

Publications Inclusive Language Policy

Since 1992, the mission of DONA International has been to promote high quality doula support by setting the standard for the doula profession through evidence-based training and certification for doulas of diverse backgrounds. From the very beginning, we envisioned a world in which there is a doula for everyone who wants one. In 2016, with intention and purpose the DONA International Board of Directors changed our Vision Statement from “a doula for every woman who wants one” to a “a doula for every *person* who wants one,” recognizing the importance of inclusive language.

DONA International is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, trauma awareness, and anti-racism in our organization, our work, and our language. Our membership represents the diversity that exists among all individuals, including but not limited to sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender and gender identity, family structure, geographical location, physical and functional ability, neurology, religious and spiritual beliefs, age and socio-economic status. We embrace, celebrate, and welcome this diversity and strive to ensure that the perspectives and experiences of all people are seen, heard, represented, and respected.

DONA International, therefore, uses gender neutral language as the default in order that no one be excluded.