

# [***Starfield Gender Controversy: Some Gamers Go Viral And Face Ridicule Over Extreme Reactions To Pronouns***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:693W-H3D1-DXVP-500R-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Length:** 711 words

**Byline:** Conor Murray, Forbes Staff

**Highlight:** The video game allows players to choose their pronouns, including they/them for nonbinary players.

**Body**

**Topline**

**Starfield**, a new game developed by Bethesda Game Studios that s set to release this week, lets players select their own pronouns, including they/them, which has provoked some extreme reactions from video game streamers and online ridicule and memes from others who feel the pronoun selection isn t a big deal.

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Todd Howard, Director and Executive Producer at Bethesda Game Studios, introduces 'Starfield' during the Bethesda E3 conference at the Event Deck at LA Live on June 10, 2018. (Photo by Christian Petersen/Getty Images)

Getty Images

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**Key Facts**

, a first-person role playing game set in space, is playable on PC and Xbox Series X/S and is set to release to the public on September 6, though some who preordered early access have been able to play the game since last week.

While creating a character, players have theoptionto select their desired pronouns he/him, she/her or they/them which can be changed at any time.

The option has provoked anger from some streamers, including HeelvsBabyface (a streamer with 344,000YouTubesubscribers), who wentviralon social media for an expletive-filled rant in which he laments that Bethesda Game Studios inserted their ideology into everything we love.

Dr. Disrespect, a gamer with 4.5 million YouTube subscribers,said everything is starting to make sense after he found out Bethesda s head of publishing Pete Hines has his pronouns listed in his X bio, and he laterpostedon X that ***politics*** should stay out of the video game industry entirely.

YouTuber NinaInfinityposted, I almost refunded my game when #Starfield asked me for pronouns, statingin a later post she decided to have her purchase refunded not just because of the pronouns option, but because of glitches she experienced while playing.

**Chief Critics**

Streamer The Act Man, who has 1.8 million YouTube subscribers,criticizedHeelsvBabyface for being on the verge of crying because**Starfield**lets you pick pronouns at the start of the game, callingthe issue superfluous because he cannot recall a single moment where my character's pronouns were brought up. Hutch, a Twitchstreamerwith 360,000 followers,calledthe negative reactions to the pronoun option wildly unhinged, noting the selection is simply a single button press to clarify your pronouns in**Starfield**. Streamer Keffals, who has 52,000 Twitchfollowers, ridiculed reactions that urged ***politics*** to be kept out of video games, noting that Bethesda s other games are political: I can't believe bethesda would make starfield political by adding pronouns. I'm only going to play their other games like the fallout franchise which is about the social and political implications of nuclear war and is not political whatsoever, Keffalsposted.

**Contra**

HeelvsBabyface defended himself in a YouTubevideotitled, Man Cancelled For Having Opinion on Internet!! in which he doubled down on criticizing the gender ideology and intersectionality that s been rammed into every solitary facet of our entertainment, from video games to TV, film, comics, etc.

**Tangent**

Some social media users drew comparisons between**Starfield**and**Hogwarts Legacy**, another video game that facedcontroversyand boycotts because of its association with J.K. Rowling, the**Harry Potter**author who has become known for making comments critics perceive to be anti-trans.**Hogwarts Legacy**also faced criticism for including a transgender woman character named Sirona Ryan, whose name attracted criticism for allegedly sounding masculine. After HeelvsBabyface s**Starfield**rant, The Act Man accused him of hypocrisy,postinga video in which HeelvsBabyface urges people boycotting**Hogwarts Legacy**because they think it goes against your ideology to man up. HeelvsBabyface responded to this criticism in his YouTube video, stating he was actually talking about how he would not bow down to the intersectional woke far-left ideological mob that wanted to cancel it.

**Further Reading**

Starfield pronouns: how to change your character s name and pronouns during the game(Video Games on Sports Illustrated)

Starfield: Early Access, Launch Date Game Pass and Everything You Should Know(CNET)

Hogwarts Legacy Video Game Controversy: Boycotts And J.K. Rowling s Comments On Transgender Community, Explained(Forbes)

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