLE GENDER NEUTRAL CLOTHING.
– P96

A WIDER AVAILABILITY OF BIAS CUT CLOTHING WOULD MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENT TO THE GNC COMMUNITY!
– P106



NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: GENDERLESS CLOTHING

I WOULD LOVE TO SEE A DECONSTRUCTION OF THE GENDER BINARY AS IT EXISTS IN FASHION. USUALLY, I'M MOST ATTRACTED TO AND INSPIRED BY PIECES THAT ARE DESIGNED FOR WOMEN AND FEMININE PRESENTING PEOPLE, AND I THINK THIS IS PARTIALLY DUE TO THE PRESCRIPTIVE NATURE OF MENS FASHION. I'D LOVE TO SEE MORE CREATIVITY IN CLOTHING INTENDED FOR MEN AND MASCULINE PRESENTING PEOPLE, OR EVEN TO SEE LINES OF CLOTHING THAT ARE INTENDED FOR ANYONE TO WEAR REGARDLESS OF THEIR GENDER EXPRESSION. (I KNOW THIS STATEMENT IS A BIT HYPOCRITICAL, GIVEN THAT ALL CLOTHING CAN BE WORN BY ANYONE. I DO HATE TO ADMIT, THOUGH, THAT AT THE PRESENT MOMENT I WOULD FEEL PRETTY UNCOMFORTABLE WEARING CLOTHING THAT OTHER PEOPLE WOULD SEE AS OBVIOUSLY INTENDED FOR WOMEN.)

– P85

SIZING AND SLUTTINESS. I'M BORED BY GENDER NEUTRAL CLOTHING. I WANT GENDER NEUTRAL PIECES TO BE SEXY AND ALLURING AND PRETTY WHILE BEING ABLE TO SUIT ANY BODY TYPE. A LOT OF GENDER NEUTRAL CLOTHING IS SHAPELESS WHICH MAKES SENSE IN MANY WAYS BUT I WISH THERE WERE MORE THAT EMBRACED THE BODY AND NOT HID IT

– P68



NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: RID THE GENDER BINARY

WHAT, IF ANYTHING, DO YOU FEEL COULD BE DONE TO MAKE CLOTHING MORE SUITABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR PERSONAL EXPRESSION?

RATHER THAN SEPARATING CLOTHES
BY GENDER USE DIFFERENT TYPES OF
STYLES
– P14

INCLUSIVE SIZING & EVEN
ELIMINATING GENDER IN SIZING FOR
BASIC ITEMS LIKE T SHIRTS, & SWEATS
– P27

MIX SECTIONS OF CLOTHING AS STYLE
RATHER THEN MALE OR FEMALE
– P60

NON GENDERED CLOTHING, LESS HEGEMONIC STYLES
– P16

THE NORMALIZATION OF FEMININITY IN “MENS” CLOTHING
AND EVENTUALLY A DESTRUCTION OF THE GENDER BINARY
IN FASHION ALTOGETHER. FASHION HAS COME A LONG
WAY WITH THAT RECENTLY, BUT I STILL DON'T FEEL IT'S
FREED ITSELF OF GENDER ROLES AND ASSIGNING SEXES TO
SPECIFIC LOOKS.
– P44

THROW AWAY THE IDEA OF A MEN AND WOMEN SECTION IN
STORES
– P73

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: RID THE GENDER BINARY

NOT GENDER THE OUTFITS.
THEY ARE FABRIC STITCHED
TOGETHER WHY ADD THE
GENDER BINARY ON IT
– P90

I FEEL LIKE THERE IS STILL SOME KIND OF STIGMA/JUDGEMENT IF YOU
SHOP IN “THE OTHER SECTION OF THE STORE”. WE NEED TO REMOVE
GENDER FROM CLOTHING. EVERYTHING SHOULD BE GENDERLESS,
EVERYTHING MIXED IN THE STORE SO PEOPLE CAN JUST PICK OUT THE
THINGS THEY LIKE WITHOUT FEELING LABELLED
– P91

SEPARATE CLOTHING AND
GENDER EXPRESSION
– P87

I THINK THAT ELIMINATING THE GENDERED/BINARY DIVIDE BETWEEN
CLOTHES IN RETAILERS WOULD BE NICE
– P97

STOP GENDERING CLOTHES, THEY'RE INANIMATE OBJECTS. WHO CARES IF IT'S IN THE “LADIES” OR
“MENS” SECTION OF IT LOOKS AND FEELS GOOD. IT PUSHES THIS STRANGE IDEA THAT DISCOURAGES
PEOPLE FROM FURTHER EXPLORING HOW THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO EXPRESS THEIR IDENTITY
– P111

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: CHANGE OF PERCEPTIONS

WHAT, IF ANYTHING, DO YOU FEEL COULD BE DONE TO MAKE CLOTHING MORE SUITABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR PERSONAL EXPRESSION?

