

NO, YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW MY SEX:

GENDER BIAS IN FORM DESIGN

with Stephanie Slattery

**HOW SHOULD YOU ASK ABOUT
SEX AND GENDER IN FORMS?**

Spoiler alert: Don't do it.

SEX != GENDER

SEX

A biological (but not binary) distinction between male and female. This can be anatomical, hormonal, and/or chromosomal.

GENDER

How a person identifies and/or expresses themselves. It may or may not be related to their biological sex.

**SO, HOW SHOULD YOU ASK
ABOUT THIS STUFF?**

**IF YOU MUST ASK,
ASK THE RIGHT QUESTION.**

**IF YOU MUST ASK,
GIVE THE RIGHT OPTIONS.**

**IF YOU MUST ASK,
EXPLAIN WHY.**

**HOW TO ASK ABOUT A PERSON'S SEX:
YOU SHOULDN'T.**

SEX:

- ▶ **Female**
- ▶ **Intersex**
- ▶ **Male**

**HOW TO ASK ABOUT A PERSON'S GENDER:
YOU (PROBABLY) SHOULDN'T.**

GENDER IDENTITY:

- ▶ **an open text field**

**ARE YOU ACTUALLY INTERESTED
IN PRONOUNS?**

PRONOUNS

- ▶ **she/her/hers**
- ▶ **they/them/theirs**
 - ▶ **ze/hir/hirs**
 - ▶ **he/him/his**
- ▶ **Something else**

**OR DO YOU JUST NEED TO
KNOW THEIR FORMAL TITLE?**

- ▶ **Sex**
- ▶ **Gender**
- ▶ **Pronouns**
- ▶ **Formal title**

**ALWAYS RANDOMIZE THE
ORDER OF YOUR OPTIONS.**

**TAKE ONLY THE DATA YOU
ABSOLUTELY NEED.**

**"When a website is considered "good," whatever that website displays as default settings... or options is considered "normal" by its users."
- Sarah Dopp**

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