

Did You Know...

- ➔ that it's **illegal to discriminate** against **transgender** or **gender nonconforming** people in New York City?
- ➔ that this law applies to homeless shelters?

In January 2006 the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) issued a new policy that protects transgender, intersex, and gender non-conforming people from discrimination within the shelter system.

This policy states that **you have the right to be housed in a shelter that corresponds to your gender identity, not according to your birth sex.**

This is a new policy, and shelter workers are still learning about it.

You may not be informed of your rights — *so YOU should know what they are.*

- Shelter workers are required to address you as you request, and place you in a shelter that matches your gender, no matter what your legal documents say.
- You cannot be forced to use a facility that does not match your gender.
- You also cannot be forced to dress in a way that does not match your gender.
- If you are homeless and identify as a woman, you have the right to go to a women's intake center and be placed in a women's shelter.

For more information, or

If you have been discriminated against in the shelter system;

If you are not being placed according to your gender;

If shelter workers do not know about this policy;

call the Sylvia Rivera Law Project at 212-337-8550 for help.