

The Power of Our Lives: Trans-Intersectional Visibility

A Special Virtual Meeting in Commemoration of International Transgender Day of Visibility

A conversation led by the LA County Commission on HIV Transgender Caucus
Co-Chairs, Xelestíal Moreno-Luz and Isabella Rodriguez

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

10 AM - 12 PM

Register [here](#).

Xelestíal Moreno-Luz

REACH LA Programs Manager &
LA Commission on HIV, Co-Chair
of the Trans Caucus



FEATURING A PANEL PRESENTATION FROM:



Dr. Thalia Mae Bettcher,
Professor of Philosophy at
California State University,
Los Angeles



Jazzmun Crayton,
Associate Director of the Asian
Pacific AIDS Intervention Team
in Los Angeles



Jaden Fields,
Equity Director for the
Association for Size Diversity
and Health and Co-Director
of Mirror Memoirs

REACH LA



TRANSGENDER CAUCUS

The Power of Our Lives: Trans Intersectional Visibility

SPECIAL MEETING

MARCH 22, 2022



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



REACH LA

WELCOME REMARKS FROM MODERATORS

Isabelle Rodriguez, MA and Xelestial Moreno
Transgender Caucus Co-Chairs

SPEAKERS



Dr. Talia Mae Bettcher

Talia Mae Bettcher is an engaged philosopher who integrates critical reflection with tangible and meaningful action in our lived world. Much of her work in trans philosophy flows from her personal experience as a trans woman and through being actively involved in trans community subcultures in Los Angeles for many years. Her philosophical investigations, even at their most abstract, aim to capture realities that are experienced by flesh and blood people and that can have political and practical consequences.

Some of her articles include “Evil Deceivers and Make[1]Believers: Transphobic Violence and the Politics of Illusion” (Hypatia 2007), “Trapped in the Wrong Theory: Re-Thinking Trans Oppression and Resistance” (Signs 2014), and “When Selves Have Sex: What the Phenomenology of Trans Sexuality Can Teach about Sexual Orientation” (Journal of Homosexuality 2014). With Susan Stryker, she co-edited the Transgender Studies Quarterly special double issue “Trans/Feminisms” (2016). She is currently completing the monograph “Intimacy and Illusion: An Essay in Trans Philosophy” (under contract with University of Minnesota Press).

Bettcher is a Professor of Philosophy at California State University, Los Angeles and she currently serves as Chair of the Academic Senate.

SPEAKERS



Jazzmun Crayton

IG @jazzmunnichcala

Jazzmun Crayton is a Black trans femme whose career spans decades in show business and advocacy for the Transgender community. She has appeared in over fifty television series and movies, with her most recent roles portraying Bobbie Jean Baker, a prominent Transgender Activist and religious leader in the ABC series "When We Rise"; and playing Cindy Whitman, a wrongfully imprisoned woman of Trans experience on Fox's "Proven Innocent". As an activist, Jazzmun serves as the founder and coordinator of the Midnight Stroll, which brings awareness and sorely needed self-care supplies for street-based sex workers in order to empower them to embrace comprehensive community resources such as HIV testing and treatment, housing services, substance abuse counseling, legal and victim advocacy, and medical services.

She is a Board Member of the City of Los Angeles Transgender Advisory Council and is currently the Senior Manager of Strategic Partnerships at the Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team in Los Angeles. As Co-Executive Producer of the play "Lovely Bouquet of Flowers: An Exploration of Non-Traditional Gender Voices" and the accompanying documentary "In Full Bloom. ... Transcending gender", she gives voice to members of the community from all walks of life, and challenges viewers to move past their preconceived stereotypes surrounding the complexities of sexual identities and orientation in order to see the commonalities that we all share as human beings.

SPEAKERS



Jayden Fields

Jaden is an LA-based organizer, cultural worker, and educator dedicated to cultivating healing-centered spaces for marginalized communities. Jaden is the incoming Co-Director of Mirror Memoirs, an oral history and national organizing project that uplifts the healing and liberation of queer, trans, intersex, and non-binary Black, Indigenous, and people of color (QTIBIPOC) who are survivors of child sexual abuse. In his work with Mirror Memoirs, Jaden is a survivor storyteller and played a pivotal role in co-designing Mirror Memoirs' strategic vision, programs, and structure.

