

A great zine for anyone looking to learn more about resources in the zine community by and for transgender people is **Trans(in)formation** (K48t 2008).

You can search the Barnard Zine Library for zines about trans topics by going to clio.columbia.edu and searching "zines transgender*"

clio.columbia.edu/catalog#

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TRANS VOICES

In light of Barnard's June 2015 change in admission policy for trans women, we've compiled some zines from the Barnard Zine Library written by trans people. DIY publications allow trans people to express their unique and widely varied experiences using their own voices.

Thanks to advisers:

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Exhibit curated and installed by zine assistant Rowanne Dean '17

THE NEW POLICY

“Since its founding in 1889, Barnard’s mission has been to provide generations of promising, high-achieving young women with an outstanding liberal arts education in a community where women lead. Every aspect of this unique environment is, and always will be, designed and implemented to serve women, and to prepare our graduates to flourish and make a difference in the world. This mission is powerful, and remains vital today, perhaps more so than ever.

“In furtherance of our mission, tradition and values as a women’s college, and in recognition of our changing world and evolving understanding of gender identity, Barnard will consider for admission those applicants who consistently live and identify as women, regardless of the gender assigned to them at birth. We will also continue to use gendered language that reflects our identity as a women’s college.

“This admissions policy does not affect students who transition during their time at Barnard. Once admitted, every student will receive the individualized support that is an essential part of the Barnard experience. If, during a student’s time at Barnard, the student decides that Barnard, as a women’s college, no longer offers an appropriate educational environment, Barnard will offer guidance and resources to assist in making choices that are best for that student.”

THE ZINES

When choosing zines for the exhibit, the goal was to include a variety of racial and gender identities, in the spirit of not silencing those who are too often silenced. It also felt important to include a variety of form types, ranging from funny comics to serious essays and interviews. There are, of course, lots of other zines about transgender people in the Zine Library (directions on finding these zines are printed on the back).

1. **The First Appointment** Zines K467g no. 1 2009

Alix Kemp is a person who was assigned the female gender at birth and identifies as a polycurious trans guy. He writes about trying to access hormone therapy to become more masculine within the Canadian healthcare system. The exchange presented demonstrates his struggles with the doctors who ultimately decide whether or not he gets treatment.

2. **International Queer Art & Activism Zine** Issue 5 – India, Zines B354i no. 5 2013

Miyuki Baker has put together several zines documenting the experiences of queer people around the globe, including in South Korea, Ecuador, Argentina, Germany, The Netherlands, Singapore, and Australia. Issue 5 focuses on India and includes an interview about transphobia in the caste system with Living Smile Vidya, a feminist trans woman.

Read the whole interview at <http://sanhati.com/excerpted6051>

3. **Just So You Know #1: autobiographical comics** Zines S294j no. 1 2009

Joey Alison Sayers’s hilarious comic zine depicts her life as a trans woman during her transition. She also does the comics “Teen Power!,” “I’m Gonna Rip Yer Face Off,” and “Passing Periods.”

4. **The Transfeminist Manifesto and Other Essays on Transfeminism** Zines K693t 1999

Emi Koyama, a Japanese-American student activist and trans woman, put together this zine to consider the role of trans people, especially trans women, in feminism.

“Transfeminism is not about taking over existing feminist institutions; it contributes what it can to the advancement of feminism as a whole. It stands up for trans and non-trans women alike, and asks non-trans women to stand up for trans women in return.”

5. **Transgressions a Political Zine for trans, butch, intersex, genderqueer...people of color** Zines J56t 2005

This zine includes a powerful story by Valjean Royal, a trans woman of color who was falsely convicted of murder twice, and died in jail in 2014.

“During the era in which people of my lifestyle were already on trial – just for existing – I was placed on trice, convicted and sentenced to life in prison.”

6. **Tranzilla #2** Zines A53t 2003

Tranzilla is a hand-drawn comic about a trans woman who quits smoking and takes black market hormones and finds herself turned into a Godzilla-like superhero capable of saving transgender people across the globe. In issue 2, she fights the robot patriarchy and gains entry into the exclusive “womyn-born womyn” Michigan Womyn’s Music Festival, which infamously asked a trans woman to leave in 1991.