Table 2. *Identified themes and subthemes*

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| 1. Understanding SelfFeeling differentSeeking congruency2. Social Pressure to ConformPressured to change by loved onesJudged by strangers: Discrimination, harassment, and threats of violenceFacing employment barriersBeing assumed to be a lesbian3. Managing StigmaInternalizingConformingPassingConsidering transitioningResistingSelf-acceptance | 4. Developing Self-AcceptanceReflective processImportant peopleCommunity Critical analysis of genderBody acceptance5. Living Outside Gender ExpectationsPlaying with genderStrength of character Integrity to selfEnjoying self as different |