



# Understanding and Responding to the 'Transgender Moment'

Dr Peter Saunders  
CEO of ICMDA

ELF Workshop  
22 May 2022

# **The Transgender Moment and its effects**

# TIME

THE  
TRANSGENDER  
TIPPING  
POINT

America's next  
civil rights frontier

BY KATY STEINMETZ



# VANITY FAIR



## “Call me Caitlyn”

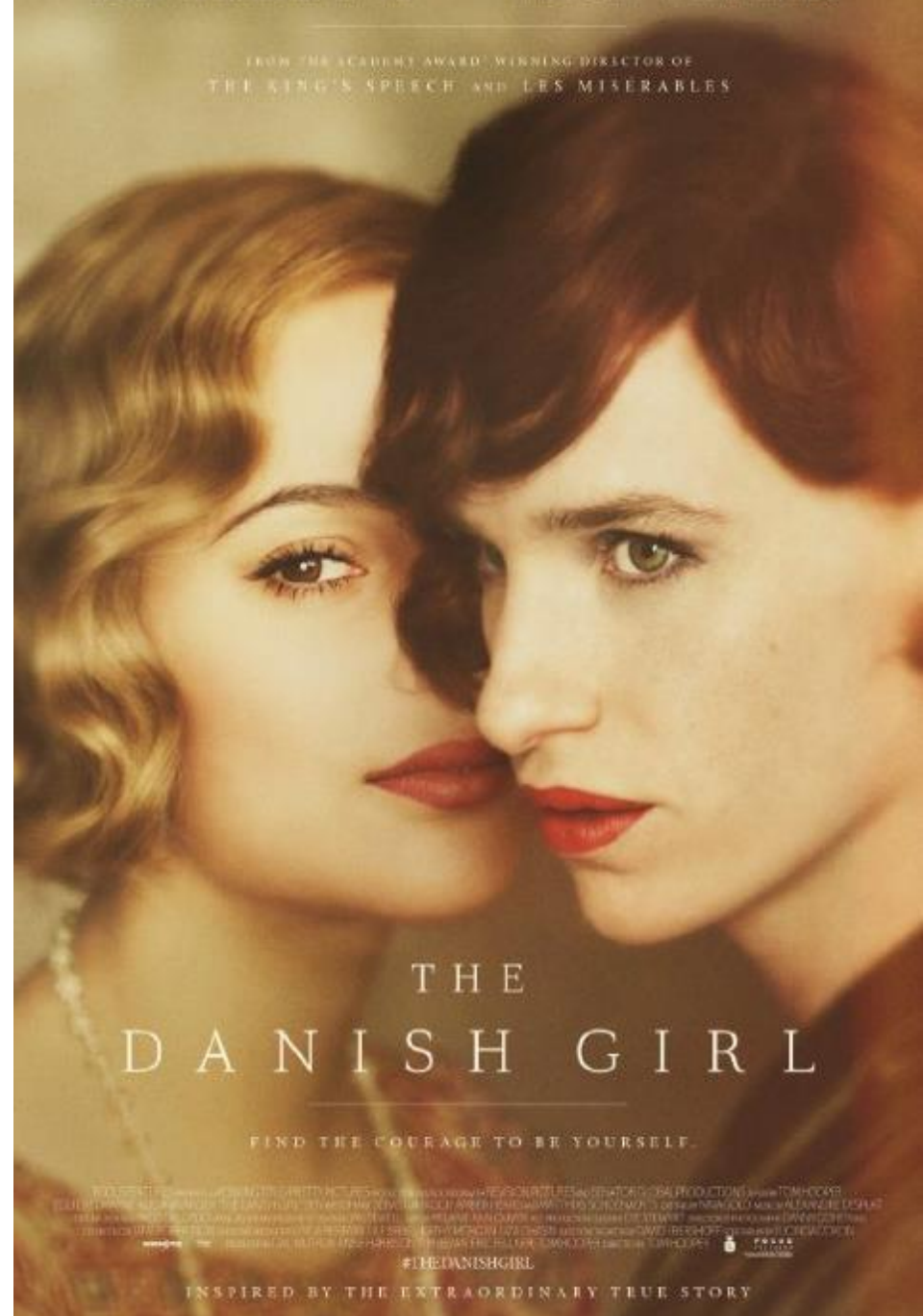
by JEFF BESSINGER from the book by ANNIE LEIBOVITZ

STARRING

EDDIE REDMAYNE

ALICIA VIKANDER

FROM THE ACADEMY AWARD WINNING DIRECTOR OF  
THE KING'S SPEECH AND LES MISÉRABLES



## THE DANISH GIRL

FIND THE COURAGE TO BE YOURSELF.

REDMAYNE AND VIKANDER'S COSTUME DESIGNER IS JANEY BURNETT. HAIR IS BY ANDREW GIBSON FOR L'ORÉAL PARIS. MAKEUP IS BY JESSICA WATSON FOR L'ORÉAL PARIS. PRODUCTION DESIGNER TOM HOOVER. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ANDREW COOPER AND JONATHAN WILSON. PRODUCED BY ANDREW COOPER AND JONATHAN WILSON. WRITTEN BY LEE HALL AND ANDREW COOPER. DIRECTED BY TOM HOOVER. CASTING BY JANEY BURNETT. COSTUME DESIGNER JANEY BURNETT. HAIR BY ANDREW GIBSON FOR L'ORÉAL PARIS. MAKEUP BY JESSICA WATSON FOR L'ORÉAL PARIS. PRODUCTION DESIGNER TOM HOOVER. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ANDREW COOPER AND JONATHAN WILSON. PRODUCED BY ANDREW COOPER AND JONATHAN WILSON. WRITTEN BY LEE HALL AND ANDREW COOPER. DIRECTED BY TOM HOOVER.