He is the newly appointed Equity Director for the Association for Size Diversity and Health. His work within grassroots and nonprofit organizations has included designing and leading programs for trans folks to access health services, training government agencies to better serve transgender people, participatory action research, and policy advocacy at the city and county level. Jaden was an inaugural member of the Los Angeles Transgender Advisory Council, a 2017 California HIV/AIDS Policy Research Fellow, and 2019 Echoing Green finalist.

Jaden self-published his first chapbook, *Intentional Musings on Staying Alive When I Want To Die* (2019), an honest depiction of navigating mental health and systemic oppression. You can learn more about Jaden on his instagram, @thedappermrjaden, and his LinkedIn, <https://linktr.ee/thedappermrjaden>

The Los Angeles Commission on HIV and
ReachLA Present:
**The Power of Our Lives: Trans-
Intersectional Visibility**

Talia Mae Bettcher, PhD

California State University, Los Angeles

March 22, 2022

OVERVIEW

Oppression/Resistance

Reality Enforcement

Intersectionality

Separable vs. Inseparable Oppressions

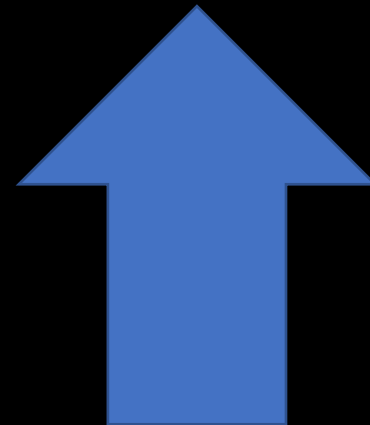
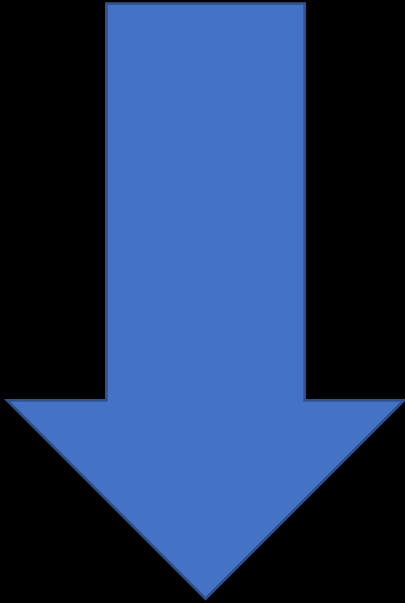
Privileged Oppression

Oppressive Resistance

Strategies

Oppression and Resistance

Trans Oppression



Trans Resistance

Reality Enforcement

Misgendering and Reality Enforcement

“Really a so and so, disguised as a such and such”

