

Tips for Affirmative Language

"Misgendering trans people is an act of violence."

Laverne Cox, 2014

MISGENDERING

- Referring to someone in an inaccurately gendered way, or implying that they're a gender they're *not*
- Includes pronouns, honorifics (Mx./Ms./Mr.), and more

↶ **MAY BE INTENTIONAL OR UNINTENTIONAL** ↷

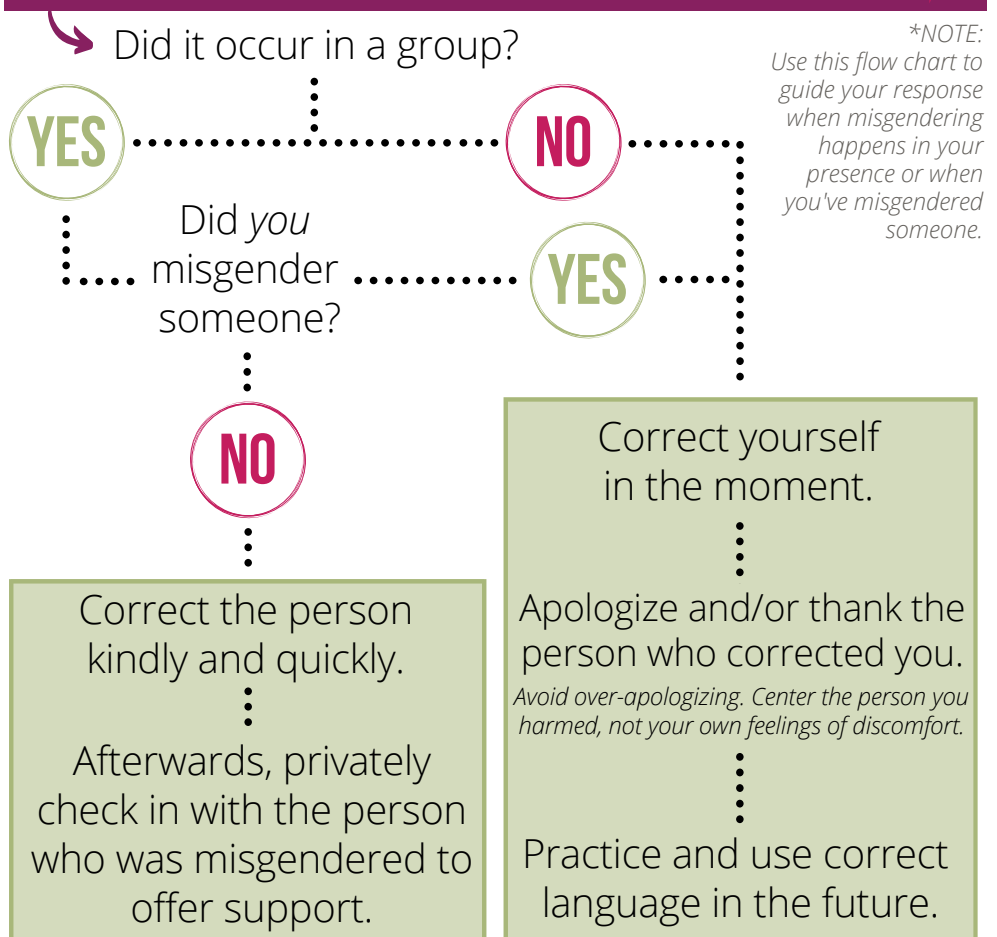
DEADNAMING

- Referring to someone who has changed names (especially a transgender person) by a previous incorrect name, often a birth name

WHY IS MISGENDERING SUCH A BIG DEAL?

"[Misgendering] is a way of invalidating [a trans person's] identity. It makes them feel disrespected, isolated, uncomfortable, and hated simply because of their gender. It tells them that they should hide who they really are, that people will never fully accept them. [It] contributes to a culture in which hating and disrespecting trans people is the norm." ¹

AN ADVOCATE'S GUIDE TO ADDRESSING MISGENDERING*



¹"Misgendering trans people is an act of violence. | Riley J. Dennis" (Youtube) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-u5gYxXH0A>

"Gender-specific and gender-neutral pronouns." <https://www.the519.org/education-training/training-resources/our-resources/creating-authentic-spaces/gender-specific-and-gender-neutral-pronouns>