#THEDANISHGIRL

INSPIRED BY THE EXTRAORDINARY TRUE STORY

# Facebook's 71 gender options come to UK users

Following its successful integration in the US, US Facebook users can choose from one of 50 gender options



Social media use does not have a negative effect on GCSE grade, the study found Photo: ALAMY



Female



Male



Bigender  
(example of  
female + male)



Androgyne



Bigender:  
female and  
male



Bigender:  
androgyne  
and neu-  
trois



Bigender: third  
gender and demi-  
boy



Demiagender:  
with demigirl



Neutrois



Agender /  
Genderless



Intergender



Demiboy



Genderfluid:  
female and  
male



Genderfluid:  
intergender  
and neutrois



Genderfluid: third  
gender and demi-  
girl



Genderfluid:  
androgyne  
and female



Demigirl



Third Gender



Genderqueer/  
Non-binary



Pangender/  
Poligender



Agender:  
version 1



Agender:  
version 2



Agender:  
version  
gendervoid



Demiagender  
(with third  
gender)



Epicene



Genderfluid  
(example of  
female and male)



Transgender



Transgender  
(alternative version)



Femme



Butch



Travesti n-b



Aliagender

# Medical developments

- **DSM IV (2000)** – ‘Gender Identity Disorder’
- **DSM V (2013)** – ‘Gender Dysphoria’
  - Shifted emphasis from gender incongruence as a disorder to the distress (dysphoria) associated with the experience of that incongruence
  - The change was strongly ideologically driven, the aim being to de-pathologise gender incongruence



Transgender

This article is more than 5 years old

# Gender identity clinic services under strain as referral rates soar

Some new patients waiting up to four years for appointment as figures show referral increases of up to several hundred per cent

Kate Lyons

@MsKateLyons

Sun 10 Jul 2016 19.00 BST



▲ The increase in referrals to gender identity services runs parallel with society becoming more accepting of transgenderism. Photograph: Alamy

The number of Britons seeking gender identity treatment has shot up dramatically in recent years, leaving vulnerable people waiting years for a specialist appointment.

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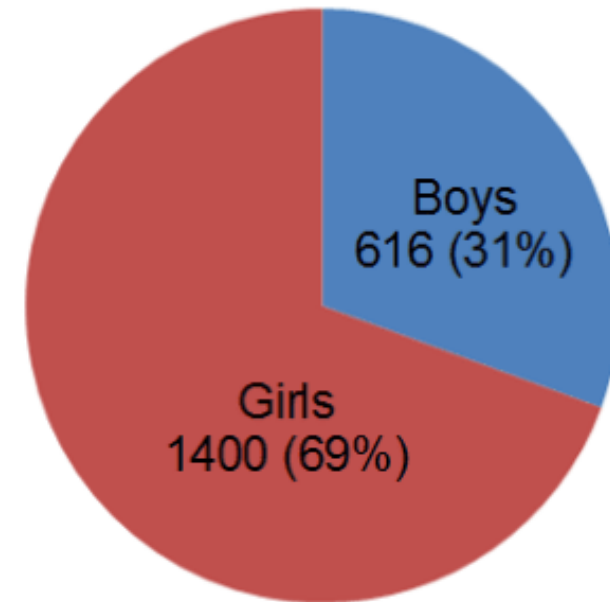
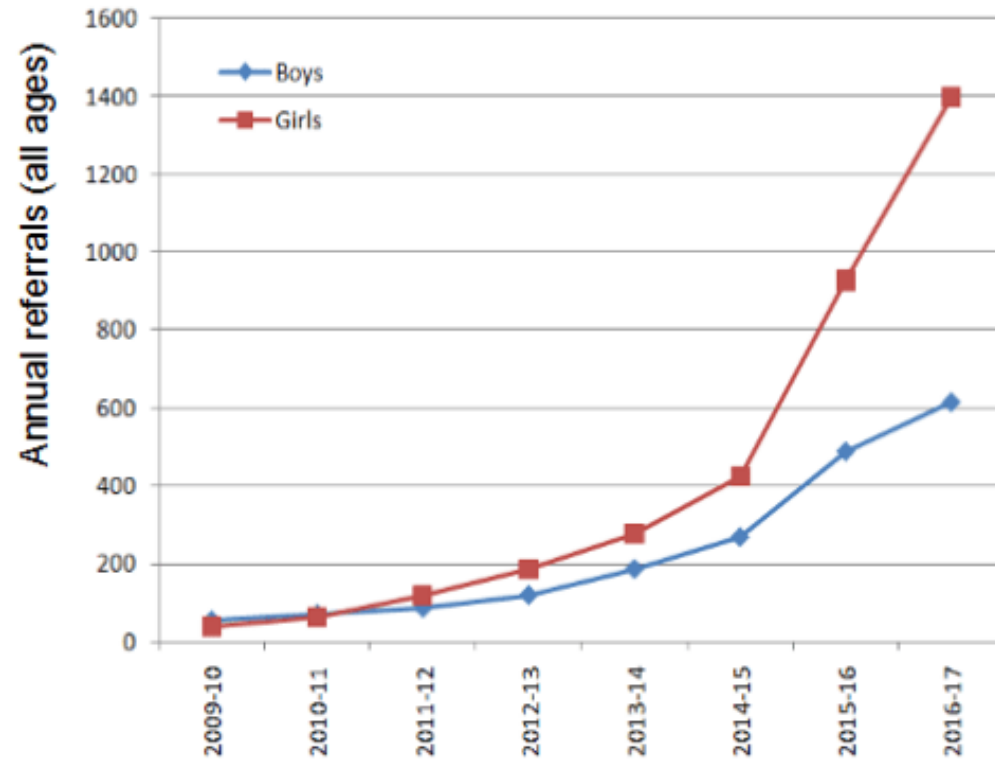
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# Referrals to Tavistock Clinic