I THINK IT'S MORE ABOUT FINDING A PLACE/ COMMUNITY THAT I CAN RELATE TO WITHIN THE CLOTHING THE I'M WEARING AND HOW ACCEPTABLE I FEEL BY THOSE AROUND ME
– P31

MAYBE IT'S NOT MORE TOWARDS THE CLOTHES BUT TOWARDS HOW SOCIETY VIEWS CLOTHING AND CATEGORIZES IT (GENDER)
– P32

MORE SEXY CLOTHES :) BUT FOR REAL I THINK MY CLOTHING IS HOW I SPEAK AND SHOW MY FEMININITY, I'M NOT REALLY SEXUALLY ATTRACTED TO ANY SPECIFIC GENDER SO I'M NEVER TRYING TO IMPRESS OR BE SEXY FOR ANYONE BUT MYSELF AND OTHER COOL GIRLS. I'M A BIT SOCIALLY AWKWARD SO I WANT MY CLOTHES TO SAY HI I'M COOL YOU CAN APPROACH ME BECAUSE I WON'T MAKE THE FIRST MOVE ! THEY SHOULD BE A CONVERSATION STARTER AND A CONFIDENCE BOOST, I FEEL MORE CONFIDENT IN SHORTER SKIRTS AND HIGHER SHOES
– P41

THE LIMITING THING IS THE FASHION RULES THAT ARE UNSPOKEN. SOMETIMES IF I DRESSED HOW I REALLY WANTED TO I WOULD GET WEIRD LOOKS OR WHISPERS. CREATIVITY IS SOMETIMES SILENCED...
– P92

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: BODY INCLUSIVITY

WHAT, IF ANYTHING, DO YOU FEEL COULD BE DONE TO MAKE CLOTHING MORE SUITABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR PERSONAL EXPRESSION?

WE GOTTA WORK ON SIZES. IN EVERY STORE YOU GO INTO USUALLY THEIR “LARGES” ARE OUT,,,,, BUT THEY HAVE PLENTY OF MEDIUMS, SMALLS, EVEN XS AND XXS. WHY NOT HAVE MORE LARGES? MORE XLS MORE XXLs ?

– P4

I THINK ACCESS TO CLOTHING MADE TO ACCENTUATE YOUR BODY IN BOTH MASC/FEMME WAYS. BINDERS AREN'T ENOUGH, IT'D BE HELPFUL IF (FOR EXAMPLE) MENS CLOTHING MADE FOR SHORTER STATURES EXISTED, OR EVEN SHOES THAT AREN'T TOO OBVIOUSLY PLATFORMS, OR EVEN DRESSES WITH THE INTENTION TO ACCENTUATE CURVES AND CHEST AREAS FOR EVERYONE AND NOT JUST WOMEN.

– P15

THERE'S A WAY TO ACHIEVE A FLATTER CHESTED LOOK THROUGH TAILORING, DRAPING OR FABRIC MANIPULATION. I DON'T THINK GENDER INCLUSIVE OR “ANDROGYNOUS” STYLES SHOULD INHERENTLY BE DEVOID OF COLOR OR SHAPE.

– P18

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: BODY INCLUSIVITY

FOR PANTS TO BE MORE OFTEN MY SIZE BECAUSE I FEEL LIKE THE WAY MY HIPS AND LEG LENGTH ARE PROPORTIONED, THEY RARELY SIT RIGHT.

– P25

CONTOURED CLOTHING IS MAJORITY ONLY FOR SMALLER PEOPLE .

HAVING SOME MORE OPTIONS WHEN IT COMES TO CLOTHES IN MY SIZE WOULD BE COOL

– P37

MAKE CLOTHING MORE ACCESSIBLE I.E. THE BUST AREAS ON 'WOMENS TOPS

– P26

EXTENDING CLOTHING SIZES PAST THE AVERAGE FEMALE/MALE SIZES TO BE ACCESSIBLE TO MORE PEOPLE...OR BIGGER STORES WITH ANDROGYNOUS/UNISEX CLOTHING THAT AREN'T SUPER EXPENSIVE LIKE THE SMALL SHOPS THAT CURRENTLY EXIST

– P49

CLOTHING THAT CAN BE ACCESSIBLE FOR A VARIETY OF BODY TYPES WOULD BE AMAZING! SOMETHING THAT COULD MINIMIZE BODY DYSPHORIA FOR PPL

– P80

TAILORING! MORE FUN PRINTS IN MORE "MASCULINE" CUTS. AND DRESSES THAT WORK WITH MY CHEST WOULD BE GREAT TOO.

– P109



NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: BODY INCLUSIVITY

ACCESSIBILITY IE: MAGNET BUTTONS/CLIP BUTTONS AS OPPOSED TO ONES I HAVE TO FIT THROUGH A SMALL HOLE, ELASTIC ON THE CUFFS OF SLEEVES SO MY HAND CAN STRETCH THROUGH THE HOLE WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT BUTTONING, ELASTIC SHOELACES SO I CAN STRETCH OPEN MY SHOES INSTEAD OF TIE THEM, THESE ARE ALL SORTS OF THINGS I'VE HAD CONVERSATIONS ABOUT BACKSTAGE AS AN ACTOR THAT NEEDS TO WORK WITH EASE, BUT I'VE NEVER TRIED TO IMPLEMENT THEM INTO MY EVERYDAY WEAR BECAUSE [THOUGH I OWN A SEWING MACHINE AND GET INTO THE CRAFTING OF IT ALL] IT'S INCREDIBLY EXHAUSTING FOR ME TO DO. REALLLLLLLY WORKING ON IT, THOUGH. ALSO LIKE, IF I COULD FIGURE OUT A SKIRT SITUATION ON A WHEELCHAIR THAT FLOWS BUT DOESN'T GET STUCK IN THE WHEELS, I FEEL LIKE I'D BE UNSTOPPABLE.

