

Exploring Mizzou's Inclusivity for Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Individuals

Owen Bazigian; Shelly Rodgers, Ph.D.

BACKGROUND AND ABSTRACT

GOAL

Observe Mizzou facilities and departments and assess accommodations for transgender and gender non-conforming people.

DATA

Gather information through observing Mizzou's facilities, reading online digital media, and utilizing resources from Mizzou's LGBTQ+ Resource Center.

FINDINGS

Mizzou provides multiple resources, e.g., gender-neutral restrooms, housing, and preferred-name policies, but can still enhance offerings with gender-neutral locker rooms, improved gender-affirming care, and more inclusive athletic policies. Bureaucratic constraints and economic costs might limit immediate progress in these areas.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Are there dedicated resources for transgender and gender non-conforming individuals?
2. Do these resources receive equal attention and funding compared to equivalent ones for cisgender, heterosexual individuals?
3. How can additional resources enhance the experience for these populations at Mizzou?
4. What legal restrictions in Missouri might hinder development of these potential resources?

WHAT MIZZOU DOES WELL

- **54** different buildings have a **gender-neutral restroom**.
- **17** residence halls have **gender-neutral housing**.
- Choice of **pronouns** (he/him, she/her, they/them, etc.).
- **Preferred-name policy** and implementation methods in lieu of legal name.
- **LGBTQ+ Resource Center** offers individual resources, campus events, and training programs.
- **Gender-affirming health care** is available, and individuals can get recommended to another care provider if needed.

HOW MIZZOU COULD IMPROVE

- Limited gender-neutral restrooms, often confined to one floor in many buildings.
- Numerous residence halls lack gender-neutral housing options, limiting choices for residents.
- Legal name change is challenging, despite Mizzou's preferred-name policy.
- Athletes lack gender-neutral locker room access.
- Inadequate gender-affirming healthcare options, prompting the need to seek care elsewhere.
- Mizzou restricts athletes from playing in sports aligning with their gender identity if different from their assigned sex.

BUREAUCRATIC RESTRICTIONS

- The observational approach used here highlights potential resources Mizzou may lack; it's also worth exploring alternative methods that might uncover additional resources beyond the scope of this study.
- Legal restrictions in Missouri, exemplified by SB39, may hinder new resource implementation.
- Mizzou may lack legal capacity to independently challenge certain laws, such as SB39, for greater inclusivity.

CONCLUSION

- There is evidence of equity for transgender and gender non-conforming individuals but also areas for improvement.
- This study offers Mizzou an opportunity for recognition and growth, providing insights to strengthen its commitment to diverse communities; recognizing potential bureaucratic impediments is essential for positive change.
- Reviewing existing resources ensures equitable distribution, fostering inclusivity for all served by Mizzou.



LGBTQ+ Resource Center



Gender-neutral restroom

Owen Bazigian
Prefers 'Owen'

Mizzou allowing preferred names



SCAN ME

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