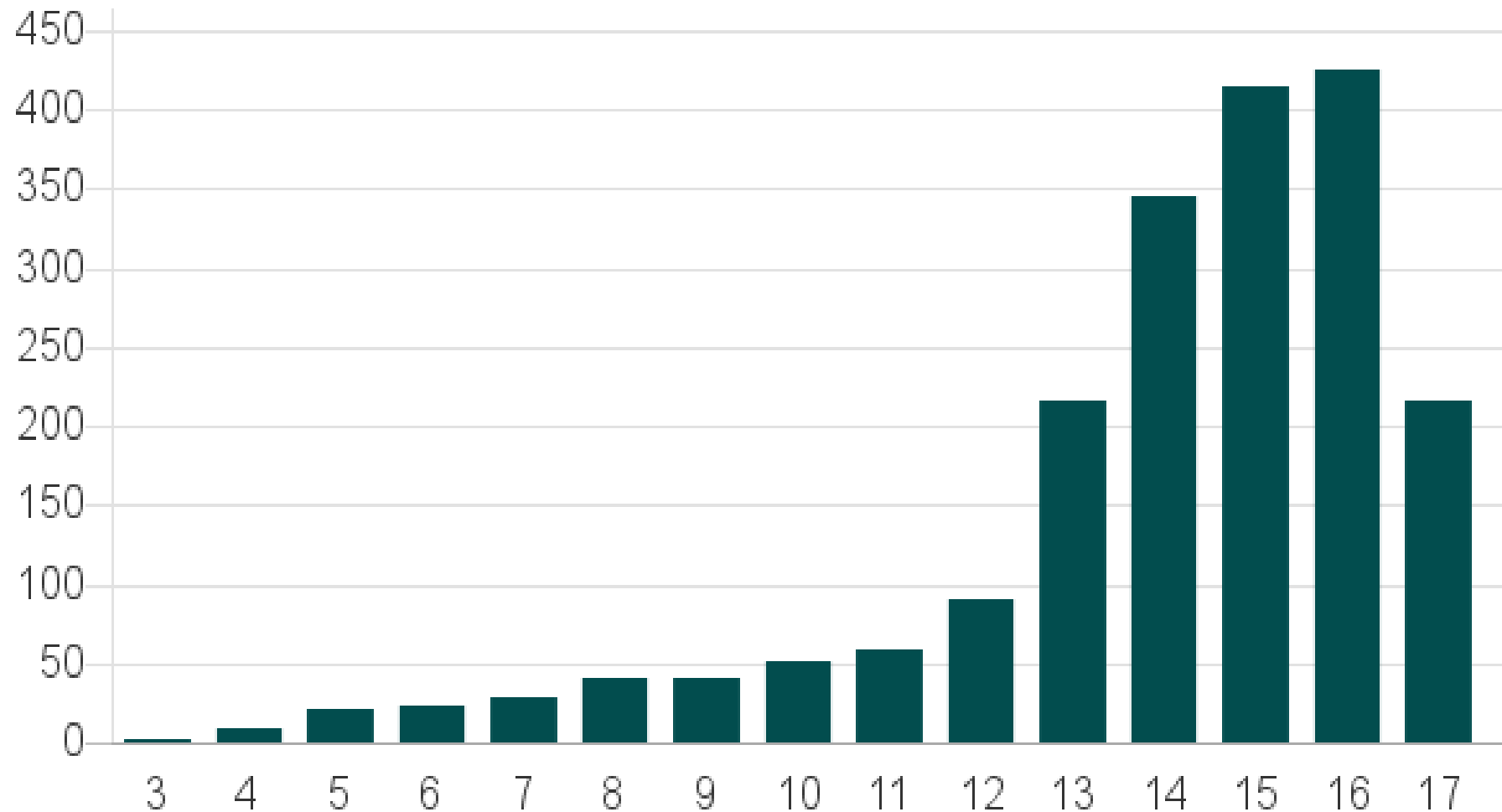


Annual referrals for 2016/17 (all ages)

# Ages of young people referred to GIDS in 2016-17

Youngest children were aged 3

■ Number of young people



Source: GIDS (Excludes 30 aged 18+ who were rejected)

# A Four stage process

- Transgender identity
- Puberty blockers
- Sex change hormones
- Gender reassignment surgery

# Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has 'no problem' with boys in dresses



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, suggested it was up to parents to help clear up any confusion their children had  
VICTORIA JONES/PA

TV REPORT 9 July 2017 at 5:22pm

## Church of England vote overwhelmingly in favour of welcoming transgender people



The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby (second left) during the Eucharist at York Minster in York. Credit: PA

The Church of England's ruling body has voted overwhelmingly in favour of welcoming transgender people.

The General Synod backed a motion which said there was a need for transgender people to be "welcomed and affirmed in their parish church" as part of the "long and often complex process" of transition.

Bishops voted 30 to two in favour, while 127 lay members voted for and 48 against, and clergy backed the motion 127 to 28.

The motion called on the House of Bishops "to consider providing some nationally commended liturgical materials which may be used in parish churches and chaplaincies to provide a pastoral response to the need of transgender people to be affirmed following their long, distressing, and often complex process of transition".