– P113

SMALLER SIZES! I DROWN IN ALL MEN'S CLOTHING. ALSO, APART FROM T-SHIRTS, EVERYTHING I OWN FEELS GENDERED. WOMEN'S JEANS FIT ME BETTER BUT HAVE WORSE POCKETS. MEN'S SHORTS HAVE THE CUT I WANT BUT DON'T COME IN THE SIZE I NEED. WOMEN'S SWEATERS HAVE BETTER PATTERNS BUT ARE ALSO CUT IN WAYS THAT I DON'T WANT.

– P115

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: BODY INCLUSIVITY

CLOTHING FOR PEOPLE
WITH LARGE CHESTS.
MAINLY A LARGE CHEST
BUT STILL RELATIVELY
SMALLER BODY.
– P50

I THINK IF THERE WERE
MORE FLATTERING BASICS
FOR WHEN WITH LARGER
SHOULDER
– P71

MORE OPTIONS FOR
DIFFERENT BODY TYPES
– P83

BETTER SIZES
– P82

SHORTER MENS PANTS.
CUTE TANK TOPS THAT
DON'T ALWAYS EMPHASIZE
BOOBS
– P20

PANTS THAT DON'T
ACCENTUATE CURVES AS
MUCH AND BINDER THAT
GIVES ROOM FOR A FULLER
CHEST / SOMEONE WHO
ISN'T ON THE THIN SIDE
– P82

BETTER SIZE AND
DIMENSION RANGES IN
GARMENTS
– P39

BETTER SIZE RANGES FOR SMALLER
PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY A WIDER AND DIVERSE
ARRAY FOR SMALL TORSOS AND THICK
THIGHS. MAKE THINGS MORE GENDER
NEUTRAL BUT NOT “UNISEX” WHICH
ALWAYS FEELS GEARED TOWARDS MEN
– P82

CLOTHES THAT MADE ME FEEL LESS LIKE I
HAD BOOBS BUT WASN'T A WHOLE BINDER
– P79

PROBABLY BE FIT IN ORDER TO WEAR
MORE GENDER-BENDING ATTIRE AND FEEL
CONFIDENT. ALSO, “UNISEX” OR NON-
BINARIC, GENDER NEUTRAL CLOTHING
SECTIONS!
– P93

NEEDED CHANGES IN FASHION: PRICING INACCESSIBILITY

HAVING LARGER FASHION COMPANIES AND ETC TAKING ANDROGYNOUS AND NON-BINARY PEOPLE MORE SERIOUSLY IN A WAY THAT ISN'T ALWAYS PURELY NEUTRAL COLORED CLOTHING WITH THE MOST BASIC DESIGNS BECAUSE THE BRANDS THAT DO PROVIDE THIS ARE LESS ACCESSIBLE (PRICE, LOCATION ETC)

– P21

MONEY; BEING ABLE TO PURCHASE ITEMS TO EXPRESS MORE IN DEPT(H).

– P35

EXTENDING CLOTHING SIZES PAST THE AVERAGE FEMALE/MALE SIZES TO BE ACCESSIBLE TO MORE PEOPLE...OR BIGGER STORES WITH ANDROGYNOUS/UNISEX CLOTHING THAT AREN'T SUPER EXPENSIVE LIKE THE SMALL SHOPS THAT CURRENTLY EXIST

– P49

COST. HIGH QUALITY UNIQUE CLOTHES ARE REALLY EXPENSIVE AND I DONT HAVE THE TIME TO THRIFT

OR DIY

– P94

IF I HAD MORE \$ TO EXPAND THE DRIP OPTIONS LOL

– P117

OTHER THOUGHTS

MESSAGES - SOCIAL-NORMS

THEMES:

CLOTHING AND IDENTITY - PG 43

GENDER BINARIES - PG 44

PERCEPTIONS - PG 45

BODY AND SIZING - PG 51

ETHNICITIES AND DIVERSITY- PG 54

MESSAGES: CLOTHING AND IDENTITY

I GET REALLY SAD BECAUSE I HAVE A BODY THAT IS READ A SPECIFIC, GENDERED WAY, EVEN IF I DON'T WANT IT TO BE. AND IF I WEAR CLOTHING THAT APPEARS TO "MATCH" HOW OTHER PEOPLE ASSUME MY GENDER IS, THEY WILL JUST SEE ME AS THAT GENDER. IF THE CLOTHING SEEMS TO MATCH THE "OPPOSITE" OF THE GENDER PEOPLE PERCEIVE ME TO BE, THEY COMMENT ON IT, AS IF IT IS AN ANOMALY. I LIKE MANY STYLES OF CLOTHING THAT COME FROM BOTH THE "MENS" AND "WOMEN'S" SIDE OF THE RACKS. I WANT TO BE ABLE TO WEAR ALL WITHOUT IT AFFECTING MY PERCEPTION OF OTHERS

– P6

CLOTHING HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN IMPORTANT PART OF HOW I EXPRESS MYSELF AND WHEN I CAME TO EXPLORE MY GENDER IT IS A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF CONVEYING HOW I SEE MYSELF. AS A PLUS SIZE PERSON CLOTHING IS ALSO IMPORTANT IN FEELING CONFIDENT A LOT OF THE TIME. SOMETIMES I WISH I WAS ASSIGNED MALE AT BIRTH BECAUSE I WOULD FEEL MORE VALID IN HOW I DRESS AND TAKEN SERIOUSLY AS GENDER QUEER.

