

PISS ON THAT!

BY BRITTANY FEATHERS

So many times I hear, “**Am I in the wrong bathroom?**” Only to respond, “**Do you have to piss? Don’t worry, you’re in the right place.**”

Bathroom, toilet, lavatory, restroom, water closet, powder room, loo, pot, latrine, privy, or john, whatever you call it, it’s still just a place to piss, well that and other shit. But when has it been okay to gender a bathroom? We are all going to use it for the same reasons. Yet we have specific rooms opposite from each other based on biological differences. These parts of the body should not dictate where, when, or which bathroom you go to. So why is it we have **separate** color-coded bathrooms?

Is it fear of being raped, or sexually abused? Possibly, however having separate bathrooms does not solve this problem. As we all know, rape and violence against women is still a problem in our society. Devastatingly however, if a predator seeks to do harm, separating, moving, or otherwise thinking that the site is the reason someone was abused, is naive. The problem is the violent person or persons.

Is it the **fear** of being misgendered? Maybe! In a world where we understand gender better, the idea of having separate bathrooms is obsolete. These gendered bathrooms are the epitome of what it means to **pass** and how accepted you are in a community or society. For example, if a woman who **passes** as a man goes into the “ladies room” then she will be welcomed by **fear** and discomfort of the other women in the bathroom because she is not **passing** as a woman. The male counterpart of this example might also face these same feelings and may be accompanied by violence, as fear and ignorance perpetuates violence in these situations. Now imagine if the bathroom

was just that! A “bathroom” and was not gendered, but simply there to alleviate the undying urge to piss; we might all be happier people! Not only will the discomfort of being misgendered be absolved but **fear** and ignorance would dissipate. The distinction of who goes to what bathroom is oppressive in the sense that we police each other on who **passes** and who doesn't. **LIBERATION** is knowing **that you can comfortably piss in peace.**

So how do we change this fucked dichotomy that serves to keep us in a constant battle of the genders?

1. **ACCEPTANCE:** Well, the easiest way is for you to be welcoming to anyone who uses the bathroom and their choice to utilize that bathroom. We need to do this because realistically speaking, the bathroom binary will not disappear over night, as depressing and oppressive as that is, it's true.

2. **EQUAL:** Push for all the equipment you find in each bathroom...things that make them distinguishable like changing tables and urinals, and put those in each bathroom.

3. **UTILIZE:** Use any fucking bathroom you please, even explore the dark side, meaning if you're a self-identifying and passing woman use men's, and if you're a self-identifying and passing man use the women's. This pushes people to question you, and gives you the opportunity to push for the neutrality of bathrooms.

4. **FUCK SHIT UP:** However, the most important thing to do is, start ripping, tearing, or otherwise removing the signs off of bathrooms! Yep that's right let's do this shit old school. Because every person deserves to piss in peace.