Appearance/Reality Contrast

Deceiver/Pretender Double Bind

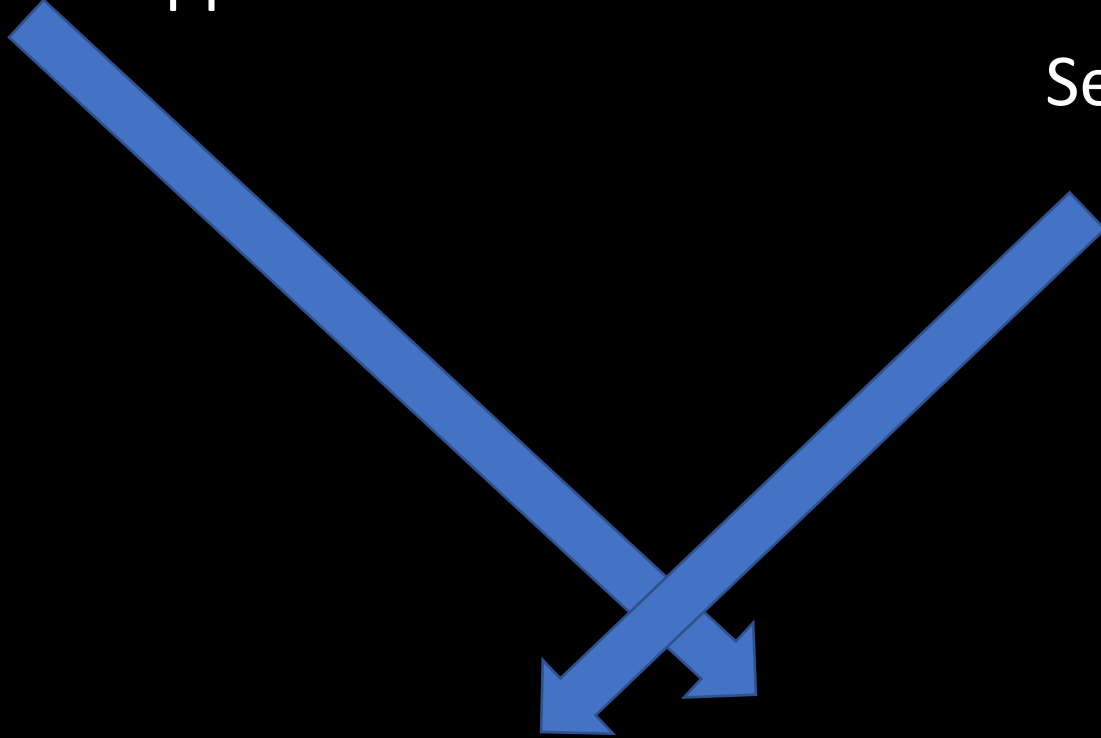
Genital Verification

Relational Foreclosure

Intersectionality (Kimberle Crenshaw, 1989, 1990)