– P20

CLOTHING BOOSTS MY CONFIDENCE AS A QUEER MAN AND ENABLES ME TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL STYLE.

– P67

MESSAGES: GENDER BINARIES

I THINK THERE IS A LOT OF FAKE INCLUSIVITY. I THINK FAKE INCLUSIVITY IS WORSE THAN HAVING A BRAND THAT ISN'T INCLUSIVE AT ALL.

– P38

BREAKING THE BARRIERS OF GENDERED CLOTHING IN FASHION WOULD PAVE A MAJOR STRIDE FOR THE PUSH OF INCLUSIVITY IN FASHION

– P45

BREAKING THE BARRIERS OF GENDERED CLOTHING IN FASHION WOULD PAVE A MAJOR STRIDE FOR THE PUSH OF INCLUSIVITY IN FASHION

– P45

COMPANIES SHOULD START TO BREAK THE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN CREATING CLOTHING THAT IS “TYPICALLY” SUITED FOR EITHER WOMEN OR MEN. INSTEAD MAKE CLOTHING MORE UNISEX AND AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY AND BE CREATIVE WITH...

– P29

FEEL LIKE WE SHOULDN'T HAVE GENDERED CLOTHING ANYMORE LIKE HONESTLY IT'S 2022 AND THAT'S JUST SO ANTIQUATED. I FEEL LIKE IT'S SO DESTIGMATIZED NOW FOR PEOPLE TO MIX TRADITIONALLY GENDERED CLOTHING BUT IT'S ONLY ACCEPTED ON TYPICAL BINARY GENDERS. IF WE JUST HAD CLOTHING AND NOT MEN'S AND WOMENSWEAR I THINK IT WOULD BE EVEN BETTER

– P54

MESSAGES: PERCEPTIONS

AGEISM AND CLASSISM MAKE SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS ON SELF-EXPRESSION WHERE I LIVE. FASHION IS MORE ABOUT WHAT GROUP YOU WANT TO BE IDENTIFIED WITH, THAN ACTUAL SELF-EXPRESSION.

– P7

I'D LIKE TO SEE LESS SOCIETAL PRESSURE TO FIT INTO ONE PARTICULAR STYLE OR AESTHETIC. I'D LIKE TO DRESS HYPER FEM ONE DAY AND MORE ATHLETIC THE NEXT, OR MORE CLEAN CUT AND MINIMALIST ONE DAY OR GRUNGE THE NEXT. I DON'T WANT TO FIT THE SAME AESTHETIC INTO EVERY TYPE OF OUTFIT AND OCCASION.

– P9

MY CLOTHING AND SENSE OF STYLE IS DEFINITELY A SOURCE OF INSECURITY FOR ME, ESPECIALLY BEING IN THE QUEER COMMUNITY. IT CAN ACTUALLY BE PART OF WHY I'LL MISS A CLASS OR STAY IN MY ROOM ON A FRIDAY NIGHT BECAUSE I FEEL PRESSURE TO PRESENT A CERTAIN WAY. SIMILARLY, SHOPPING FOR CLOTHES CAN BE VERY STRESSFUL FOR ME AND USED TO POINT OUT A LOT OF INSECURITIES ABOUT MY BODY. HOWEVER, I THINK FASHION AND CLOTHES ARE SO IMPORTANT FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES A CERTAIN WAY. THIS CAN BE GENDER AFFIRMING OR JUST SOMETHING THAT GENERALLY MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD WHEN YOU WEAR IT.

– P14

MESSAGES: PERCEPTIONS

SOCIETY RESTRICTS FREEDOM OF SELF EXPRESSION BY HAVING DEFINED AND STILL DEFINING THE EXPECTED ATTIRE PER EVENT INSTANCE AND SCENARIO. THAT IDEOLOGY PUTS CHAINS ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN CLOTHING BECAUSE ONE KNOWS ONE WILL BE JUDGED FOR STEPPING OUT OF THAT DICTATED ASSUMED EXPECTED ATTIRE.

