# Part 9: Gender, Sex, and Sexuality

## Key Terms and Definitions

**Femininity**: ideas about the behaviors and practices of womanhood.

**Gender**: social and cultural expectations about how men and women should behave, and how they are perceived and evaluated.

**Gender stereotypes**: widely held beliefs about the differences between, and appropriate behaviors and roles for, women and men within a given culture.

**Intersex**: individuals who exhibit sex organs between male and female, and often of both.

**LGBTQ+**: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning and the “+” refers to people of non-normative gender identities or sexual orientations (e.g., pansexual, asexual, intersexual, two-spirits, straight allies, and so on).

**Masculinity**: ideas about the behaviors and practices of manhood.

**Queer anthropology**: anthropological research on homosexuality, bisexuality, transgender/transsexuality and other gender and sexual identities, as they intersect with race, class, nationality, disability, power, and global processes.

**Sex**: term used to describe sex organs and reproductive functions of the body.

**Sexuality**: sexual preferences and practices.

**Third gender**: a category recognizing the existence of three or more genders.

**Virginity testing**: the practice of determining whether a girl or woman is still a virgin by inspecting the hymen; based on the assumption that the hymen can be torn only through sexual intercourse.