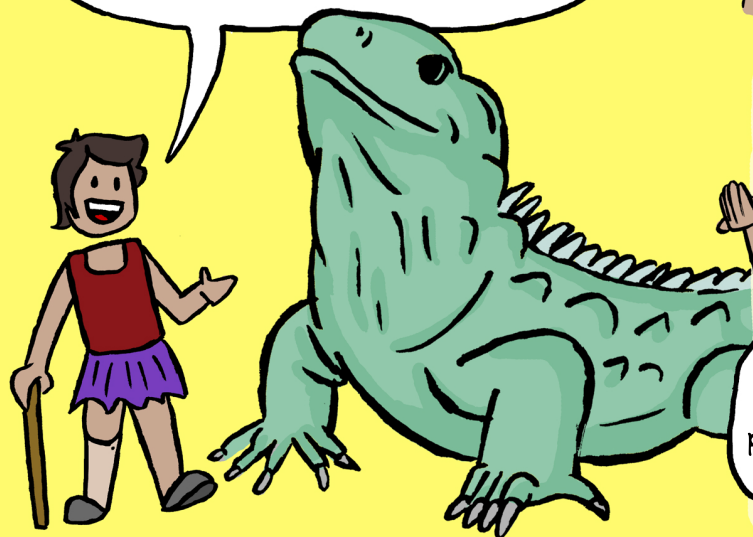


ALL ABOUT INTERSEX

Like Queer, Intersex is an umbrella term

It's used to describe those of us whose bodies don't fit the typical definitions of Male and Female.

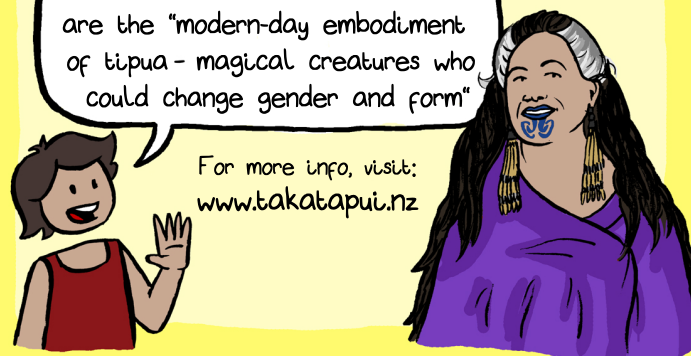
As Pidge from the USA says: "It's been around since the beginning of human existence, there's probably even intersex dinosaurs!"



In Māori culture, Rose Pere states intersex people were considered taonga who were "sent to teach people something"

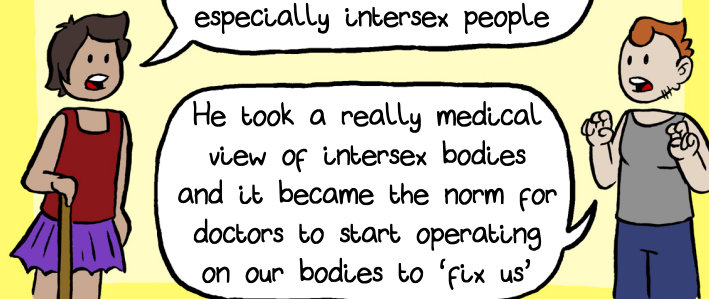
Elizabeth Kerekere adds that we are the "modern-day embodiment of tipua - magical creatures who could change gender and form"

For more info, visit: www.takatapu.nz



In the 1950s a kiwi guy, John Money, started looking at sex differences in humans, especially intersex people

