

Six Spectrums

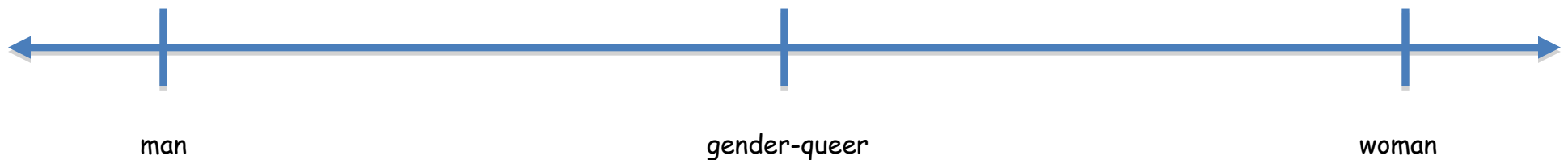
Biological Sex

(anatomy, chromosomes, hormones, secondary sex characteristics)



Gender Identity

(psychological/internal sense of self)



Gender Expression

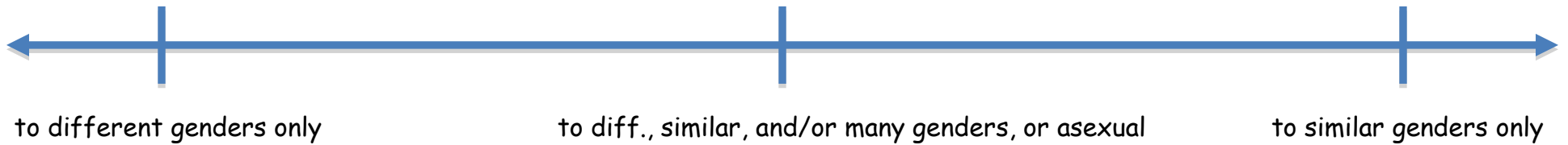
(communication of gender via mannerisms, hairstyle, clothing, etc)



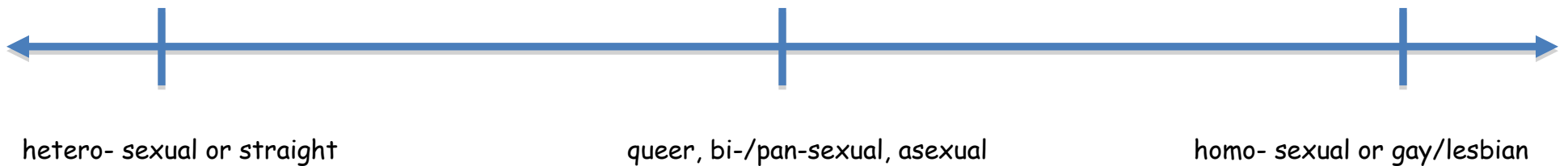
Representing the complexities, intricacies, and nuances of the broad and diverse range of human identities, behaviors, and experiences on a diagram on a piece of paper is an inherently difficult if not impossible task. These spectrums are therefore imperfect but are presented as one way to conceive of the differences and parallels between and among biological sex, gender identity, gender expression, and components of sexual orientation. It is not the only way. It's worth noting that these spectrums represent early 21st century U.S.-centric understandings of these concepts, and these concepts look differently in different regions, time periods, and cultures. It's also worth noting that there are some terms/identities that don't fall on the spectrums (such as asexual) and numerous terms that may encompass a combination of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and biological sex. Examples include but are not limited to: two-spirit, butch, fem, stud, boi, and bear.

Sexual / Affectional Orientation: Attraction

(physical, romantic, emotional)

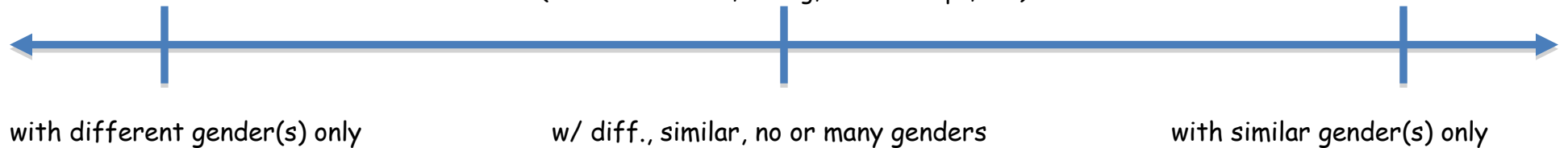


Sexual / Affectional Orientation: Identity



Behavior

(sexual behaviors, dating, relationships, etc)



Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Queer Resource Center, University of Colorado at Boulder: Adapted from "Diagram of Sex & Gender," Center for Gender Sanity, <http://www.gendersanity.com/diagram.shtml>, and from the University of California-Riverside