– P2

I THINK THE LENSES PEOPLE USE TO LOOK AT GENDER IN RELATION TO FASHION EXPRESSION CHANGES DRASTICALLY FROM LOCATION TO LOCATION. THERE ARE OUTFITS I WEAR IN NYC THAT NO ONE WOULD LOOK AT AND CONSIDER TO BE GENDERED OUTFITS, BUT WHEN I GO HOME TO MY SMALL RURAL TOWN SOME PEOPLE WOULD FOR SURE CONSIDER THE OUTFITS TO BE MORE MASC/ GENDERED OR WOULD CLAIM THEY THAT MAKE ME

“VISIBLY QUEER”

– P5

WHAT'S INTERESTING IS HOW NO MATTER WHAT I DO I FEEL LIKE PEOPLE WILL STILL SEE ME AS A WOMAN REGARDLESS SINCE MY BODY TYPE IS FEMININE AND STUFF. LIKE I CAN SEE HOW ME BEING NON-BINARY DOESN'T REGISTER WITH PEOPLE MUCH. BUT I DON'T FEEL THE NEED TO CHANGE MYSELF DRAMATICALLY THROUGH SURGERY OR EXTREME MAKEOVERS. I'M FINE THE WAY I AM BUT IT WOULD BE NICE FOR PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE IT MORE. BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR ME THOUGH IS ACCEPTING IT FOR MYSELF CAUSE THAT'S WHAT MATTERS AT THE END OF THE DAY.

– P10

MESSAGES: PERCEPTIONS

I THINK CLOTHING GIVING US THE ABILITY TO IDENTIFY AND AFFILIATE WITH CERTAIN GROUPS WITHOUT HAVING TO SAY A WORD IS SIMULTANEOUSLY SUCH A BLESSING BUT ALSO AT TIMES MISUNDERSTOOD AND LIMITING.

– P21

...PEOPLE SHOULD BE ABLE TO WEAR WHATEVER THEY WANT WITHOUT BACKLASH OR QUESTIONING.
CLOTHING HAS NO GENDER!

– P29

BOYS WORE PINK AND GIRLS WORE BLUE EARLIER BECAUSE BLUE WAS SEEN AS A SOFT COLOR AND MEN WORE SKIRTS BEFORE CAUSE THEY WANTED TO CLASSIFY RANKS, ETC . SO I JUST FEEL LIKE IT'S MORE ABOUT HOW WE ARE PERCEIVED IN THE CLOTHING CAUSE CLOTHES EXIST OUT THERE FOR US TO EXPRESS OURSELVES BUT SOMETIMES I'M NOT TRYING TO EXPRESS A FEMININE TRAITS BY WEARING A MINI SKIRT I'M JUST HOT AND WANT TO AND I THINK PEOPLE PUT THEIR OWN ASSUMPTIONS ON YOU AND THEN YOU ACCOUNT FOR THEM AND THEN REALIZE IT. GENDERING CLOTHING IS RLLY SILLY AND THAT'S FACTS . IT'S JUST ANOTHER WAY TO CLASSIFY US EASILY . (EVEN BLUE / WHITE COLLAR) BUT BEING NON BINARY U DON'T WANNA BE CLASSIFIED AND I FEEL LIKE SOMETIMES EVEN ADMITTING THAT IS TRICKY BECAUSE NOW PEOPLE ASSUME NON BINARY PEOPLE TO LOOK A CERTAIN WAY SOOO IT'S JUST RLLY SILLY AND WE SHOULD ALL WEAR WTVR WE WANT AND SLAY

– P32

MESSAGES: PERCEPTIONS

I FIND IT VERY INTERESTING THAT PEOPLE ASSUME MY SEXUALITY BASED ON MY CLOTHING. I ENJOY SUSTAINABLE FASHION AND FUNKY PIECES BUT THAT IS TYPICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH QUEERNESS
– P33

THERE'S TOO MANY EXPECTATIONS FOR HOW PEOPLE "SHOULD" LOOK BASED ON GENDER/RACE/SEXUALITY AND I PERSONALLY GET SO IRRITATED IF I DO ANYTHING THAT IS OUTSIDE THOSE BOUNDARIES IT'S LOOKED AT ODDLY. SOMETHING I'M WORKING ON GETTING OVER, BECAUSE WHO CARES!!!
– P39

...I WISH MEN DIDN'T EXIST BECAUSE I FEEL FINE WEARING A MINI SKIRT OR A CROP TOP BUT I DON'T WANT A MAN TO FEEL ANY HAPPINESS ON MY BEHALF AND I LIKE BEING LOOKED AT BECAUSE OF MY CLOTHING BUT NOT BY MEN
– P41

ONE STRUGGLE OF MINE IS DRESSING SEXY VS BEING SEXUALIZED WHICH I THINK ALIGNS WITH THIS DISCUSSION. WHEN I FIND MYSELF IN THE MOOD TO DRESS IN TIGHT, FORM FITTING OR REVEALING CLOTHES THAT I FEEL AMAZING IN AND THAT MAKE ME FEEL HOT, I OFTENTIMES CHANGE BECAUSE I KNOW I'LL BE SEXUALIZED BY OTHERS (STRANGERS) AND MY FEELING OF COMFORT IN MY CLOTHES SHIFTS SO I END UP CHANGING INTO MORE LAYERS AND MORE MATERIAL.
– P66