### RELATED NEWS



Liverpool Bishop welcomes conversion therapy ban idea



CoE to vote on welcome ceremony for transgenders



'Unprecedented' criticism of church in abuse report

### TOP STORIES



May faces rebellion over Universal Credit roll-out



Game Of Thrones star Headey makes Weinstein accusation



Trump tells soldier's widow: 'He knew what he signed up for'



Shocking photo of rhino with horns hacked off wins award



US-backed forces 'liberate' Raqqa from Islamic State



More than 40 people killed by Portugal wildfires



Hillary Clinton praises NHS after breaking toe



House of Commons  
Women and Equalities  
Committee

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**Transgender Equality**

---

**First Report of Session 2015–16**

*Report, together with formal minutes relating  
to the report*

*Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed  
8 December 2015*

# Political developments

- **2016 UK Parliamentary Committee report** - recommends that Government update the Gender Recognition Act:
  - 16- and 17-year-olds be eligible to apply for gender recognition
  - use of puberty-blockers for children and cross-sex hormones for teenagers
  - 'non-gendering' of official records



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## Rethink over new law that would allow adults to swap gender without consulting a doctor after minister 'gets cold feet'

 Site  Web  

- Education Secretary Justine Greening delayed a consultation on the new rules
- She said in July the Government would have held one by autumn
- It is alleged she has privately admitted that the issue is 'complex' and 'divisive'

By DANIEL MARTIN FOR THE DAILY MAIL

**PUBLISHED:** 23:33, 25 December 2017 | **UPDATED:** 23:36, 25 December 2017

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Proposals to allow adults to change their gender legally without a doctor's approval

# Theresa May sacks equalities chief Justine Greening, leaving LGBT reforms up in the air

 Nick Duffy

 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018, 7:52 PM



Justine Greening

# **Origins and cultural roots**

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# THE GLOBAL Sexual REVOLUTION



**DESTRUCTION OF FREEDOM  
IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM**

**GABRIELE KUBY**  
*Foreword by Robert Spaemann*

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From the author of *THE STRANGE DEATH OF EUROPE*

# THE MADNESS OF CROWDS

**GENDER, RACE AND IDENTITY**

**DOUGLAS  
MURRAY**

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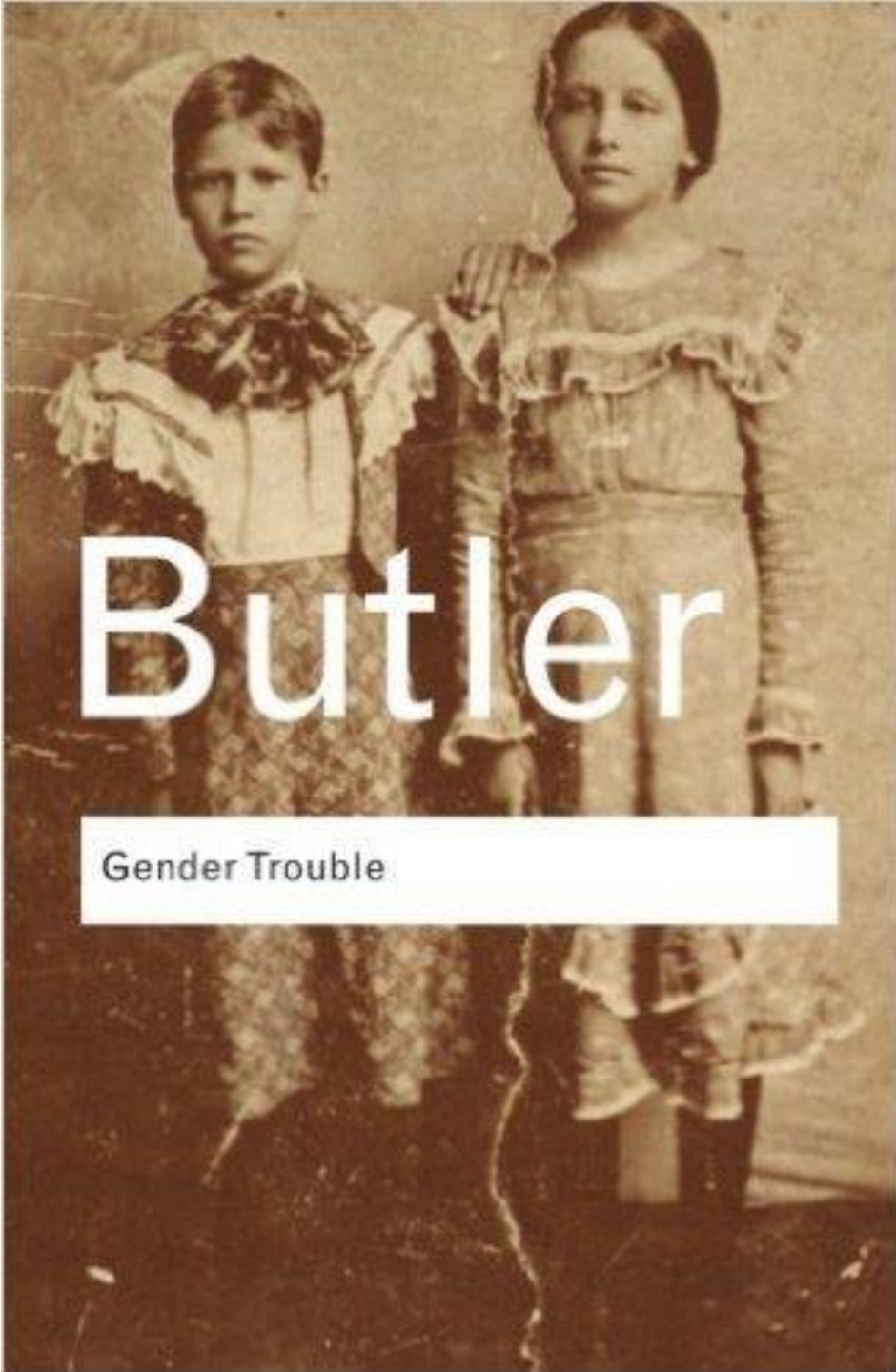
# Ideological Roots of Cultural Changes

- A revolution of ideas
  - Radical feminism (cultural Marxism) - 'throwing off the male yoke'
  - Gnosticism – 'liberate the authentic inner you'
  - Queer theory – 'gender categories are social constructions'
- Narrative power
  - The freeing of human spirit from shame/prejudice/hate/
  - As told in sitcoms, romcoms, documentaries and dramas

A black and white photograph of Simone de Beauvoir. She is shown from the chest up, smiling warmly. Her dark hair is styled in an updo. She is wearing a light-colored, ribbed turtleneck sweater and large, dark, circular earrings. The background is dark and out of focus, with a few bokeh light spots.

