

# Trans Stigmas and Stereotypes:

(Gender Stigma)	sissy, butch, ugly
(Religious Stigma)	morally wrong, sinful
(Circus Stigma)	“it”, strange, weird, freak
(Medical Stigma)	“it”, mentally ill
(Basic Denial of Authenticity)	really a man, really a woman, a man pretending that he’s a woman, a man in a dress, deceiver, fake, really just a gay man/ lesbian
MTF Specific:	whore, sexually available, sexual object, punk, sex-worker

## Transphobic Sexual Assault and Abuse

### Transphobic Sexual Abuse/Assault

- Survivor’s genitals are “exposed” to determine whether or not they are “really a man or really a woman”.
- Survivor is sexually assaulted in order to “prove” that they are “really a woman”, or to punish them for going against traditional views about gender.
- Survivor’s genitals are “exposed” and/or touched in order to shame and invalidate.
- Survivor’s body is put down verbally, shamed, invalidated, etc.

*This form of abuse may be used in a DV/IPV situation, and it may be used as a tactic of violence in “gender bashing”.*

### Possible Date Rape/“Gender Bashing” Scenario

- A trans-person may try to “pass” as non-trans, or may be assumed to be non-trans. Possible “exposure” in this dating-situation may lead to “gender-bashing”.
- A trans-person may be “openly trans” with a sexual partner. However, “gender-bashing” is still a possibility. For example, if friends of the sexual partner “find out” about the trans-person, perpetrators of violence may feign ignorance, and then engage in “gender-bashing” anyway.
- A trans-person who is trying to “pass” as non-trans, or who assumed to be non-trans may be forced to act according to dangerous gender-stereotypes (e.g. may be especially vulnerable to traditional “date-rape” tactics).
- A trans-woman who is openly “trans” may find that she is viewed as a “whore”, a “sexual object”. Because of this, her own intentions may not be taken seriously. (This is even more serious in the event that the trans-woman is a sex-worker).
- A trans-woman who dresses in a “provocative” way, may have her own wishes ignored because she “obviously wants it”.
- Perpetrators may use extreme gender stereotypes: “You like it rough”.