

The Problem

Many transgender and non-transgender people have no safe places to go to the bathroom - get harassed, beaten, and arrested in BOTH women's and men's rooms. Many avoid public bathrooms altogether and develop health problems. This affects not only transgender people who do not identify as female or male, but also transgender people who do identify as female or male, many butch women, and feminine men.

Quotes from the Gender Neutral Bathroom Survey:

• **transgender folks who don't identify as female or male:** "security chased me," "got the shit kicked out of me for using the 'wrong bathroom,'" "I run into problems 80% of the time," "This is a problem every day."

• **ftm/male and mtf/female identified folks:** "Yelled at -- 'you're using the wrong bathroom'" (mtf), "I have been slapped, pushed, and dragged out by security guards" (ftm), "got physically pulled out" (mtf), "having the door almost knocked down by teenagers" (ftm), "I have spent so many hours avoiding public multi-stall bathrooms that I have damaged my bladder and put pressure on my kidneys," "The problem was a daily one. I'd think about where I was going, what bathrooms I'd have access to, how much I drank during the day, whether I'd be with people who could help stand guard..."

• **Butch Women (who do not identify as transgender):** "being followed by a police officer," "women told me to leave the women's room and then tried to beat me up," "women jump out of their shoes; I get harassed by the guys," "I run into problems all the time," "all of my butch female friends, ex's, etc. ALL have experienced stares, harassment, threats, etc. in the women's room. Some only use the bathroom when they have a group of friends to accompany them."

• **Feminine Men (who do not identify as transgender):** "all my childhood, people told me I was in the wrong bathroom (long hair, too girly), "if my hair is long, I get stopped from going into the men's room."

• **Parents with Children:** "gender neutral bathrooms with changing tables so I can go in with my son, and my husband can go in with our daughter." (non-transgender woman)

"Safe-stress free bathrooms should not be a privilege for just a few traditionally-gendered individuals."

"I just need a place to pee."