

241105 Readers letter to the editor about the article Esoteric Inventions to Debatte in the german daily newspaper tageszeitung

Reader's letter to the editor about the article "Esoteric Inventions" to "Debatte" in the german daily newspaper "tageszeitung (taz)", 4/11/24, page 12

Written by Kim Dorno.

Dear Taz editorial team,

I would like to ask you to publish the following reader's letter on the debate article "Esoteric imagination" in the taz of 4.11.24, page 12:

Dear Chantalle,

As a queer person, I am confused by what you write! It sounds as if you think the new self-determination-law in Germany is a step backwards. If so, I don't understand your reasoning. Could you please explain it to me in more detail?

I will receive my new identity card in a few days. It confirms that the state recognizes me as non-binary-diverse. I am looking forward to holding an official identity card in my hands that will testify to my social status in the Federal Republic of Germany: if someone addresses me as "Mr." or "Mrs.", they may mean it kindly. But anyone who does that is talking past me. If I don't feel addressed, that's okay.

I need a new training card at the gym. I go to the counter with the old card and say: "Guys, something is coming to you now. When I was born, the state classified me as a man. But that's not true. Now the mistake is being corrected. I want the new card for 'Kim Dorno' instead of 'Mr. Kim Dorno'."

The friendly trainer smiles at me: "We can do that! I'll check the computer in a minute."

"That's sweet, but I don't think it's a question of the computer. It's about where you guys sort my card into the filing cabinet in future!" Because in my gym, the training cards are separated into male and female and wait for customers in the hanging register.

My counterpart looks at me, concerned: "We haven't even thought about that here yet. It's about time we faced up to this problem."

"All peaceful, no stress," I laugh at her. "When it comes to the changing rooms, it might be more difficult. Because now there's M and F. But in future, I'd like to change together with my wife. It would be nice if you had a changing room with shower for everyone."

Non-binary-diverse, dear Chantalle, for me not only means that there is no longer a gap between the poles male and female, but a continuum. No more scale from 0 to 100 where I have to place myself. And then be reduced to the closer pole. For me, diverse means more than binarity. The two poles evaporate into a colorful world. There are as many genders as people discover about themselves. I, for example, have several, two of which lie beyond the M and F poles.

I am interested in the poles M and F in order to find my way in a world where so many people seem to be crowded together on one of the two poles. But unless I have a plan to enrich the world with a new child, these poles don't really mean anything to me. They can serve as landmarks when hiking, but not the destination of the tour.

The new self-determination-law is so important to me because: If I rebel politically and I am unfortunately be arrested by the police - which can happen because nowadays the patriarchy is allowed to act violently again - I hold my new identity card under the officers' noses. And I shall demand: Not in the men's prison! Come up with something better. Protected accommodation for misfits like me! Because I'm afraid of the men who are in the men's prison. That would be hell for me!

Dear Chantalle: Is what moves me really esoteric? Or is it perhaps a matter of fierce reality? What do you think?

Best regards

Kim Dorno (lifelong diverse, now also official) 😊