Racist Oppression

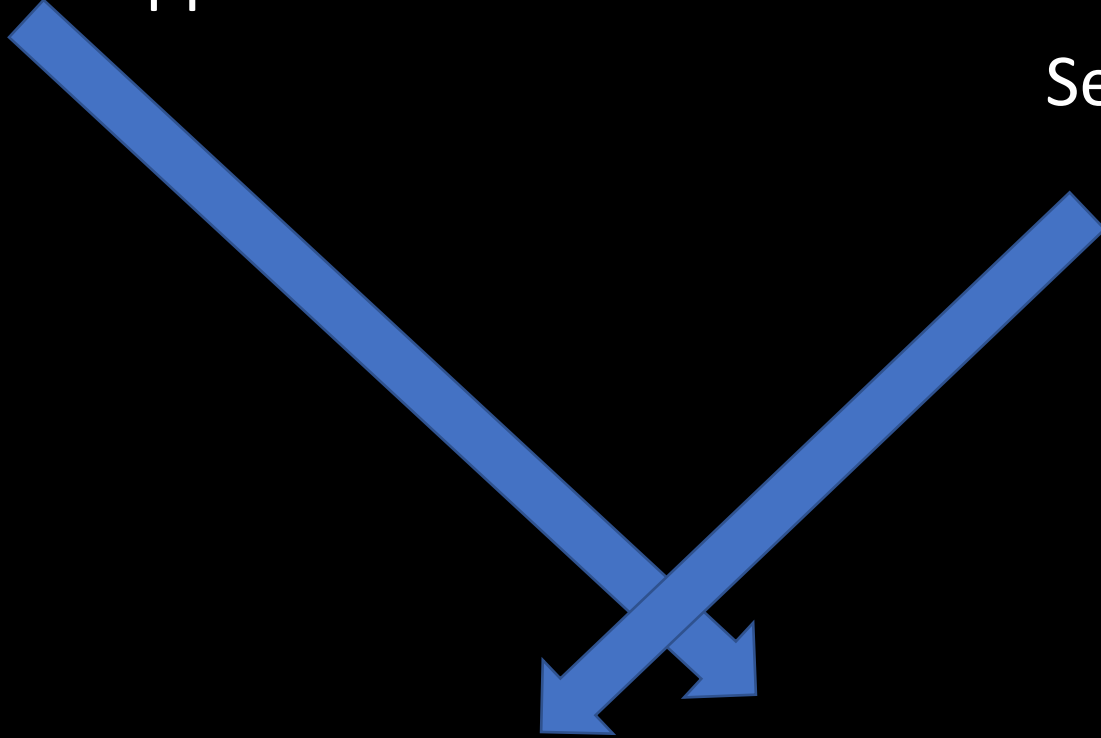
Sexist Oppression



Intersectionality

Trans Oppression

Sexist Oppression

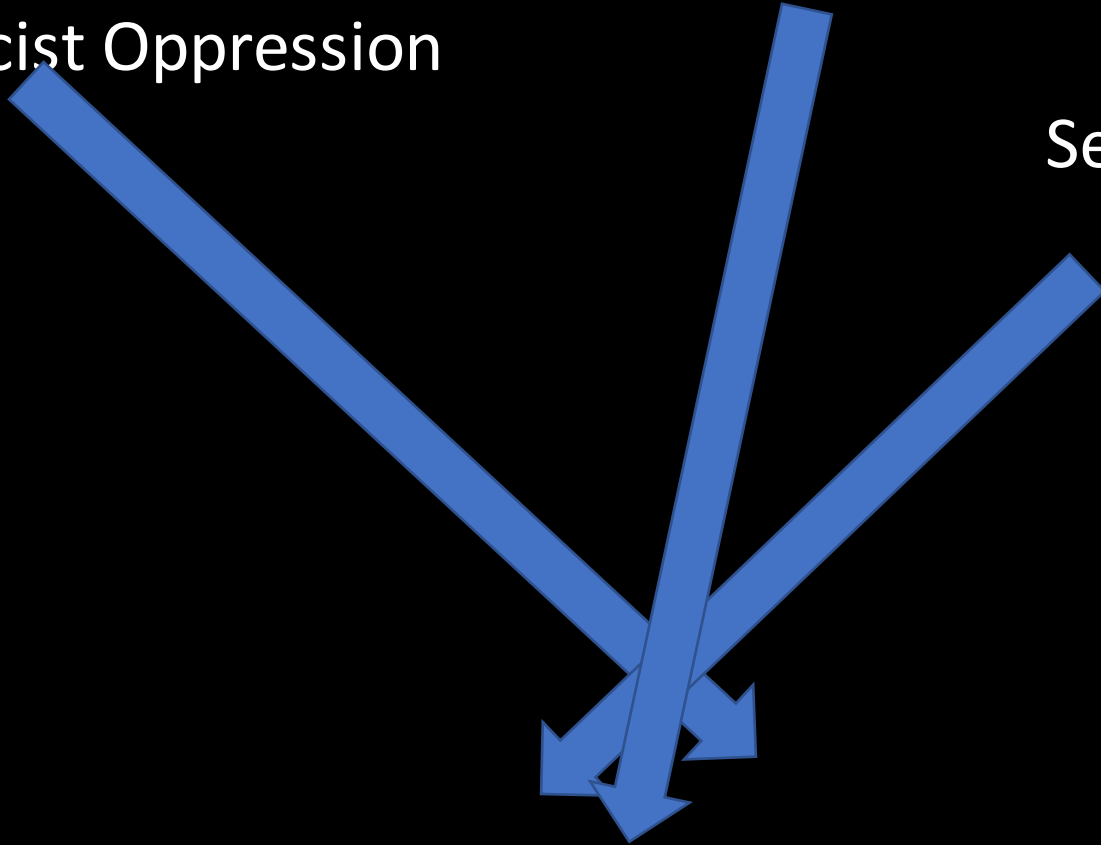