MESSAGES: PERCEPTIONS

I DO THINK ABOUT HOW SEXUALITY AND CLOTHING OFTEN GO AND DON'T GO TOGETHER. FOR EXAMPLE- DRESSING "GAY". IN TERMS OF LESBIANS AND BISEXUAL PEOPLE, THERE IS A STEREOTYPE THAT LESBIANS DRESS MORE MASCULINE, LIKE WITH A WHITE TANK TOP AND BAGGY JEANS, BISEXUALS CUFF THEIR JEANS, ETC ETC. I DON'T THINK I REALLY FIT INTO THE SOCIALIZED LESBIAN IDEA IN TERMS OF THE WAY I DRESS. I FEEL CONFIDENT IN MY IDENTITY AS LESBIAN AND I DRESS HOWEVER I FEEL I CAN BEST EXPRESS MYSELF, BUT I THINK THE WAY I PRESENT MYSELF TO PEOPLE/SOCIETY/THE WORLD DOES NOT INITIALLY COME OFF AS LESBIAN! LIKE PEOPLE HAVE SAID TO ME "OHhh YOU DON'T GIVE OFF A GAY VIBE/YOU DON'T DRESS THAT GAY". I JOKE ABOUT IT BUT SOMETIMES I QUESTION WHY THIS IDENTITY SEEMS SO NARROW FOR ME. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF CATEGORIZING LESBIAN IN THE CONTEXT OF CLOTHING? I FEEL LIKE I DRESS GAY BECAUSE I AM GAY, EVEN THOUGH I DON'T DRESS MASCULINE OR PRESENT AS MASCULINE. I AM A LESBIAN MY CLOTHING/STYLE IS INHERENTLY LESBIAN, EVEN IF IT DOESN'T CONFORM TO A STEREOTYPICAL LESBIAN OUTFIT OR IDEA OF A LESBIAN PERSON.

BUT THAT BEING SAID, I DO FEEL LIKE CERTAIN CLOTHES I WEAR, LIKE A LONG SKIRT OR A FUNKY TOP MAKES ME FEEL MORE LESBIAN. IT COULD BE BECAUSE OF THE CONCEPT OF "DRESSING STRAIGHT" WHICH MANY ASSOCIATE WITH A BASIC STYLE. SO MAYBE I HAVE INTERNALIZED THAT WHENEVER I WEAR SOMETHING THAT I DON'T DEEM "BASIC" I ASSOCIATE IT WITH LOOKING MORE GAY. SOMETIMES CLOTHING DOESN'T DEFINE SEXUALITY AND GENDER BUT ALSO AT THE SAME TIME I SEE HOW IT IS AFFIRMING TO MYSELF IN MY SEXUALITY, AS WELL AS HOW OTHERS FEEL CLOTHING IS AFFIRMING IN THEIR SEXUALITY AND GENDER!

MESSAGES: PERCEPTIONS

CLOTHES HAVE NO GENDER,
PEOPLE SHOULD BE ALLOWED
TO WEAR WHAT MAKES THEM
COMFORTABLE WITHOUT BEING
LABELED OR RIDICULED

– P49

I SOMETIMES FEEL AFRAID TO WEAR THINGS THAT I WOULD LIKE TO
BECAUSE I AM TRANS AND THE DANGERS THAT COME WITH THAT. MY
STYLE IS RELATIVELY SIMPLE AND MINIMALISTIC HOWEVER CERTAIN
DRESS OR SKIRT LENGTHS ARE HARD TO WEAR NOT BECAUSE I THINK
THEY LOOK BAD BUT BECAUSE I AM TOO AFRAID TO.

– P71

IT CAN SOMETIMES STILL BE A
CONFUSING WORLD WHEN IT
COMES TO GENDER, GENDER
ROLES, FASHION, ...EVEN IF I
KNOW WHO AND WHAT I AM, IT
IS STILL HARD TO “FIT IN” AND
I’M KINDA TIRED OF HAVING TO
PROVE THAT I AM A MAN BY THE
WAY I BEHAVE/DRESS/... THINGS
CONSIDERED AS “FEMININE”
DON’T MAKE ME LESS OF A MAN

– P91

I ONLY REALLY FELT COMFORTABLE EXPLORING MY GENDER AND
SELF EXPRESSION AFTER I MOVED OUT OF MY HOMETOWN AND
GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL. ONCE I LEFT THAT AREA I BECAME
MORE FOCUSED ON WHO I WANTED TO BE (RATHER THAN WHO I
HAD TO BE)

– P97

AS A TRANS PERSON, I’VE USED CLOTHING AS A DEFENSIVE WAY
TO AVOID GETTING CLOCKED OR SEEN AS SOMETHING I’M NOT.
I WOULD LOVE TO BE ABLE TO DRESS AS WHO I AM, INSTEAD OF
DRESSING AS SOMEONE READABLE.

– P115

MESSAGES: BODY AND SIZING

WHAT'S INTERESTING IS HOW NO MATTER WHAT I DO I FEEL LIKE PEOPLE WILL STILL ME AS A WOMAN REGARDLESS SINCE MY BODY TYPE IS FEMININE AND STUFF. LIKE I CAN SEE HOW ME BEING NON-BINARY DOESN'T REGISTER WITH PEOPLE MUCH. BUT I DON'T FEEL THE NEED TO CHANGE MYSELF DRAMATICALLY THROUGH SURGERY OR EXTREMES MAKEOVERS. I'M FINE THE WAY I AM BUT IT WOULD BE NICE FOR PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE IT MORE. BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR ME THOUGH IS ACCEPTING IT FOR MYSELF CAUSE THAT'S WHAT MATTERS AT THE END OF THE DAY.

