



BEYOND THE BINARY: THE *MĀHŪ* IDENTITY OF TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN CULTURE

As presented by
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Brantley of Cycle
42

KUMU HINA (HINALEIMOANA WONG-KALU)

Identifies as *māhū*

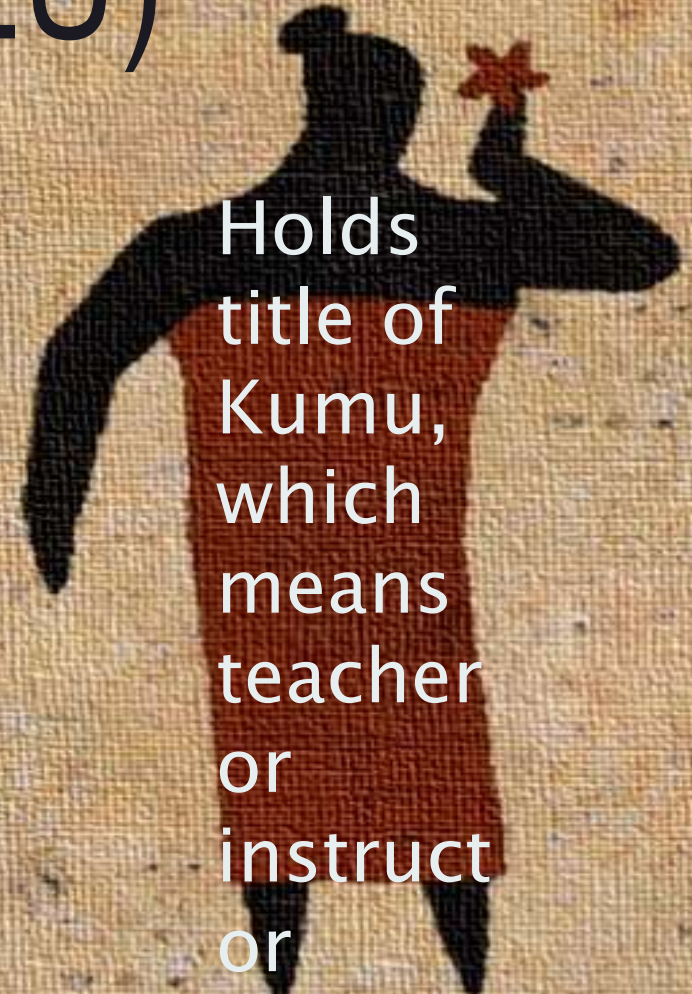
Fights for recognition of *māhū* and other nonbinary identities



KUMU HINA (HINALEIMOANA WONG-KALU)



embraces
masculine and
feminine
traits



Holds
title of
Kumu,
which
means
teacher
or
instructor



Presents
as a
woman

*What's School Like
for K-12 Students
Who Express a
Transgender Identity or
Gender Nonconformity?*



78% are harassed



35% are physically assaulted



12% are sexually assaulted



6% are expelled

Source is "Injustice at Every Turn: A Report of the
National Transgender Discrimination Survey,"
National Center for Transgender Equality and the
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 2011

Children who
do not identify
with the gender
binary are
negatively
impacted by
discrimination.

Problem:
Discrimination of
people who
identify with
nonbinary
genders.

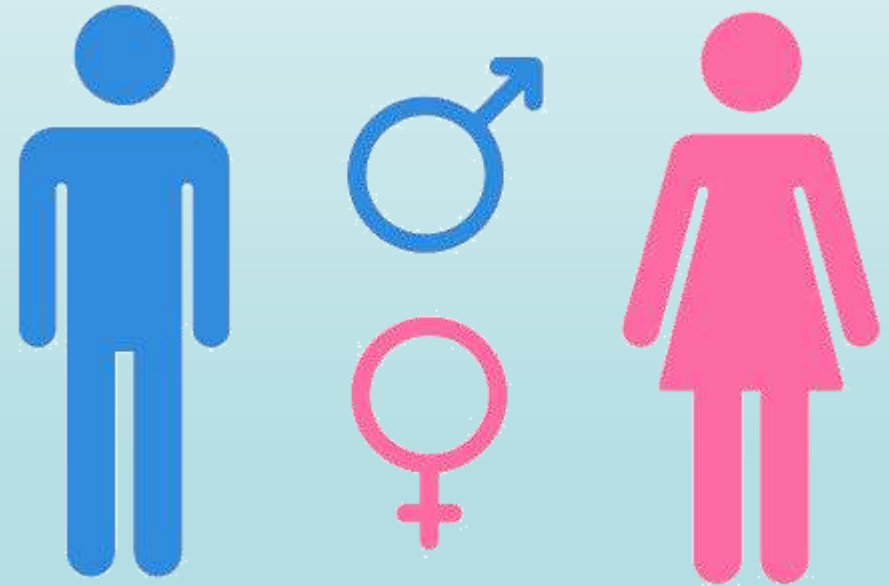


Solution: Spread
awareness of
identities beyond
the binary of man
and woman.