*"One is not born,  
but rather becomes,  
a woman."*

*Simone de Beauvoir*



# Butler

Gender Trouble



# Queer Theory

- Emerged out of radical feminism with aim of rupturing the norm of the man-woman binary
- 'Woman' and 'Man' are myths, not real, social constructs which lead to violence
- Queering describes an action – undermining, shaking, unsettling or redefining what is regarded as normal



# **The turning tide against transgenderism**

6th November 2017

## Conservative MP for Monmouth David Davies says gender reform plans should be treated with 'extreme caution'



Stephanie Davies-Arai of Transgender Trend, Judith Green, David Davies MP, James Caspian and Miranda Yardley.

# What is turning the tide?

- Opposition from feminist and LG groups
- Violence and abuse by trans-women in prisons/hospitals
- Concerns about the undermining of civil liberties
- Data about cessation, de-transitioning and ROGD in girls
- Concerns about children having transgender treatments
- Medical facts about causes and effects of gender dysphoria

## 'We're being pressured into sex by some trans women'

By Caroline Lowbridge  
BBC News

🕒 4 hours ago



Is a lesbian transphobic if she does not want to have sex with trans women? Some lesbians say they are increasingly being pressured and coerced into accepting trans women as partners - then shunned and even threatened for speaking out. Several have spoken to the BBC, along with trans women who are concerned about the issue too.

### Top Stories

#### Public sector workers set for pay rise - Sunak

The chancellor will use his Budget on Wednesday to confirm that the "pay pause" is being lifted.

🕒 4 hours ago

#### Too early to draw conclusions from fall in cases - No 10

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#### Rangers great Walter Smith dies at age 73

🕒 3 hours ago

### Features



Budget 2021: What has already been announced?



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## Sex change regret: Gender reversal surgery is on the rise, so why aren't we talking about it?



Anecdotal reports suggests the number of so-called 'reversals' are on the rise. [crs.com](#) [er](#)



 OPEN ACCESS  PEER-REVIEWED

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Parent reports of adolescents and young adults perceived to show signs of a rapid onset of gender dysphoria

Lisa Littman 

Published: August 16, 2018 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0202330>

<b>Article</b>	<b>Authors</b>	<b>Metrics</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Media Coverage</b>
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### Correction

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Background
- Materials and methods
- Measures
- Data analysis
- Results
- Discussion
- Emerging hypotheses
- Reflections
- Conclusion
- Supporting information
- Acknowledgments
- References

Reader Comments (54)  
Figures

### Correction

**19 Mar 2019:** Littman L (2019) Correction: Parent reports of adolescents and young adults perceived to show signs of a rapid onset of gender dysphoria. PLOS ONE 14(3): e0214157. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0214157> | [View correction](#)

### Abstract

#### Purpose

In on-line forums, parents have reported that their children seemed to experience a sudden or rapid onset of gender dysphoria, appearing for the first time during puberty or even after its completion. Parents describe that the onset of gender dysphoria seemed to occur in the context of belonging to a peer group where one, multiple, or even all of the friends have become gender dysphoric and transgender-identified during the same timeframe. Parents also report that their children exhibited an increase in social media/internet use prior to disclosure of a transgender identity. Recently, clinicians have reported that post-puberty presentations of gender dysphoria in natal females that appear to be rapid in onset is a phenomenon that they are seeing more and more in their clinic. Academics have raised questions about the role of social media in the development of gender dysphoria. The purpose of this study was to collect data about parents' observations, experiences, and perspectives about their adolescent and young adult (AYA) children showing signs of an apparent sudden or rapid onset of gender dysphoria that began during or after puberty, and develop hypotheses about factors that may contribute to the onset and/or expression of gender dysphoria among this demographic group.

### Related PLOS Articles

**has CORRECTION**  
Correction: Parent reports of adolescents and young adults perceived to show signs of a rapid onset of gender dysphoria  
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**has COMPANION**  
Formal comment on:  
Parent reports of adolescents and young adults perceived to show signs of a rapid onset of gender dysphoria  
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# Scottish Government Proposals

Privacy Policy | Feedback [Follow 20.9M](#) Friday, Aug 13th 2021 9PM 14°C 12AM 14°C 5-Day Forecast

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very

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## Scotland will let pupils change gender aged FOUR without their parents' consent - and tells teachers not to question a child's request to choose a new name or use a different toilet

- The Scottish government says school children aged four can change gender
- Young pupils wishing to switch gender must be supported and listened to
- The newly implemented guidance has been described as 'shocking'
- Schools have been told to have transgender books on their curriculum

By [MICHAEL BLACKLEY FOR THE DAILY MAIL](#)  
PUBLISHED: 22:00, 12 August 2021 | UPDATED: 19:05, 13 August 2021

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HOT

HOT

Germaine Greer

## Petition urges Cardiff University to cancel Germaine Greer lecture

Change.org petition calls on university to ban lecture by feminist academic for alleged transphobic comments

Caitlyn Jenner 'wanted limelight of female Kardashians' - Germaine Greer

Ben Quinn

Friday 23 October 2015 19.36 BST



This article is 4 months old

Shares 12,443 Comments 4,356

Save for later



Germaine Greer says her views on transgender people 'an opinion, not a prohibition'

An online petition has been launched seeking to prevent Germaine Greer from giving a lecture at [Cardiff University](#), claiming her views are "problematic" for transgender people.

The petition on Change.org was started by Rachael Melhuish, women's officer at the university's students' union, and alleges that Greer has "demonstrated misogynistic views towards trans women, including continually misgendering trans women and denying the existence of transphobia altogether".

The Australian writer is due to speak on 18 November in a lecture called [Women & Power: The Lessons of the 20th Century](#).

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# Infringement of civil liberties

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**NEW: Women vote Democrat. Why?**  
Michelle Fields joins Cheryl Channing in discussion.

