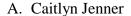
# FOCL Talk 1: What is the Transgender Agenda?

The transgender movement has exploded internationally in the last two to three years fuelled by celebrity endorsement and high level media and political support. It raises profound challenges which are cultural, legal, medical, theological and pastoral. What are its ideological and cultural roots? How has it impacted medicine and law? What is the difference between sex and gender and between transgender and intersex?

Peter Saunders was born in New Zealand and originally trained as a general surgeon before serving with the Africa Inland Mission in Kenya and completing two years mission training at All Nations Christian College in the UK. Since 1992 he has served full-time with Christian Medical Fellowship, a UK-based organisation with 4,500 UK doctors and 1,000 medical students as members, first as Head of Student Ministries, and since 1999 as Chief Executive. His current work involves leadership training, teaching evangelism and ethics, medical mission, writing, editing, and media work. He has been a member of the ICMDA (International Christian Medical and Dental Association) Board since 2003 and is also Campaign Director of the Care Not Killing Alliance, a coalition of over 40 organisations in the UK promoting palliative care and opposing euthanasia. His wife Kirsty is a community pediatrician and they have three sons, Christopher, Benjamin and Jonathan. They are members of Spicer Street Church, St Albans. <a href="www.cmf.org.uk">www.cmf.org.uk</a>; <a href="www.carenotkilling.org.uk">www.carenotkilling.org.uk</a>; <a href="http://pjsaunders.blogspot.com/">http://pjsaunders.blogspot.com/</a>

### I. Transgender in Media and Popular Culture



- B. The Danish Girl
- C. An explosion of gender types

#### II. Cultural Roots

- A. Radical feminism 'throwing off the male yoke'
- B. Gnosticism 'liberate the authentic inner you'
- C. Queer theory 'gender categories are social constructions'

# III. Queer Theory

- A. Emerged out of feminism with aim of rupturing the man-woman binary
- B. A criticism at the level of words aimed at redefining words
- C. 'Woman' and 'Man' are myths, social constructs which lead to violence
- D. Not seeking tolerance or inclusivity but rather redefining normal
- E. Queering describes an action undermining or shaking what is 'normal'

### IV. Legal Changes

- A. Gender Recognition legislation
- B. More radical agendas

## V. Medical Changes

- A. From Gender Identity Disorder (DSM IV) to Gender Dysphoria (DSM V)
- B. From treating the mind to altering the body
- C. Gender reassignment clinics

#### VI. Defining our Terms

- A. Sex, Gender and Gender Identity
- B. Transgender, Gender dysphoria and Intersex