THE GENDER BINARY

Consists of two gender identities: “man” and “woman”

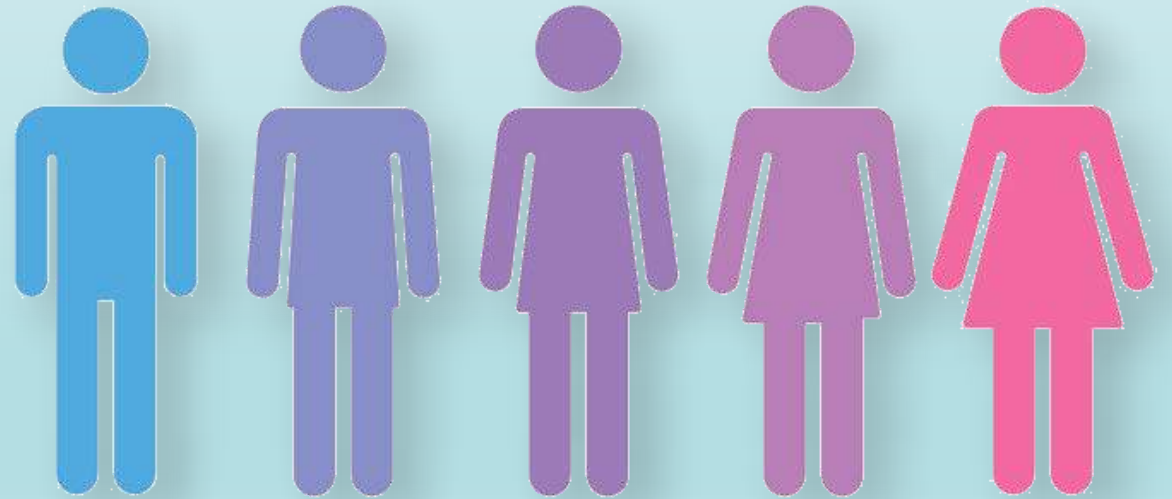
- Assumes men are masculine and women are feminine
- Uses distinct pronouns to identify: he/him/his for men, she/her/hers for women