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Why the deal with Hungary's authoritarian ruler?

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FROM: 18:00 (GMT+0)

## Federal court blocks Biden's transgender mandate on religious hospitals, doctors



President Joe Biden speaks about the Supreme Court decision that blocks Biden's transgender mandate on religious hospitals and doctors. Biden is seen speaking at a podium in the White House on Thursday, Aug. 12, 2021. (AP Photo/Andrew H. Guthrie)

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**FRONT PAGE PODCAST**

00:00:00    

By Alex Sargent Thursday, August 12, 2021 

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## Maya Forstater: Woman wins tribunal appeal over transgender tweets

By Doug Faulkner  
BBC News

© 10 June



BARNEY COKE/ISS/SEXMATTERS.ORG

A woman who lost her job after saying that people cannot change their biological sex has won an appeal against an employment tribunal.

Maya Forstater, 47, did not have her contract renewed after posting tweets on gender recognition.

She lost her original case at a tribunal in 2019, but a High Court judge ruled her "gender-critical" beliefs fell under the Equalities Act.

The appeal said the tribunal had erred in law and another should take place.

# Ban on puberty blockers upheld

BBC News navigation bar with categories: Home, News, Sport, Weather, iPlayer, Search.

## Puberty blockers: Under-16s 'unlikely to be able to give informed consent'



Gender reassignment: Puberty blocker ruling 'protects vulnerable teen'

Children under 16 with gender dysphoria are unlikely to be able to give informed consent to undergo treatment with puberty-blocking drugs, three High Court judges have ruled.

The case was brought against Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust, which said it was "disappointed" but immediately suspended such referrals for under-16s.

The NHS said it "welcomed the clarity" the ruling would bring.

Support the Guardian navigation bar with categories: News, Opinion, Sport, Culture, Lifestyle, More.

Transgender

This article is more than 1 month old

## High court ruling on puberty blockers 'based on partisan evidence'

Appeal judges hear NHS trust's challenge to landmark judgement on gender reassignment for under-16s



The Tavistock and Portman NHS trust, which runs NHS England's only gender identity development service for children.

A landmark judgement that children under the age of 16 considering gender reassignment are unlikely to be mature enough to give informed consent to be prescribed puberty-blocking drugs undermined their entitlement to make decisions for themselves and was based on "partisan expert evidence", the court of appeal has heard.

Tavistock and Portman NHS trust, which runs NHS England's only gender identity development service for children, is challenging a high court ruling last year in a case brought against the service by Keira Bell, a 24-year-old woman who began taking puberty blockers when she was 16 before detransitioning. The other applicant was the unnamed mother of a teenage autistic girl on the waiting list for treatment.

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[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Equalities Minister orders inquiry into massive spike in trans referrals](#)

# Equalities Minister orders inquiry into massive spike in trans referrals

 17 Sep 2018 | [Transsexualism](#) | [England & Wales](#)


## More on this topic

Government probe into why so many girls want to be boys: Investigation ordered after number of 'transitioning referrals' increases by four thousand per cent (dailymail.co.uk, 15 September 2018)

Minister orders inquiry into 4,000 per cent rise in children wanting to change sex (telegraph.co.uk, 16 September 2018)

Inquiry into surge in gender

The rapid rise in referrals for gender dysphoria among children has led the Equalities Minister to demand an inquiry to determine what is behind it.

Penny Mordaunt MP is keen to understand why there has been a 4,400 per cent rise in the number of girls being referred for treatments in the past nine years.

Government officials will look into potential causes, including the influence of social media and the promotion of transgender issues in schools.

## Latest News

Abortion law protecting NI women under renewed pressure from Westminster

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Labour wants to ban betting adverts during live sport

6 hours ago | [Gambling](#) | [England & Wales](#)

Lib Dems vote for abortion free-for-all

1 day ago | [Abortion](#) | [England & Wales](#)

Student humanists 'force out' leader for saying women can't be men

1 day ago | [Transsexualism](#) | [England & Wales](#)

Sex-selective abortion warning over pregnancy screening test

2 days ago | [Abortion](#) | [England & Wales](#)

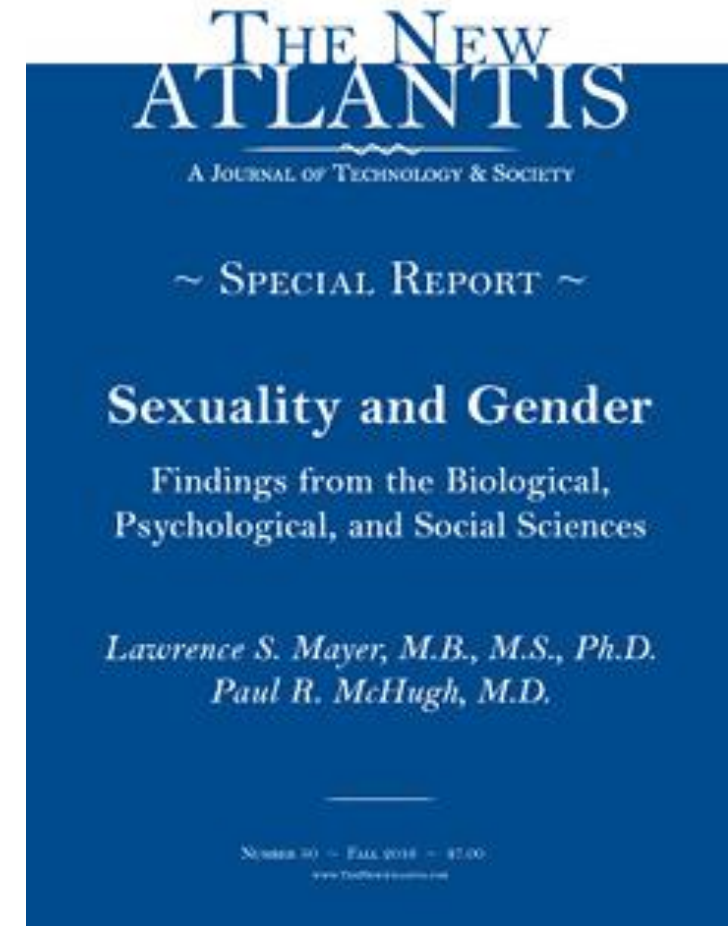
'Men should be allowed to erase sex crimes if they say they are women'

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# **The Medical facts**

# Sexuality and Gender – 143pp

Examining research from the biological, psychological, and social sciences, this report shows that some of the most frequently heard claims about sexuality and gender are not supported by scientific evidence.