– P10

MY BIGGEST PERSONAL GRIEVANCE WHEN IT COMES TO GENDER IDENTITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY CHEST, I FEEL LIKE IT'S EITHER I WEAR SOMETHING SUPER TIGHT AND FITTED AND THEN I FEEL VERY UNCOMFORTABLE WITH ACCENTUATING MY CHEST. I WISH I COULD COMFORTABLY WEAR BAGGY CLOTHES AND MY BODY WASN'T SHAPED SO "FEMALE" ADJACENT SO IT DIDN'T INDICIATE THAT I HAD BOOBS. JUST TRYING TO FIND A MIDDLE GROUND WHERE I FEEL GOOD IN, WHEN IT COMES TO CLOTHES. I TRIED USING A TRAINER AT ONE POINT IN MY LIFE BUT IT DIDN'T EVEN FIT ME; MAYBE BODY DYSMORPHIA AND GENDER DYSPHORIA ARE COMORBID? ESPECIALLY ON THOSE WHO DON'T FIT THE ANDROGYNOUS BODY STANDARDS, WHICH THERE IS A HIGHER CONCENTRATION IN POC COMMUNITIES.

– P19

MESSAGES: BODY AND SIZING

CLOTHING HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN IMPORTANT PART OF HOW I EXPRESS MYSELF AND WHEN I CAME TO EXPLORE MY GENDER IT IS A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF CONVEYING HOW I SEE MYSELF. AS A PLUS SIZE PERSON CLOTHING IS ALSO IMPORTANT IN FEELING CONFIDENT A LOT OF THE TIME. SOMETIMES I WISH I WAS ASSIGNED MALE AT BIRTH BECAUSE I WOULD FEEL MORE VALID IN HOW I DRESS AND TAKEN SERIOUSLY AS GENDER QUEER

– P20

HONESTLY I'M HETERONORMATIVE AND POC. I'M ALSO A NORMAL SIZE AND HAVE A NORMAL BODY TYPE. I FEEL VERY INCLUDED BY I CONSIDER THIS A PRIVILEGE

– P23

I FEEL LIKE WE'RE STILL STUCK IN TIME SOMEWHAT. FEMININE FASHION STILL PERPETUATES UNREALISTIC BODY TYPES AND BEAUTY STANDARDS WHILE TRYING TO APPEAL TO THE MALE GAZE. I KNOW IT WILL BE A WHILE BEFORE THERE'S READILY AVAILABLE CLOTHING MADE FOR BODIES LIKE MINE, BUT I'D LOVE TO SEE FASHION SHIFT IT'S FOCUS FROM THE PERCEPTION OF THE WEARER TO THE WEARER THEMSELF.

– P44

I THINK THAT THE WAY CLOTHING IS MADE, IS THAT IT IS MANUFACTURED FOR SOME PLATONIC IDEAL OF A PERSON- NOT NECESSARILY ANYONE WHO IS REAL- I HAVE NO SOLUTION FOR THIS ISSUE, BUT I THINK THAT THE PARADIGM SHOULD SHIFT FROM SELLING ONE IDEAL BODY, TO MAKING CLOTHES THAT ARE INCLUSIVE OF MULTIPLE BODY TYPES.

– P44

MESSAGES: BODY AND SIZING

GENDER NEUTRAL CLOTHING TENDS TO CATER FOR GENDER NEUTRAL BODIES WHICH TEND ME BE PETITE, SKINNY, OR FLAT. THERE SHOULD BE MASCULINE CLOTHES ARE STILL FLATTERING.

– P50

I PRESENT VERY FEMME PRESENTING BUT I SEE MYSELF MORE AS JUST A PERSON IN A DRESS, NOT NECESSARILY A WOMAN IN A DRESS.

– P69

I FEEL LIKE I FALL INTO DRESSING FEMME (I'M AFAB) BECAUSE I HAVE WAY MORE OF THOSE OPTIONS AND THEY'RE MADE FOR MY BODY SO THEY MAKE ME FEEL MORE BEAUTIFUL, BUT DRESSING MASC MEANS THRIFTING FOR ITEMS I CAN USE ON MYSELF AND FIGURING OUT HOW TO STYLE IT SO IT DOESN'T LOOK WEIRD ON MY BODY. BUT I WANT TO DRESS MASC MORE I JUST ONLY HAVE LIKE 2 MASC FITS.

– P79

I PERSONALLY FEEL THAT IN THE WORLD TODAY WE NEED MORE PLUSH SIZE FASHION. CAUSE TO THIS DAY ITS STILL NOT SEEN AS OFTEN.

– P102

MESSAGES: ETHNICITIES AND DIVERSITY

I DEFINITELY FEEL THAT MY GENDER EXPRESSION IS HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY MY IDENTITY AND EXPERIENCE AS A BROWN, RECONNECTING INDIGENOUS MEXICAN PERSON LIVING IN THE SO-CALLED “UNITED STATES”. I FIND THAT THE COMFORT I EXPERIENCE IN MY GENDER EXPRESSION OFTEN FEELS MORE AUTHENTIC AND FULL WHEN I AM NOT JUST SHUNNING WESTERN IDEALS OF THE GENDER BINARY/ GENDER ROLES, BUT AM FORGING AND CREATING MY OWN DISTINCT STYLE OF GENDER EXPRESSION THAT, AS I EXPERIENCE IT, FALLS COMPLETELY BEYOND “MALE/FEMALE”.