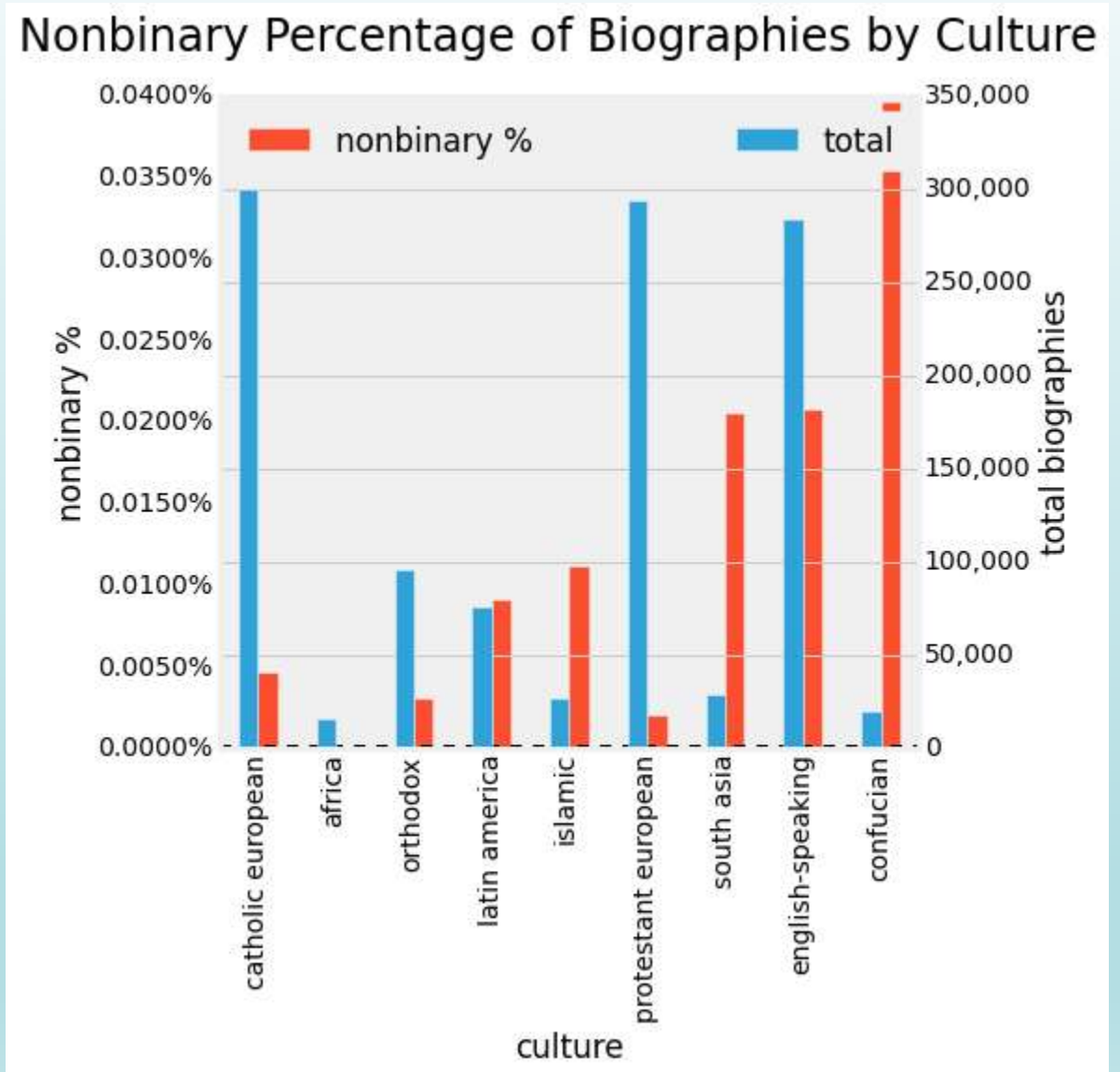
NON-BINARY IDENTIFIER

Gender identities that fall “outside” and/or “between” the Western world’s standard binary of man and woman

- May use gender-neutral titles/pronouns (they/them/their)
- May identify as having no gender (agender)



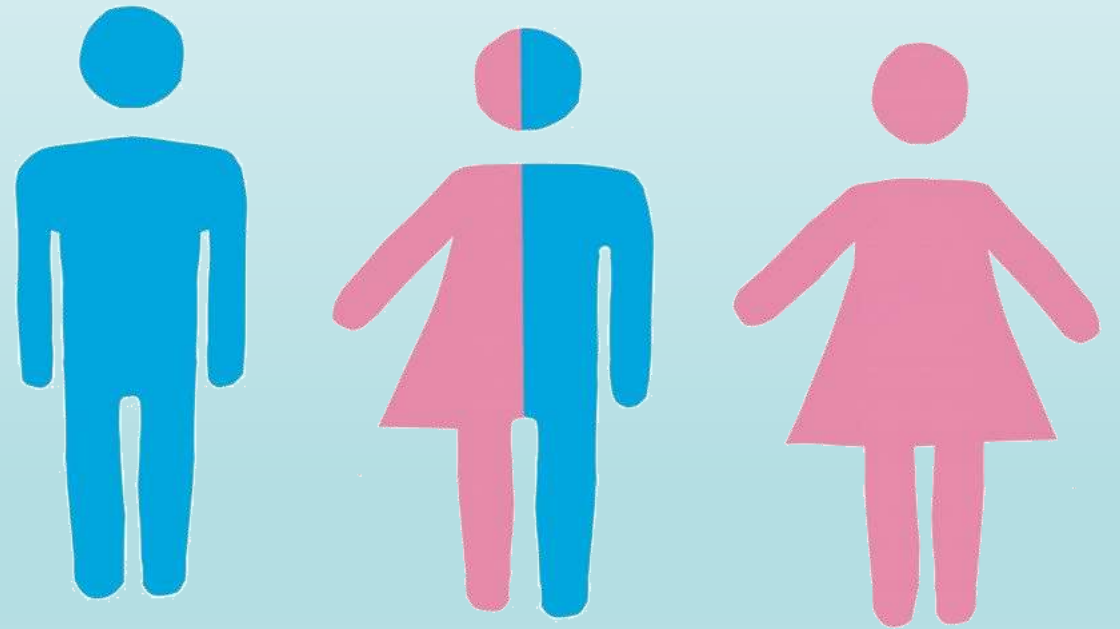
Genders
beyond the
binary have
ALWAYS
existed.



THE MĀHŪ IDENTITY

A gender identity within the traditional Hawaiian culture

- falls BETWEEN man and woman
- emphasis on acceptance and expression of both masculine & feminine traits





QUESTI ONS?