Intersectionality

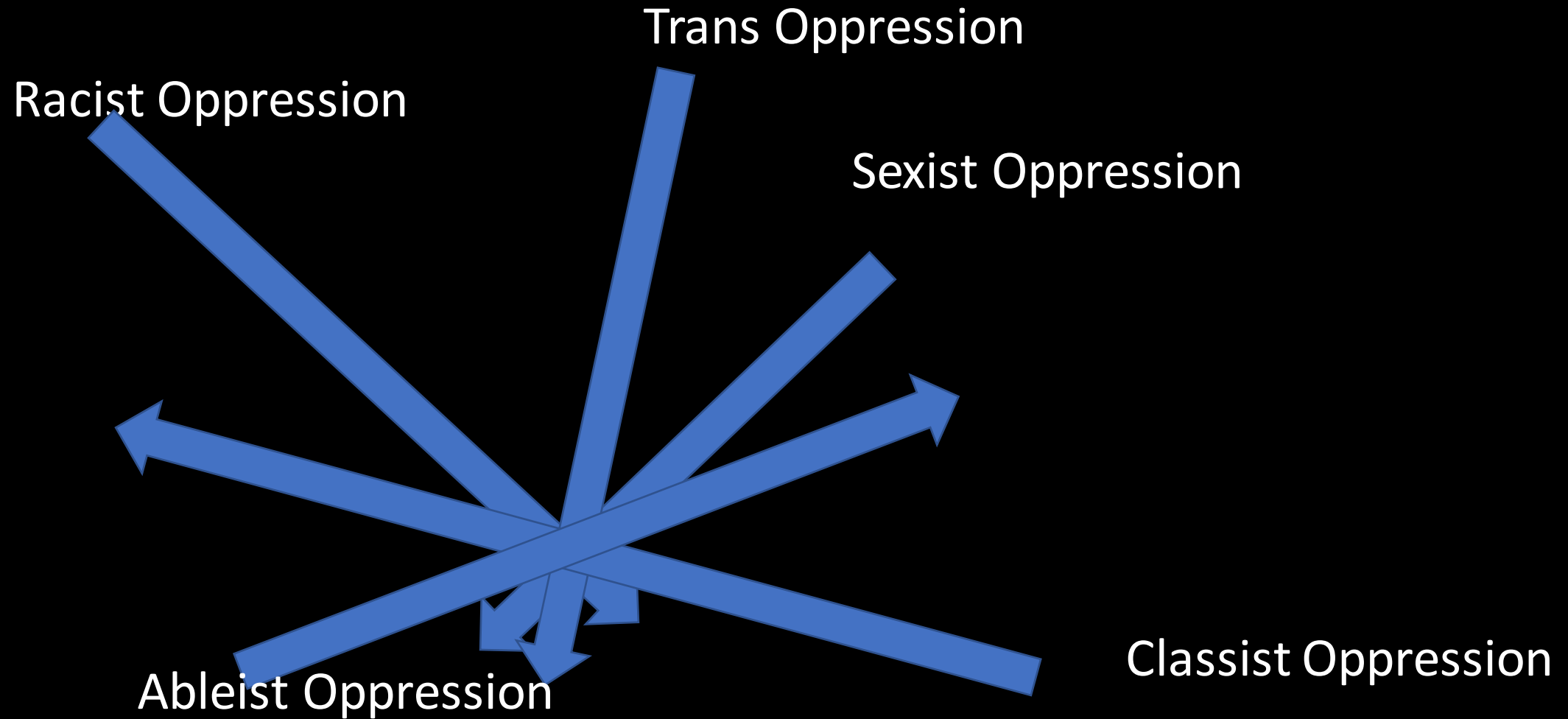
Racist Oppression

Trans Oppression

Sexist Oppression



Intersectionality



Intersectionality

Separable Oppressions (Double Damage)

