[Template:Pp-pc1](/wiki/Template:Pp-pc1" \o "Template:Pp-pc1) [Template:Sexual orientation](/wiki/Template:Sexual_orientation) **Pansexuality**, or **omnisexuality**,[[1]](#cite_note-1) is the [sexual attraction](/wiki/Sexual_attraction), [romantic love](/wiki/Romance_(love)), or emotional attraction toward people regardless of their [sex](/wiki/Sex) or [gender identity](/wiki/Gender_identity).[[2]](#cite_note-2)[[3]](#cite_note-3) Pansexual people may refer to themselves as [gender-blind](/wiki/Gender-blind), asserting that [gender](/wiki/Gender) and sex are insignificant or irrelevant in determining whether they will be sexually attracted to others.[[4]](#cite_note-4)[[5]](#cite_note-5) Pansexuality may be considered a [sexual orientation](/wiki/Sexual_orientation) in its own right or a branch of [bisexuality](/wiki/Bisexuality), to indicate an alternative [sexual identity](/wiki/Sexual_identity).[[3]](#cite_note-3)[[6]](#cite_note-6)[[7]](#cite_note-7) Because pansexual people are open to relationships with people who do not identify as strictly [men](/wiki/Men) or [women](/wiki/Women), and pansexuality therefore rejects the [gender binary](/wiki/Gender_binary), the "notion of two genders and indeed of specific sexual orientations",[[3]](#cite_note-3)[[7]](#cite_note-7) it is often considered a more inclusive term than *bisexual*.[[8]](#cite_note-8)[[9]](#cite_note-9) To what extent the term *bisexual* is inclusive when compared to the term *pansexual* is debated within the [LGBT community](/wiki/LGBT_community), especially the [bisexual community](/wiki/Bisexual_community).[[9]](#cite_note-9)

## Etymology[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

The prefix [*pan-*](/wiki/Wikt:pan-) comes from the [Ancient Greek](/wiki/Ancient_Greek) word for "all, every", *πᾶν*; [*Omni-*](/wiki/Wikt:omni-) comes from Latin word for "all", *omnis*. *Pansexual* and *pansexualism* were first attested in 1917, denoting the idea "that [the sex instinct](/wiki/Libido) plays the primary part in all human activity, mental and physical",[[8]](#cite_note-8)[[10]](#cite_note-10) a reproach (credited to [Sigmund Freud](/wiki/Sigmund_Freud)) levelled at early [psychology](/wiki/Psychology).[[8]](#cite_note-8)[[10]](#cite_note-10)[[11]](#cite_note-11)

## Comparison to bisexuality and other sexual identities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[thumb|200px|The](/wiki/File:Pansexuality_flag.svg) [pansexual pride flag](/wiki/Pansexual_pride_flag)[[12]](#cite_note-12)[[13]](#cite_note-13)[[14]](#cite_note-14) A literal [dictionary definition](/wiki/Denotation) of [*bisexuality*](/wiki/Bisexuality), due to the prefix [*bi-*](/wiki/Wikt:bi-#English), is sexual or romantic attraction to two [sexes](/wiki/Sex) ([males](/wiki/Male) and [females](/wiki/Female)), or to two [genders](/wiki/Gender) ([men](/wiki/Man) and [women](/wiki/Woman)).[[8]](#cite_note-8)[[9]](#cite_note-9)[[15]](#cite_note-15) Pansexuality, however, composed with the prefix [*pan-*](/wiki/Wikt:pan-#English), is the sexual attraction to a person of any sex or gender. Using these definitions, pansexuality is defined differently by explicitly including people who are [intersex](/wiki/Intersex) or outside the [gender binary](/wiki/Gender_binary).[[3]](#cite_note-3)[[8]](#cite_note-8)[[9]](#cite_note-9) [Go Ask Alice!](/wiki/Go_Ask_Alice!) states that pansexuals can be attracted to [cisgender](/wiki/Cisgender), [transgender](/wiki/Transgender), intersex and [androgynous](/wiki/Androgyny) people, and that the term *pansexual* "is generally considered a more inclusive term than *bisexual*".[[8]](#cite_note-8) Volume 2 of [Cavendish's](/wiki/Marshall_Cavendish) *Sex and Society*, however, states that "although the term's literal meaning can be interpreted as 'attracted to everything,' people who identify as pansexual do not usually include [paraphilias](/wiki/Paraphilia), such as [bestiality](/wiki/Zoophilia), [pedophilia](/wiki/Pedophilia), and [necrophilia](/wiki/Necrophilia), in their definition" and that they "stress that the term pansexuality describes only consensual adult sexual behaviors".[[3]](#cite_note-3) The definition of pansexuality can encourage the belief that it is the only [sexual identity](/wiki/Sexual_identity) that covers individuals who do not cleanly fit into the categories of male or man, or female or woman.[[2]](#cite_note-2)[[7]](#cite_note-7)[[9]](#cite_note-9) However, bisexual-identified people and scholars may object to the notion that bisexuality means sexual attraction to only two genders, arguing that since *bisexual* is not simply about attraction to two sexes and encompasses gender as well, it can include attraction to more than two genders.[[9]](#cite_note-9)[[16]](#cite_note-16) Gender is considered more complex than the state of one's sex, as gender includes genetic, hormonal, environmental and social factors.[[3]](#cite_note-3) Furthermore, the term *bisexual* is sometimes defined as the romantic or sexual attraction to multiple genders.[[9]](#cite_note-9) The [Bisexual Resource Center](/wiki/Bisexual_Resource_Center), for example, defines bisexuality as "an umbrella term for people who recognize and honor their potential for sexual and emotional attraction to more than one gender",[[17]](#cite_note-17) while the [American Institute of Bisexuality](/wiki/American_Institute_of_Bisexuality) states that the term *bisexual* "is an open and inclusive term for many kinds of people with same-sex and different-sex attractions"[[18]](#cite_note-18) and that "the scientific classification *bisexual* only addresses the physical, biological sex of the people involved, not the gender-presentation."[[16]](#cite_note-16) According to the [National Center for Transgender Equality](/wiki/National_Center_for_Transgender_Equality), 25% of American transgender people identify as bisexual.[[19]](#cite_note-19)