– P107

I THINK A LOT OF PERCEPTIONS AROUND NONBINARY PEOPLE AND NONBINARY FASHION ARE CENTERED AROUND WHITE NONBINARY PEOPLE, ESP WHITE NONBINARY PEOPLE WHO LEAN MORE TRANS MASCULINE. AS SOMEONE WHO ISN'T YET, ALL THE MOOD BOARDS AND DISCUSSIONS AROUND “NONBINARY FASHION” CAN FEEL OSTRACIZING.

– P109

MULTIPLE MARGINALIZATION MAKES FEELING AFFIRMED EVEN HARDER. IT'S HARD FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES, AND THE MORE YOU'RE AFFECTED BY COLORISM, FAT PHOBIA, TEXTURISM, AND CLASSISM TO PERFORM GENDER IN CONFORMING WAYS AND PPL SHOULD BE MINDFUL OF THAT WHEN UPHOLDING STANDARDS AND IDEAS OF EXPECTED

GENDER PERFORMANCE

– P118

MESSAGES: ETHNICITIES AND DIVERSITY

AS SOMEONE WHO IS OFTEN SEEN AS AND ASSUMED TO BE WHITE, AND WAS ALSO RAISED BY A VERY VISIBLY ASIAN AMERICAN MOTHER, THERE ARE TIMES THAT I FEEL IRRESPONSIBLE OR LIKE I WILL BE LOOKED DOWN ON FOR ENGAGING WITH MY JAPANESE HERITAGE ESPECIALLY THROUGH TRADITIONAL CLOTHING, WHICH IS SOMETHING THAT I HAVE TO UNPACK WHEN I HAVE THE TIME.

– P13

I WISH I COULD EXPRESS MY ASIAN IDENTITY THROUGH CLOTHING MORE BUT MOST OF THE CLOTHES INSPIRED BY JAPANESE TRADITIONAL CLOTHING ARE MADE BY APPROPRIATING WHITE PEOPLE. I ALSO FIND THAT TRYING TO CHANNEL THINGS THAT REPRESENT MY JAPANESE HERITAGE TEND TO BE VERY GENDERED AND THE WOMENS CLOTHING IS OFTEN HYPER FEMININE

– P17

I'M TRYING TO THROW MY WORK INTO THE CORE VALUES OF MY LIFE AS MUCH AS I CAN, AND THAT MEANS EMBRACING BEING TAINO, BEING DISABLED. I DON'T WANT TO FORGET ABOUT THE BEAUTY OF THESE PARTS OF MYSELF, AND USUALLY SOCIETY MAKES ME DO THAT.

– P113

കോൺസൗഹൃദം
ഒരു
സുസ്ഥിര
ഭരണം

CONCLUSION & FUTURE STEPS

FROM THIS RESEARCH IT IS ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT MANY PEOPLES DESIRES AND NEEDS ARE NOT BEING MET WITH THE CLOTHING CURRENTLY AVAILABLE TO THEM. EVERYONE HAS TO WEAR CLOTHES YET ABOUT HALF THE PEOPLE SURVEYED ARE NOT WEARING CLOTHES THAT THEY ENJOY WEARING. WHILE THIS MAY SEEM SUPERFICIAL IT DRAWS UPON SYSTEMIC INEQUITIES AS THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE CLOTHING THEY LIKE ARE PEOPLE WHO POSSESS SOCIETALLY PRIVILEGED BODIES (CISGENDER, THIN, HETEROSEXUAL...). IT IS FASHIONS ROLE TO DO ITS PART IN HELPING TO FIX THESE INEQUITIES.

IN THEIR THESIS PROJECT ANGELS OF HISTORY ARJAHN HAS ADDRESSED THESE ISSUES BY CREATING A NEW SYSTEM OF WEARER-BASED DESIGN CENTERING AROUND THE WEARER'S DESIRES AND NEEDS. WORKING WITH TRANSGENDER PEOPLE OF COLOR TO SHIFT FROM THE HISTORICALLY CISGENDER AND WHITE WORLD OF FASHION, ARJAHN HAS CREATED A FOUR-LOOK COLLECTION BASED ON THE DESIRES AND NEEDS OF FOUR DIFFERENT MUSES WHO WERE FOUND IN THIS SURVEY. ADDITIONALLY ADDRESSING THE MONETARY ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED BY THE SURVEY ARJAHN HAS PAID THEIR MUSES AT EVERY STEP OF THE PROCESS FOR THEIR TIME. ARJAHN HOPES TO CONTINUE TO WORK IN TRANS POC WEAR-BASED CONTINUING TO DO ITERATIONS OF THIS PROJECT.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT ARJAHN.COM

Angels of History



ARJAHN COX | THESIS COLLECTION | PARSONS SCHOOL OF DESIGN | SYSTEMS & SOCIETY | 2023
WEBSITE: ARJAHN.COM | IG: @ARJAHNN | EMAIL: ARJAHNNN@GMAIL.COM