Two occurrences of harm added together

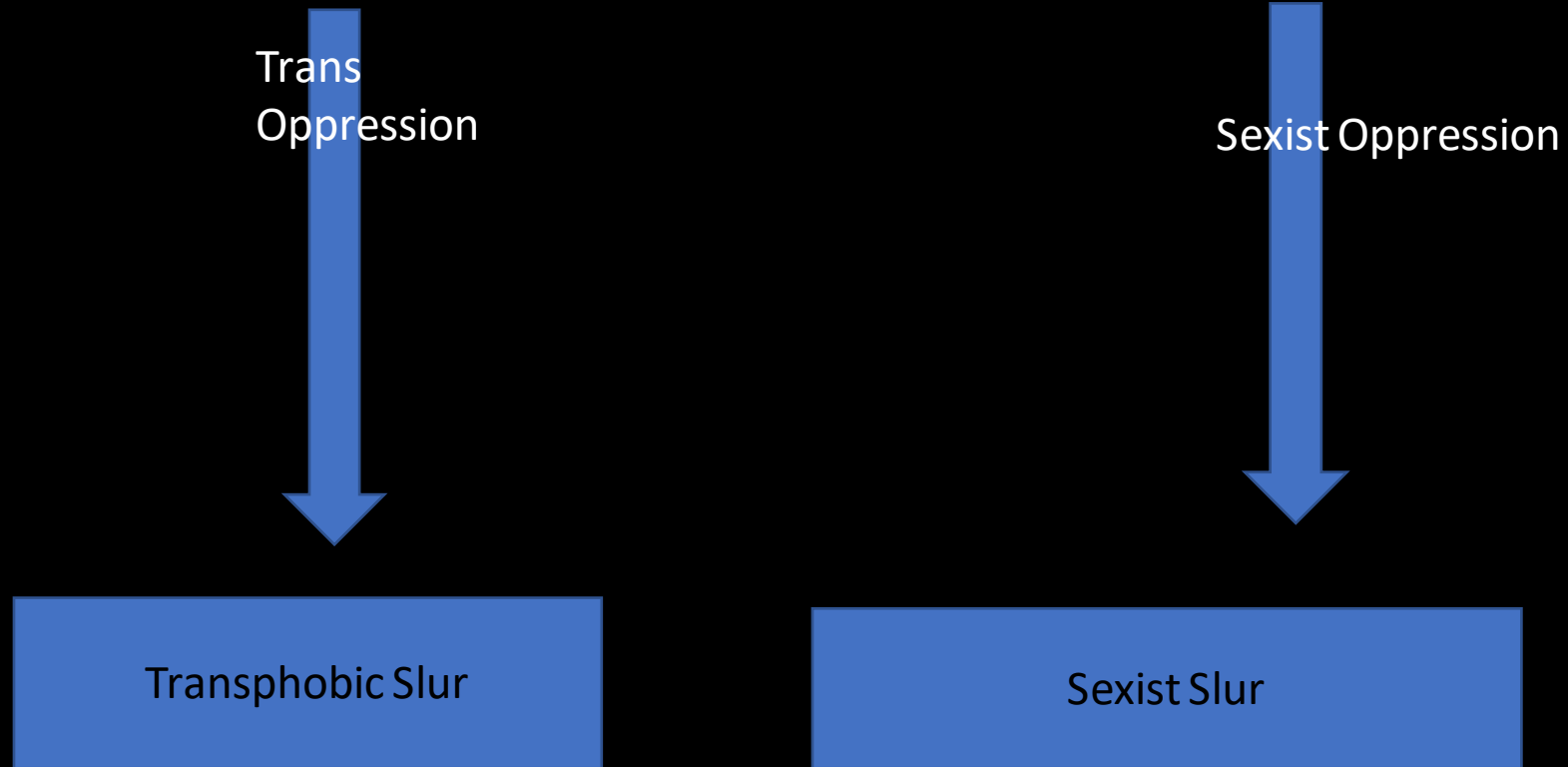
Racist Oppression + Trans Oppression

Inseparable Oppressions

One single occurrence of harm that is an instance of two different kinds of oppression

