



# AI vs. our bodies: Queering AI, A lightning talk for/by Queer in AI

December 8th  
12:00 - 12:30 CET

We will start shortly.

All participants are expected to maintain the confidentiality of the members.

Add name and pronouns to your Zoom profiles! (if comfortable)



UMUT  
Pajaro

Velásquez

(They/them - Elle/le)



@Elojodepajaro

juanrapave@gmail.com

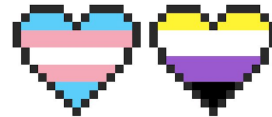
BA in Communications Studies  
MA in Cultural Studies  
Soon starting Mst in AI in Ethics and Society



**Fun fact:**

I think I spend to many hours thinking on how to create a queer multiverse

Proud non binary person



- Poetry, performances and photography are my true passions
- Artist half (and the rest) of my life
- And if you find a person drinking mate and/or eating arepa at the same time, that's probably me

# Code of Conduct

- **We ask participants in Queer in AI spaces to:**
  - Exercise consideration and respect in your speech and actions.
  - Listen as much as you speak.
  - Make an effort to understand and learn from people who come from different contexts.
  - Avoid making assumptions.
  - Attempt collaboration before conflict.
  - Presume that everyone's ideas, skills, and contributions have value.
  - Prioritize input from those who have been marginalized in AI spaces.
- Review [anti-harassment policy](https://queerintai.org/code-of-conduct) at [queerintai.org/code-of-conduct](https://queerintai.org/code-of-conduct)
- Message any organizers regarding violations or question: [safe@queerintai.org](mailto:safe@queerintai.org)

# Queer in AI



A volunteer-run organization, part of oSTEM (a non-profit organization based in the United States)

Started in NeurIPS 2017 with a meetup

## **Our mission**

Raise awareness of queer issues in AI/ML

Foster a community of queer researchers

Celebrate work of queer and trans scientists

- Workshops and socials at most AI/ML/NLP conferences
- Grad application review and fee aid program
- Undergraduate mentoring
- Inclusivity at conferences (<http://queerinaai.org/diversity-guide>)
- Demographic survey

## But first... some stats from the Queer in AI demographic survey!

**Demographic survey:** comprehensive survey to *identify issues* within queer communities and *shape the future programs* of Queer in AI (take the survey at [queerinaai.org](http://queerinaai.org)!)

Demographics of survey respondents:

- 30% **non-cis** folks
  - 21.5% **BIPOC** folks
  - 10% mentioned **disabilities**
  - 50% **graduate** students
  - 20% **have changed their name or plan to do so**
- Note:** **cis** refers to when gender identity corresponds to sex assigned at birth

## Some more stats

- 85% reported **lack of role models**
- 80% reported **lack of community**
- 31% felt their **mental health** was lowest within the last year

## Even more stats! (ratings on a 1-5 scale)

- 3.4 rating on how **comfortable** queer folks feel at conferences
- 4.6 rating on how **welcome** queer folks feel at Queer in AI events
- 3.8 rating on satisfaction with **gender forms by cis folks**
- 2.6 rating on satisfaction with **gender forms by non-cis folks**
- < 20% of conferences had **pronoun tags**

## Omg, more stats?! (ratings on a 1-5 scale)

- **90% non-cis reported that they would prefer only indicating pronouns, and not gender**
- Non-cis folks reported a lot of cases regarding **microaggressions**, especially with pronouns and gender
- 2.8 rating on name change policy satisfaction
- 3.5 rating on deadnames not being cited



# Now what we came for: AI vs. Our Bodies

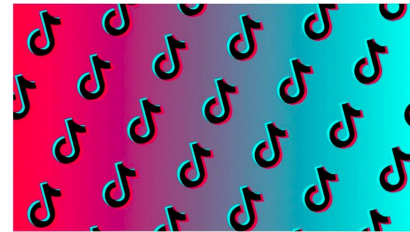
- Social media
- Content Moderation Tools
- Automated Decision Making
- For who we are regulating?
- Data fairness and accountability
- AI and Data Ethics
- Gender-diversity and Women
- New Epistemology?



## TikTok admits restricting some LGBT hashtags

By Chris Fee  
Technology reporter

© 10 September 2020



TikTok has acknowledged that it restricts LGBT-related hashtags in some countries as part of its "localised" approach to moderation.

A report by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) think-tank said many LGBT hashtags were "shadow-banned" in Bosnia, Jordan and Russia.

A shadow ban limits the discovery of content without indicating that a particular hashtag is on a ban list.

www.technologyreporter.com

# Queering AI, is a real solution?

- Trust: Verification, Monitoring and Advocacy.
- Participatory Design
- Gender approach to AI
- New Epistemology: A queer epistemology for AI
- Trans- Theoretical analysis
- Trans - Sectoral Communication
- Design, Development and Implementation
- Multistakeholderism



[https://bit.ly/NIST\\_QAI](https://bit.ly/NIST_QAI)

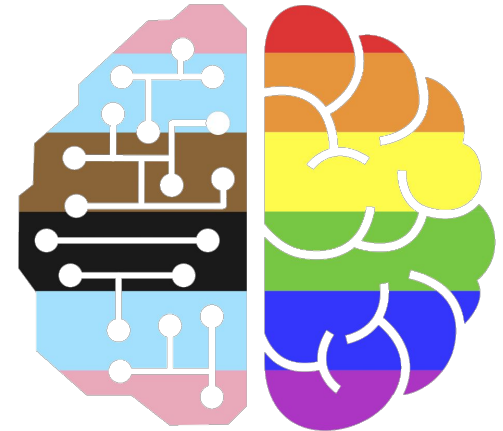
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

JUAN PAJARO VELASQUEZ



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**QUEER in AI**

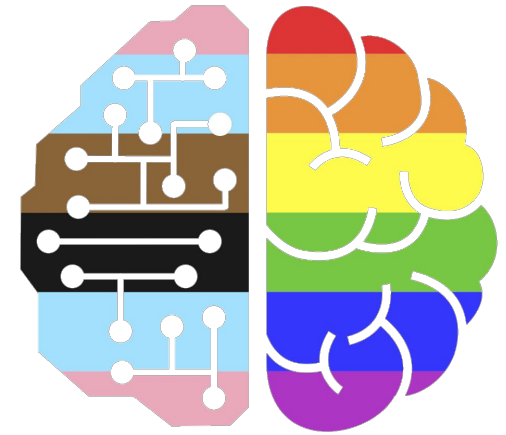
Site:

<https://sites.google.com/view/queer-in-ai/home>

Twitter: @QueerInAI

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**QUEER in AI**