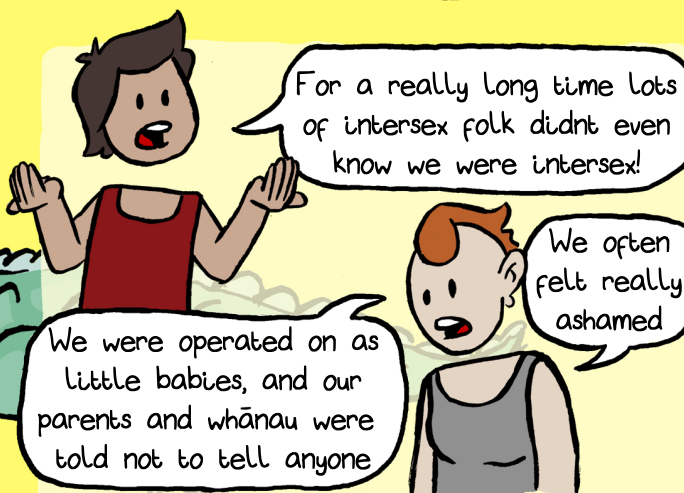
He took a really medical view of intersex bodies and it became the norm for doctors to start operating on our bodies to 'fix us'



For a really long time lots of intersex folk didn't even know we were intersex!

We were operated on as little babies, and our parents and whānau were told not to tell anyone

We often felt really ashamed



But since the internet became a thing we've been able to connect!

We've realised there's LOTS of us around!

And we're no longer isolated through the shame of medical diagnoses...



Intersex people all over the world are coming together to share who we are

We're saying NO to surgeries on intersex babies

Because we deserve to be able to say whether we want any medical interventions or not.



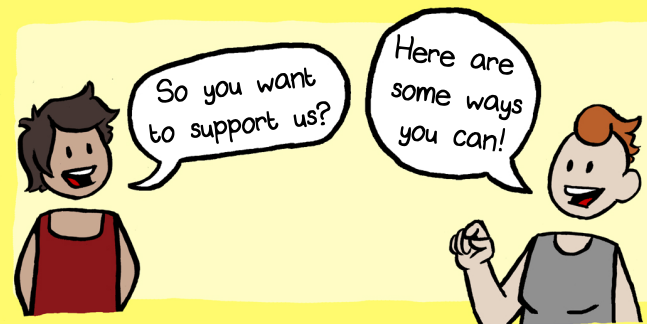
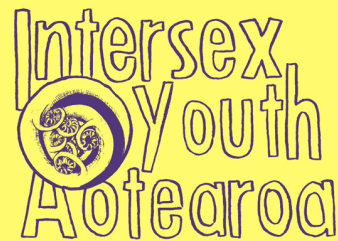
Intersex is an identity

It's worth celebrating!

And we shouldn't be made to feel ashamed because of how unique our bodies are

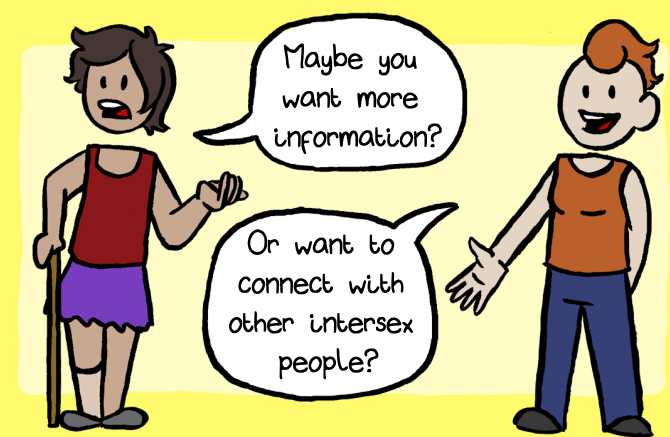


This resource was made possible because of:



1. If you've already heard of intersex, please don't assume things about intersex people. It's okay to ask appropriate questions!
2. Please respect that being intersex means our experience may be different, or we may not identify as either a girl or a guy.
3. Being intersex means having a right to decide what to share with others when we want to.
4. Don't assume things about peoples bodies.
5. Please treat me with dignity and respect.*
6. Don't assume things about peoples gender and sexuality diverse identities.

*1-5 from InterACT Youth tinyurl.com/IYsupport



Intersex Youth Aotearoa (IYA)
www.intersexyouthaotearoa.com

Intersex Trust of Aotearoa
New Zealand (ITANZ)
www.ianz.org.nz

InterAct Advocates
for Intersex Youth
www.interactadvocates.org

OII Australia
www.oii.org.au

Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome
Support Group Australia
www.aiSSGA.org.au