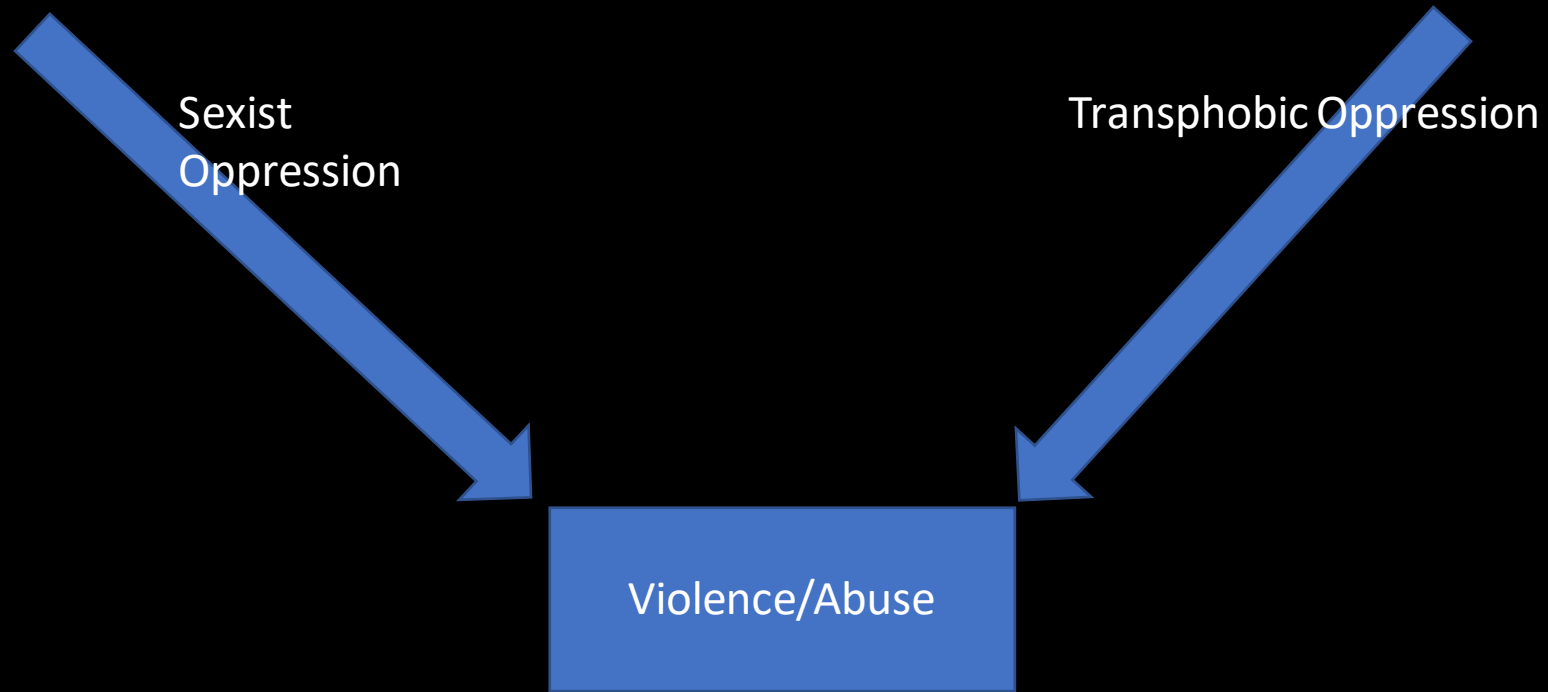
Intersectionality

Separable Oppressions



Intersectionality

Inseparable Oppression



Inseparable Oppressions: Examples

Sexual Violence against Trans Men or Transmasculine People to prove that they are “really female.”

Trans Women and Transfeminine People in “double-binded” sexual encounters.

