Discussion Questions for Part 4: The Experience of having a Uterus as a Non-Woman

Discussion Questions

1. Before this module, what information did you have about intersex people? Where did it come from? What information did you have about trans people? Where did it come from?

2. Why do you think dominant narratives pose the existence intersex people as a “problem” that needs “fixing”?

3. Gynecologists have a medical degree - they are Dr. X, the “expert”. What, if any, effect does the prestige of being a doctor have on their interactions? Does this vary based on the identity of the patient? Why is that the case?

4. Researcher and activist Vann Jones, says “My doctor doesn’t know this stuff” and this means “I can’t make safe and informed decisions”. Have you or someone you know ever felt that way? What were those experiences like?

5. What does he mean when he says “biological essentialism”? What feels helpful or unhelpful about that framework?

6. Jones notes that a lot of gynecological care “dehumanizes the person carrying the child”. He sees this as something experienced by men and women. How does this observation interact with the reading from Federici? How does it inform the podcast from Dr. Roberts?

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