WHY ARE THERE TAMPONS & PADS IN THE MEN'S BATHROOM?

Consider that there are people that identify as male who may need to use a tampon (eg. a trans man or an intersex person)

Providing these products in all bathrooms allows everyone to meet their basic health and hygiene needs without financial strain

what is menstrual equity?

Menstrual equity aims to support anyone who menstruates so that they have access to menstrual products and reproductive care, as well as end the stigma around reproductive health. (1)

did you know?

In the US, studies have been published that show 64% of respondeInts reporting difficulty affording menstrual products, and 21% reporting that they were unable to afford these products every month. (3)

menstrual equity for all gender identities!

"Sex is a multidimensional biological construct based on anatomy, physiology, genetics, and hormones [...] Gender can be broadly defined as a multidimensional construct that encompasses gender identity and expression, as well as social and cultural expectations about status, characteristics, and behavior as they are associated with certain sex traits." (4)

Regardless of our biological makeup we were born with, many people today do not identify with their assigned sex at birth. Therefore there are many people who have uteruses, experience menstruation, yet do not identify with being a woman.

gender inclusive bathrooms - are they necessary?

Safe bathroom access is not a luxury or a special right. Without safe access to public bathrooms, transgender people are denied full participation in public life. For example, they may have to miss out of school or work opportunities due to a lack of safe bathroom access.

In a 2002 survey conducted by the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, nearly 50% of respondents reported having been harassed or assaulted in a public bathroom. Because of this, many transgender people avoid public bathrooms altogether and can develop health problems as a result.

Other people also experience difficulties in gender-specific bathrooms. For example, parents trying to accompany their differently gendered children, or disabled people who need help from a differently gendered attendant and are not able to bring them into gender-specific, multi-stall bathrooms.

Everyone should be able to use a safe public bathroom so that they can pee in peace.

Sources:

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Please contact prism@neco.edu with any more questions!

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