The Criminal “Justice” System and Reality Enforcement

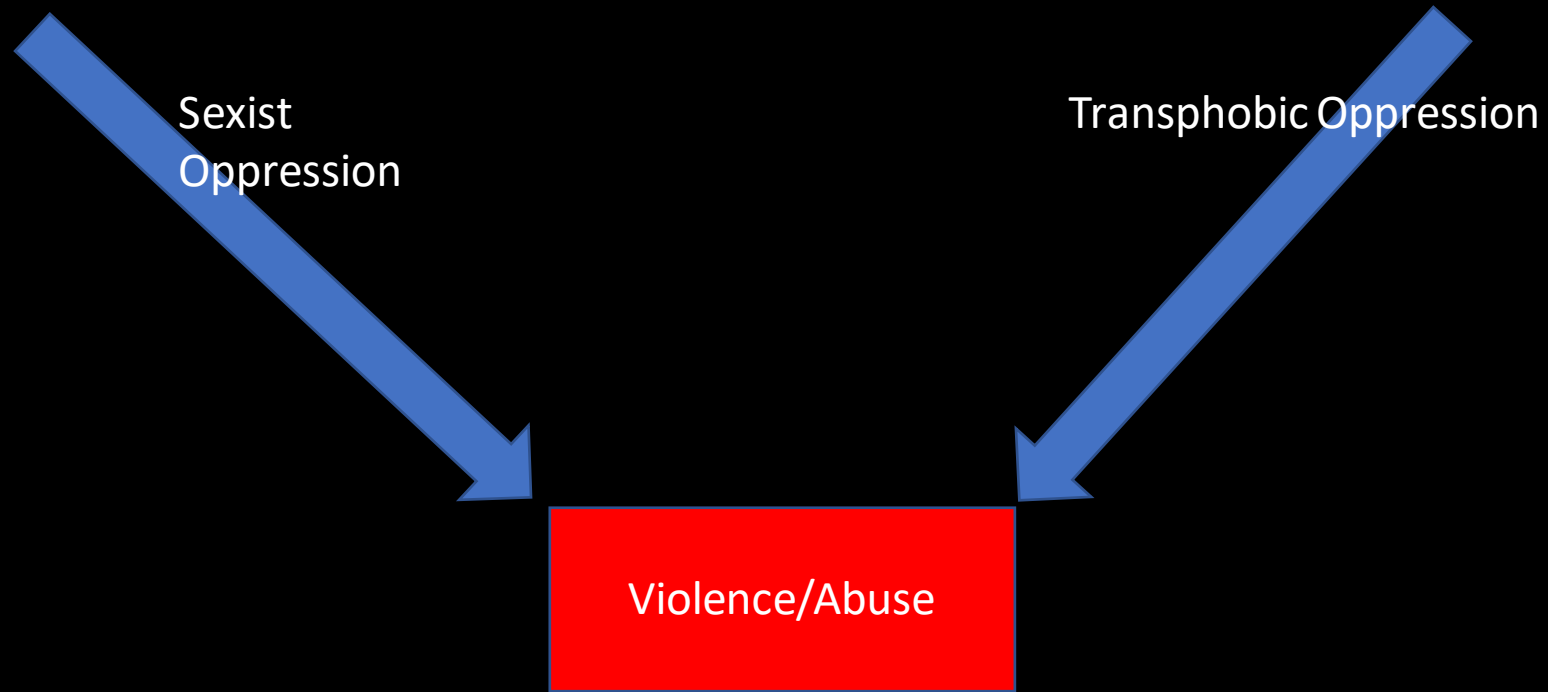
“Dirty Little Secrets”

Privileged Oppressions

Privileged Oppression is a form of oppression that is absent of other forms of oppression (either separable or inseparable ones)

Privileged Oppression confers benefits on the basis of these other forms of oppression.

Privileged Oppression



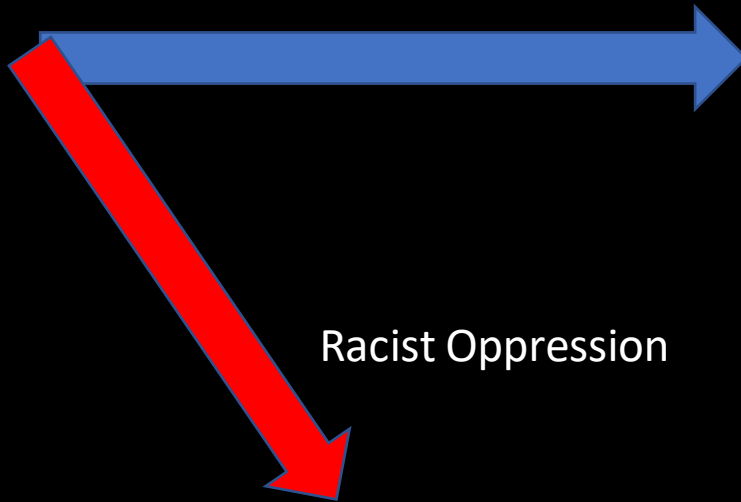
Privileged Oppression



Oppressive Resistance

(Racially Oppressive) Trans Resistance

(Racially Privileged) Trans Oppression



Oppressive Resistance: Examples

Invisible Forms of Oppression

Interracial Resistance/Oppression

Transphobic/Sexist Trans Resistance

Self-Harming Resistance

Strategies

Resistance 1 : “Push Back” Against Oppressor (Talking Back)

Resistance 2: Forming Coalitions and Relationships Across Multiple Oppressions (Talking Amongst Ourselves)

Question: How Can We Resist Without Oppressing/Harming Each Other?

Question: How Do We Talk to Each Other when our Experiences are different?

THANK YOU!