

**INQUIRY INTO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HATE CRIMES
BETWEEN 1970 AND 2010 - 57TH PARLIAMENT**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

I have seen quite a number of people I have known and still know to have violence toward them in the 1980s it was being bashed. In 2015 it was a doctor who refused treatment to a very close friend because they wanted to transition. All their life they have felt they were in the wrong look of themselves. They suffered with sucked idealisation, depression, once they were allowed to take the hormones which they had to jump through hurdles to do. To avoid them being seen as just this is something they decided to do. The first time this person said anything was when their Mother said to them you need to dress like a girl. The reply that gave was I am a boy. Then the next time was when they were with their xpartner at the beginning of the relationship in other otherwards the first few years in and said they felt like a man and wanted to do something about it. They were informed if they did that this person would leave them. I meet this person and we talked a lot. I said you seem to have a lot of male traits are you sure you are not a boy. Then they opened up about everything. For them it was a very horrific time the past. They know have blossomed become more confident in their own skin. There is no suicidal idealation anymore, or depression the way it was before. They are a lot happier and they live life and they are happy to go clothes shopping. They care about themselves and its obvious in how they are. AS for me. I grew up and as I grew up I always knew I was different to other people there wasn't a name for how I felt so I just say. I'm just me. I don't put a label on myself. Gender wise I am a girl. Some days I wake up and I don't feel like a girl I looked down and get reminded I am. I go to my wardrobe and I stand in there for 20mins deciding what do I wear. I am overweight and my weight is coming off slowly but it is not easy. Some days I wake up and I feel nothing. I am not a girl I am not even feeling more masculine I just am. Then there are other days I wake up and feel more a girl. I shop in both women and men's area. I cut my hair short as I can't see myself wearing a man bun. But my hair now allows me to be a girl, be neutral or be more masculine. I am more neutral or girl. I got a letter from the doctor saying other. I don't use it but I am grateful to have it. It is very hard to change documents on forms. Eg Medical why can't they just say born as female but use the abbreviated AFAB (in brackets next to it and the same for male: AMAB (assigned male at birth. If born intersexed/ just put AIAB (assigned intersex at birth). This isn't so hard to do.....

Then when asked Gender have OTHER there as this allows gender diverse a people to be able to say I am. For me know I have learnt that I am Non Binary in other words NB or an EMBY but because when I grew up in late 80s early 90s then having children in the last 90s there was not a Label as such so I was JUST ME a lot of people used it. There is no toilet sign. So maybe there needs to be a toilet with the sign that is half man half woman on the disabled door. That way people who are gender diverse have that option if they want to loose it. There is not a lot of education out there about this, so as people go through school there is a lot of ignorance. If people are educated they have the power and knowledge to be aware. A lot of religions see Gender Diverse as not normal Buddhism doesn't they are accepting of the other in some countries there is more than female and male and even on forms. We have to move forward we are in the 21st Century in a lot of ways in this area it is like we are in the stoneage. There is information out there myself that I am yet to obtain to have more understanding. Gender Diverse people are people with feelings and emotions. Acceptance is needed but in way of being classy about it, not bombarding other people. People need to be respected and have dignity. So inform and educate but don't blast it everywhere that on billboards etc. That is not respect, when people are just coming to realise it is safe to be who they are.. I still don't feel safe about saying OTHER its even hard for me to register and say as I have need to say I am JUST ME. The idea that people you are close to won't accept you or love you and won't have anything to do with you is horrific. It's not a way you choose. IT is just who you are. People who are Gender Diverse need to have the same rights as same sex couples as Gender Diverse people are people as well.