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RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Long-Term Follow-Up of Transsexual Persons Undergoing Sex Reassignment Surgery: Cohort Study in Sweden

Cecilia Dhejne, Paul Lichtenstein, Marcus Boman, Anna L. V. Johansson, Niklas Långström, Mikael Landén

Published: February 22, 2011 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0016885>

Article	Authors	Metrics	Comments	Media Coverage
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**Abstract**

Introduction

Methods

Results

Discussion

Supporting Information

Author Contributions

References

Reader Comments (1)

Figures

**Abstract****Context**

The treatment for transsexualism is sex reassignment, including hormonal treatment and surgery aimed at making the person's body as congruent with the opposite sex as possible. There is a dearth of long term, follow-up studies after sex reassignment.

**Objective**

To estimate mortality, morbidity, and criminal rate after surgical sex reassignment of transsexual persons.

**Design**

A population-based matched cohort study.

**Setting**

Sweden, 1973-2003.

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# **TRANS IDENTITY: BORN THAT WAY?**

**AT LEAST 14 PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING  
AT LEAST 10 ENDOCRINE SOCIETIES  
AROUND THE WORLD, AGREE:**

**TRANSGENDER IDENTITY HAS  
SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT CAUSES.**

**IT'S NOT JUST BIOLOGICALLY CAUSED.  
BY GENES, HORMONES, OR BRAIN STRUCTURES.**

**Endocrine Society + 6 co-sponsoring organizations** (Hembree, et al., 2017, An Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guideline, pp. 6-7, <https://academic.oup.com/jcem/article/102/11/3869/4157558>); **Global DSD Update Consortium & 6 endocrine associations around the world:** Lee et al., 2016, <https://doi.org/10.1159/000442975>; **American Psychiatric Association** (*Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, Fifth Edition*, pp. 451, 457). **American Association of Pediatricians:** (Rafferty J, et al., 2018, pp. 2, see also p. 4, <https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/142/4/e20182162.full.pdf>); **American Psychological Association** (Tolman & Diamond, eds., 2014, *APA Handbook of Sexuality and Psychology*, 1: 743). **Some organizations are listed more than once in these references.)**

## IDENTICAL TWINS SHARE GENES AND PRENATAL BIOLOGICAL INFLUENCES

(prenatal hormones, prenatal maternal factors, number of older brothers, epigenetics)

**100% of identical twin pairs are the same sex.**

***Sex is biologically determined and can never change.***

**But if one identical twin has one of the following traits, the other usually does not:**

- same-sex attraction or behaviour (14% pairwise concordance)
- incongruent gender identity (28% pairwise concordance but likely actually less)
- same-sex sexuality and cross-sex behaviour (non-significant proband-wise correlation)

**These traits are *not* biologically determined.**

(Transsexual: Older study reported in Bockting, 2014, in *APA Handbook* 1:743, updated by Diamond, M., 2013, Transsexuality Among Twins: Identity Concordance, Transition, Rearing, and Orientation, *International Journal of Transgenderism*, 14:1, 24-38. Figure of 20% in abstract corrected to 28% by calculation from Table 5, p. 28, as reported in Haynes, Sept. 27, 2016.)

(Gay: Bailey et al with Diamond, 2016 pp. 74-76. Pairwise concordance calculated from probandwise concordance = 24%, and  $28/114$  = about 24%; see bottom of Table 4 on p. 75.)

(Non conforming behavior: Bailey et al with Diamond, 2016, p. 76. Bailey, M.J. & Pillard, R.C. (1991). A genetic study of male sexual orientation. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 48, 1089-1096. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/21311211\\_A\\_Genetic\\_Study\\_of\\_Male\\_Sexual\\_Orientation](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/21311211_A_Genetic_Study_of_Male_Sexual_Orientation), see abstract ; Bailey, J.M., Pillard, R.C., Neale, M.C., & Agyei, Y. (1993). Heritable factors influence sexual orientation in women. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 50, 217-223. <https://www.scholars.northwestern.edu/en/publications/heritable-factors-influence-sexual-orientation-in-women>, see p. 221; Bailey, J.M. & Zucker, K.J. (1995). Childhood sex-typed behavior and sexual orientation: A conceptual analysis and quantitative review. *Developmental Psychology*, 31, 43-44. <https://eric.ed.gov/?q=childhood+sex-typed+behavior+and+sexual+orientation&id=EJ498066>, see p. 52; Dawood, K., Pillard, R. C., Horvath, C., Reville, W., & Bailey, J. M. (2000). Familial aspects of male homosexuality. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 29(2), 155-163. <https://www.deepdyve.com/lp/springer-journals/familial-aspects-of-male-homosexuality-ghrJHuK5qP>, see p. 161.)



