Rethinking Transphobia in the UK: What's Wrong with Rights?

Dr Jack López (he/him)
Associate Dean Equality, Diversity + Inclusion
Reported transgender identity hate crimes rose by 56% 2020-2022

“Transgender issues have been heavily discussed on social media over the last year, which may have led to an increase in related hate crimes.”
ONS 2022
Transphobia:

Discrimination against any human being on the basis of them being or being perceived as trans gender occurring overtly and directly as a form of violence towards an individual or group of people BUT it can only do so because it is enabled by structural and systemic inequalities brought about by a combination of social history, politics, capitalist economics, collective trauma or irrational fear of another group of people.
“For the master’s tools will never dismantle the master’s house. They may allow us to temporarily beat him at his own game, but they will never enable us to bring about genuine change.”

Audre Lorde
“We shouldn’t need to be extraordinary to be seen as people deserving life”

Dr Chandra Prescod-Weinstein
The Disordered Cosmos
“This is how power works: It makes the actual people experiencing violence seem like a threat. Moving from a place of fear leads us to make harmful assumptions about one another. In our fear, we treat other people’s identities as if they are something that they are doing to us and not something that just exists.”

Alok Vaid-Menon