

I moved over from Hobart to Melbourne to start a better gender experience many years ago, and it remains my chosen city. As a genderqueer cis-woman living in Melbourne, I have not found many ways to meet women and form healthy, lasting relationships (spanning the years before and after gay marriage).

The opportunities presented by the rest of the queer community are masculinist and alcohol fuelled. In these environments (and on the dating site 'Okcupid'), lesbian women are only referred to as 'gay'. I have educated myself on the history of homosexual and queer rights, and am aware of why the 'L' put at the front. It's because we have less societal privilege (almost opposite to gay men).

Transwomen have been brought up with cis-male privilege, regardless of their otherwise lack of privilege amongst other queer demographics. Any complaints by lesbian women about their need to have their own space free of any cis-male privilege have been sidelined as transphobic. Not all of these complaints are transphobic, as there are many lesbians out there who just want their own non-cis-male privileged spaces, sometimes free of transwomen complaining about feeling intimidated by lesbian women feeling good about their bodies and sexuality. Lesbian women need their own space, just to get to know one another before dating.

I have not read up to the exact date that the Human Rights Commission Bill was passed, but I know that in the revised edition of Judith Butler's *Gender Trouble*, she expresses regret that she had defined gender as indeterminate, and wanted to add in a spectrum from genderfluid to determinate. Therefore, there are people out there who require an 'exemption under the *Sex Discrimination Act 1984* (Cth), to hold an event restricted to female born lesbians'.