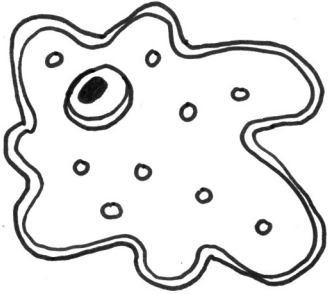


Asexuality is more complicated than I thought!



Asexual: a person who does not experience
SEXUAL ATTRACTION



about the zinemaker

Hullo!
My name is
Maisha.



In the spirit of responsible sociological methodology, I believe transparency about my subject position is very important. I am by no means an authority on asexuality, nor should this zine be viewed as the final word on or ultimate guide to asexuality. I definitely didn't cover everything about asexuality in 10 pages, and I may have even goofed some stuff up. I'm human and my work is colored (though it be in black and white) by my perspective and experiences.

- age: 23
at the time of this writing:
I am not a vampire and I do age.
- location: Portland, OR
- assorted identity tags:
asexual, queer, cisgender, white, able-bodied, femme-ish, female

GRAB BAG: social justice, tea, dinosaurs, kids, crafts, webcomics, chocolate, bicycling, singing along very badly, vegetarian cooking, gardening, communing with tomatoes

OTHER WORKS of the ILLUSTRATED SORT
-Sex Talk: a comic about communication, consent, & gettin' it on online at tingurl.com/sextalkcomic
-Lifelines (an autobio webcomic that updates at random) tingurl.com/maishacomix

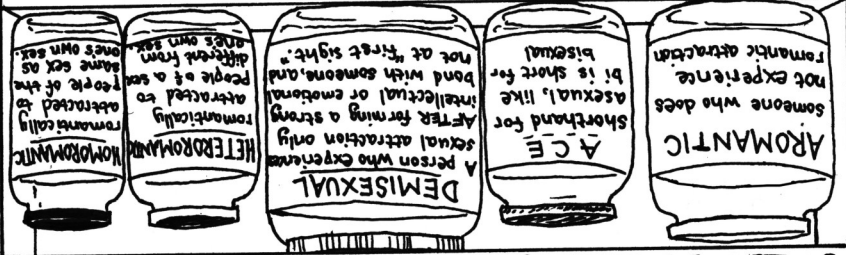
this zine was produced in 2012. Alter, excerpt, copy, & distribute at will!

Asexual: a person who does NOT experience sexual attraction



a spectrum & an umbrella
a community
considered a sexual orientation
about 1% of people identify within the asexuality community
!s...
totally (or lack thereof)
normal!

ASEXUALITY COMES IN A LOT OF FLAVORS



Alter, excerpt, copy, & distribute at will!

RESOURCE LIBRARY

- LOVE FROM THE ASEXUAL UNDERGROUND
asexualunderground.blogspot.com
- SHADES OF GRAY
grasexuality.wordpress.com
- ASEXY BEAST
theonepercentclub.blogspot.com
- ASEXUAL FEMINISMS
acefeminisms.blogspot.com
- ASEXUALITY ARCHIVE
asexualityarchive.com
- ASEXUALITY STUDIES
asexualitystudies.org
- ASEXUAL EXPLORATIONS
asexualexplorations.net
- ASEXUALITIC: asexual dating site
asexualitic.com
- ACEBOOK: asexual dating site
ace-book.net
- APPOSITIVE
a sex-positive asexual forum
appositive.org
- AVEN: Asexuality Visibility and Education Network
asexuality.org

ONLINE COMMUNITIES INFORMATION BLOGS (NON-TUMBLR)

- ASEXUAL EXPERIENCES
asexual-experiences.tumblr.com
- ACE WATCH
acewatch.tumblr.com
- ASEXUALITY - EXISTS
asexuality-exists.tumblr.com
- YOU KNOW YOU'RE ASEXUAL WHEN
youknowyoureasexual.tumblr.com
- ASEXUAL EDUCATION
asexual-education.tumblr.com
- ASEXUALITY EXISTS
asexualityexists.tumblr.com
- GRAY-ASEXUALITY
gray-asexuality.tumblr.com
- DEMISEXUALITY
demisexuality.tumblr.com
- CAKE YEAH ASEXUALS
cakeyeahasexuals.tumblr.com
- ASEXUAL AXOLOTL
asexualaxolotl.tumblr.com
- ASEXUAL ADVICE
asexualadvice.tumblr.com
- ACE SECRETS
acesecrets.tumblr.com

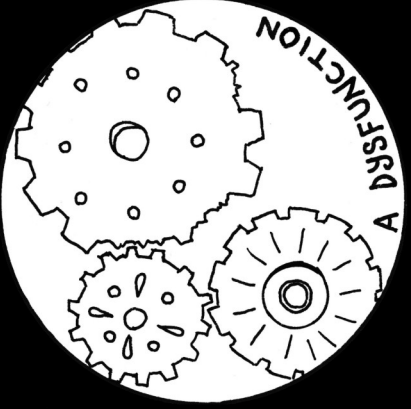
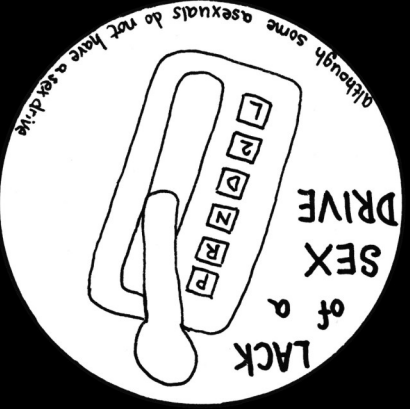
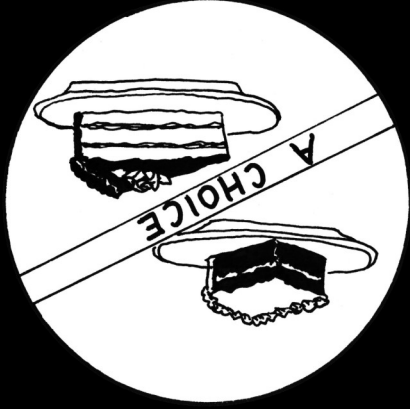
TUMBLRS

