

Zoe Belle Gender Collective

Insights into the prevention & response to cisgender men's violence against trans women and trans feminine people.

www.transfemme.com.au

Images: Noah Dao & other trans artists

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past & present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people present today. Sovereignty was never ceded, this continent always was and always will be Aboriginal land.



Trans women and men have the right to access healthy and respectful romantic relationships like any other people in our community.

"I recently got married to my partner. I feel so happy! He makes me feel so beautiful. He's a very kind and understanding man. I couldn't legally get married in Malaysia but I can here in Australia. As a transgender woman it was important to me to get married to feel secure and stronger in our relationship. On our wedding we had all our friends and family came along. We celebrated with a full heart." Sanu, trans woman



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Transfemme

♥ Stories, tips and resources to support healthier relationships between men and trans women. ♥



Transfemme.com.au

Responding to the objectification, fetishisation and sexual exploitation of trans women and trans feminine people by cisgender men

A Transfemme practice guide



CIS MEN

Some of the cis men we interviewed discussed:

- the impacts of stigma & discrimination in relation to intimate relationships with trans women.
- feelings of shame or confusion regarding their sexuality.
- fear and/or experiences of rejection, abuse, harassment or violence from family, friends or community.

Some men shared deeply held misogynistic and transphobic attitudes and behaviours including;

- preferences on how trans women should behave, act, look, or about their bodies.
- viewing trans women as being "hyper-sexual" or that the only valid relationships with trans women were exclusively sexual.
- beliefs that all trans women liked to be objectified.





TRANS WOMEN

Many trans women we consulted reported experiencing high levels of intimate partner & sexual violence including:

- pressure from cis men to be hyper feminine or to pass as cisgender.
- experiences of objectification, fetishization & sexual exploitation.
- cis men deliberately isolating trans trans women by limiting meeting to private spaces and refusing to introduce them to their family, friends or broader community.
- pressure from cis men in regarding their gender affirmation & whether they should or should not access different medical or surgical procedures.

Responding to the objectification, fetishisation and sexual exploitation of trans women and trans feminine people by cisgender men, Zoe Belle Gender Collective, 2024.

ATTITUDES OF FAMILY, FRIENDS & COMMUNITY

Transfemme's community consultation found that men's family, friends & broader community could either be a significant risk factor or protective factor in relation to men's behaviours towards trans women.

"His daughter told him that he would not be able to see his grandchildren again. That she would not allow any contact and that he was bringing shame to the whole family. He was really upset. He kept saying that it was my fault, that I caused all these problems, and that if I had of passed better, none of this would have happened." Golden Girl

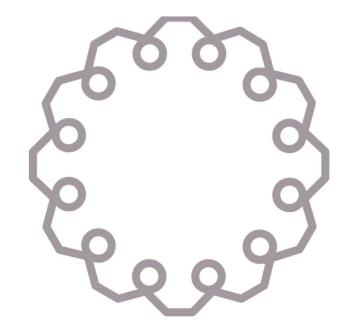




What can you do?

It's everyone's responsibility to address men's violence against trans women.

- Promote Transfemme by sharing our community and professional resources.
- Partner with the ZBGC in creating specific content addressing men's violence against trans women.
- Engage trans women in your work or campaigns.
- Reference trans women in campaigns addressing men's violence against women.



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- www.zbgc.org.au
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