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Gender definitions:

Intersexual: of ambiguous gender; neither male nor female at birth; (*are we using this term interchangeably with androgynous?*)

Based on the more common 2 gender system gender is defined in 3 ways:

1. Culturally:

- males: look and act like men
- Females: look and act like womyn

2. Biologically/genitally:

- males: possess testes and penises
- females: possess ovaries and vaginas

3. Biologically/Chromosomally (the norm being the presence of exactly 2 gender chromosomes)

- males: XY
- females: XX

Under the 2 gender system, current practice for American physicians is to surgically assign gender to intersexual infants at birth based on the viability of the available genitalia to eventually appear normal; with no consideration of genetic/biological reality.*

As a result there are potentially millions of XX males and XY females living in the United States today. IE.

- Men that are culturally and genitally male but genetically(chromosomally) female.
- Women that are culturally and genitally female but genetically(chromosomally) male.*

Expanding the 2 gender system;

at birth:

Hermes: testes and ovaries (*what about genitalia?*)

merms: testes and female genitalia w/o ovaries

Ferms: ovaries and male genitalia w/o testes

* site Dr. Anne Fausto-Sterling of the Division of Biology and Medicine at Brown University