- VIRGIN #1 and #2
alchemistscloset.org/virgin.html
- ASEXUAL FEMINISM
- ASEXY LIFE
available from microcosm publishing
- (A)SEXUAL: Not everybody's doing it
art-sengine.net/asexual
- THE ASEXUALITY CHRONICLES
blip.tv/theasexualitychronicles/
- THE DAPPER ACE
youtube.com/user/TheDapperAce/
- ACESOMNIACS
youtube.com/user/ACESOMNIACS/
- HOT PIECES OF ACE
youtube.com/user/HatPiecesOfAce/

VLOGS & YOUTUBE DOCUMENTARY ZINES ADD YOUR OWN!



ASEXUALITY IS NOT:



HOW TO BE an ALLY to ASEXTUALS

You wanna be an ally?
Here's how.



1. Listen and believe us!
Everyone is the expert of their own experience.

2. Educate yourself about asexuality.

Lots of resources exist. Use them!

3. Ask before asking.

Not all asexuals want to be your asexuality encyclopedia. Make sure an asexual is open to questions before asking.

4. Advocate for asexual visibility.

Asexuality gets left out a lot. Include it! Support projects that make asexuality visible.

5. Move up, move back.

Know when to talk about asexuality and when to listen to asexual voices.

TIPS for SEXUALS DATING ASEXUALS

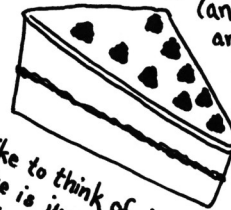
a guest page authored
by Melissa Sweet

- ~ YOUR PARTNER'S ASEXUALITY is not a reflection of a "failure" on your part to "make" them be sexually attracted to you. You also can't "make" them be sexual. But you can...
- ~ UNDERSTAND that you might not understand each other's different sexualities but talk about it often, and talk to other people about it when it's appropriate. You both need supportive listeners!
- ~ ENCOURAGE your partner to connect with an asexual community.
- ~ CONSENT and OPEN COMMUNICATION are key to an awesome relationship - talk about what sex means for both of you, what you feel like you need in order to be with the other person, and most importantly, be HONEST about what you need and be willing to compromise - but know when you can and can't compromise.
- ~ JUST BECAUSE YOUR PARTNER isn't sexually attracted to you doesn't mean you're not a SEXY BEAST. Your partner's attraction to you isn't indicative of how the world sees you. Appreciate and recognize ways that your partner feels closest to you, which is likely to be nonsexually.
- ~ READ and TALK about asexuality and find good resources to be a great partner and ally.



resources

Cake is used to welcome newcomers to AVEN, the Asexuality Visibility & Education Network (an online forum and community, asexuality.org)



I like to think of it this way: cake is just as good - and maybe better than - sex!



represents the spectrum of sexual attraction, with black being asexual (at the bottom) and white being sexual, with shades of grey in between.

$53x + m^3 = \emptyset$
can be read as
sex + me = no result



ASEXUALITY
FLAG



black stripe represents asexuality
grey stripe represents grey asexuality & demisexuality
white stripe represents sexuality
purple stripe represents community



Aces represent asexuality because asexuals often call themselves "aces" for short. Ace of hearts and ace of spades are particularly used.



Although asexuality may be temporary for some asexuals, the term "phase" is often used to discredit very real feelings. Just because something is impermanent does not mean it's not or never was legitimate.

But EVERYONE wants sex!

So what you're saying is that you're gay, you just don't want to admit it.

HAHAHA

So you've NEVER had sex EVER?

You're making that up for attention.

So is it because of your mental disorder?

Don't worry, it's just a phase.*

You are just too ugly to get a date.

How do you know if you've never tried it?

You just haven't met the right person yet.

You're probably just repressed.

IS ASEXUALITY PART OF THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY?

Asexuality is often not recognized as real or legitimate, or is framed as a "choice" or something that can be "cured" or changed. Notice similarities to lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans*, and queer identities?

Asexuals often go through a coming out process that includes questioning ourselves, searching for identities and labels that fit, coming to terms with our identities, seeking a community of people with similar experiences, and telling other people who we are.

Asexuality is often left out of classrooms, textbooks, and sex education programs. This exclusion can make us feel alone, invisible, broken, confused, like we don't exist, like we don't matter, and like we don't have futures.

Asexuals are very rarely depicted in the media; representations are often stereotyped.

Not all aces are straight and cisgender! Some of us are queer, homosexual, bisexual, panromantic, and no one, monolithic LGBTQ community.

Many asexuals do not consider themselves part of the LGBTQ community, but many do. There is no simple yes or no answer and no one, monolithic LGBTQ community.

RESPECT INDIVIDUAL IDENTITIES

Some LGBTQ folks don't think asexuality should be included as LGBTQ. These folks may believe that asexuality: is not an orientation - is the same as slut-shaming - is not oppressed or discriminated against - can "pass" as heterosexuality - betrays the LGBTQ mission to have sex their way.