# The increasingly convincing link between autism and gender dysphoric kids

*It's no longer a kooky theory proposed by marginal psychologists*

Michael Cook | Jan 20 2017 | 13



Tom (formerly known as Melanie) and Julia (formerly known as Callum). From [The Guardian](#)

**Gender dysphoria can change  
throughout the lifespan through life experience.**

**The British Psychological Society “Guideline” says,**

**“Gender dysphoria can fluctuate over years, not infrequently  
increasing or decreasing in mid-life and it is not unusual for people  
to present for therapeutic discussion and support later in life....”**

(p. 25, emphasis added)

**Researchers, therapists, and clients should be able to identify factors  
that are leading to these changes.**

*(British Psychological Society (2012). Guidelines and literature review for psychologists working therapeutically with sexual and gender minority clients. [https://www.bps.org.uk/sites/beta.bps.org.uk/files/Policy%20-%20Files/Guidelines%20and%20Literature%20Review%20for%20Psychologists%20Working%20Therapeutically%20with%20Sexual%20and%20Gender%20Minority%20Clients%20\(2012\).pdf](https://www.bps.org.uk/sites/beta.bps.org.uk/files/Policy%20-%20Files/Guidelines%20and%20Literature%20Review%20for%20Psychologists%20Working%20Therapeutically%20with%20Sexual%20and%20Gender%20Minority%20Clients%20(2012).pdf))*

Health Maintenance Organization in some U.S. states—continued:

**Prevalence of psychiatric disorders lifetime for gender non congruent children and adolescents BEFORE first medical evidence of gender non congruence was far higher than for peers who accept and identify with their sex.**

(US: Becerra-Culqui et al., 2018, <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30476120-letter-to-the-editor-endocrine-treatment-of-gender-dysphoricgender-incongruent-persons-an-endocrine-society-clinical-practice-guideline/>;

## **Finland: PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS**

### **Adolescent applicants for “sex reassignment” services**

**at one of Finland’s two national centers for these services from 2011 to 2013**

- **75%** had psychiatric treatment for reasons other than gender dysphoria during their lifetime. (p. 5)
- **“Severe psychopathology preceding onset of gender dysphoria was common.”**
- **“The recorded comorbid disorders were thus severe and could seldom be considered secondary to gender dysphoria.”**

(Kaltiala-Heino, R., Sumia, M., Työlajärvi, M., and Lindberg, N. (2015). Two years of gender identity service for minors: Overrepresentation of natal girls with severe problems in adolescent development. Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health, abstract, p. 6. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13034-015-0042-y> )

Health Maintenance Organization in some U.S. states—continued:

## **6 MONTHS BEFORE**

### **GENDER DISCORDANCE IN ADOLESCENTS:**

- **Depression was up to 23 to 24 times higher.**
- **Suicidal ideation was up to 45 to 54 times higher.**
- **Self-inflicted injuries were up to 70 to 144 times higher.**

(Becerra-Culqui et al., 2018, Table 3.)

## **Finland: TRAUMA**

### **BULLYING with Mental Disorders Came Before Gender Incongruence for Adolescents Applying for “Sex Reassignment” Services (2015):**

- **57% had been significantly bullied at school.**
  - **92% of these were bullied before gender incongruence.**
  - **73% were bullied for reasons unrelated to gender presentation or gender identity.**
- **49 % had been persistently bullied before gender incongruence.**
  - **This bullying was associated with *peer isolation, anxiety, depression, self-harm, and suicidal preoccupation, if not attempts.***
  - **These adolescents had “very high expectations” that gender medical procedures “would solve their problems in social, academic, occupational and mental health domains.” (pp. 4-6).**

(Kaltiala-Heino et al., 2015, p. 4, “e group” on Table 2 and on p. 6). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13034-015-0042-y> )

## **Finland: RECOMMENDATION**

**Treatment should aim to reduce or resolve gender dysphoria by aiming to reduce or resolve predisposing disorders.**

“The first-line treatment for gender dysphoria” includes treatment “of possible comorbid disorders” that may “predispose a young person to the onset of gender dysphoria.”

***This is exactly what therapists in the IFTCC do and pastors support and what “Conversion Therapy” bans would criminalize.***

***These victims should have the right to heal.***

(Council for Choices in Health Care in Finland (PALKO/COHERE Finland) (2020). Recommendation of the Council for Choices in Health Care in Finland (PALKO/COHERE Finland): Medical Treatment Methods for Dysphoria Related to Gender Variance in Minors. Unofficial English translation. Chapter 7. <https://segm.org/sites/default/files/>



## Adverse events of gender confirming hormones

Two transgender studies:

2517 women (median age 30 yrs) - median follow-up 6 yrs

1358 male (median age 23 yrs) - median follow-up 4 yrs

**Table.** Standardized Incidence Ratios for Acute Cardiovascular Events in Transwomen and Transmen Receiving Hormone Therapy

Acute Cardiovascular Events	OCs (IR)*	Using Women as Reference		Using Men as Reference	
		ECs	SIR (95% CI)	ECs	SIR (95% CI)
Transwomen					
Stroke	29 (127)	12.01	2.42 (1.65–3.42)†	16.08	1.80 (1.23–2.56)†
Myocardial infarction	30 (131)	11.38	2.64 (1.81–3.72)†	38.03	0.79 (0.54–1.11)
Venous thromboembolism	73 (320)	13.22	5.52 (4.36–6.90)†	16.04	4.55 (3.59–5.69)†
Transmen					
Stroke	6 (55)	3.49	1.72 (0.70–3.58)	4.10	1.46 (0.59–3.04)
Myocardial infarction	11 (100)	2.98	3.69 (1.94–6.42)†	10.99	1.00 (0.53–1.74)
Venous thromboembolism	2 (18)	4.84	0.41 (0.07–1.37)	5.56	0.36 (0.06–1.19)

ECs indicates expected cases; IR, incidence rate; OCs, observed cases; and SIR, standardized incidence ratio.

\*Per 100 000 person-years.

†Significant finding.



# Research Findings

*The Karolinska Institute announced that they were stopping all new hormone treatment in children with gender dysphoria due to lack of evidence of its effectiveness.*

*The recommendation was to us it only in randomised trials.*



1 May 2021

# The key question

- Is a person with GD/GID really a man in a woman's body? (or vice versa)
- Or are they just a woman with a false belief that they are a man?

# GD treatment options

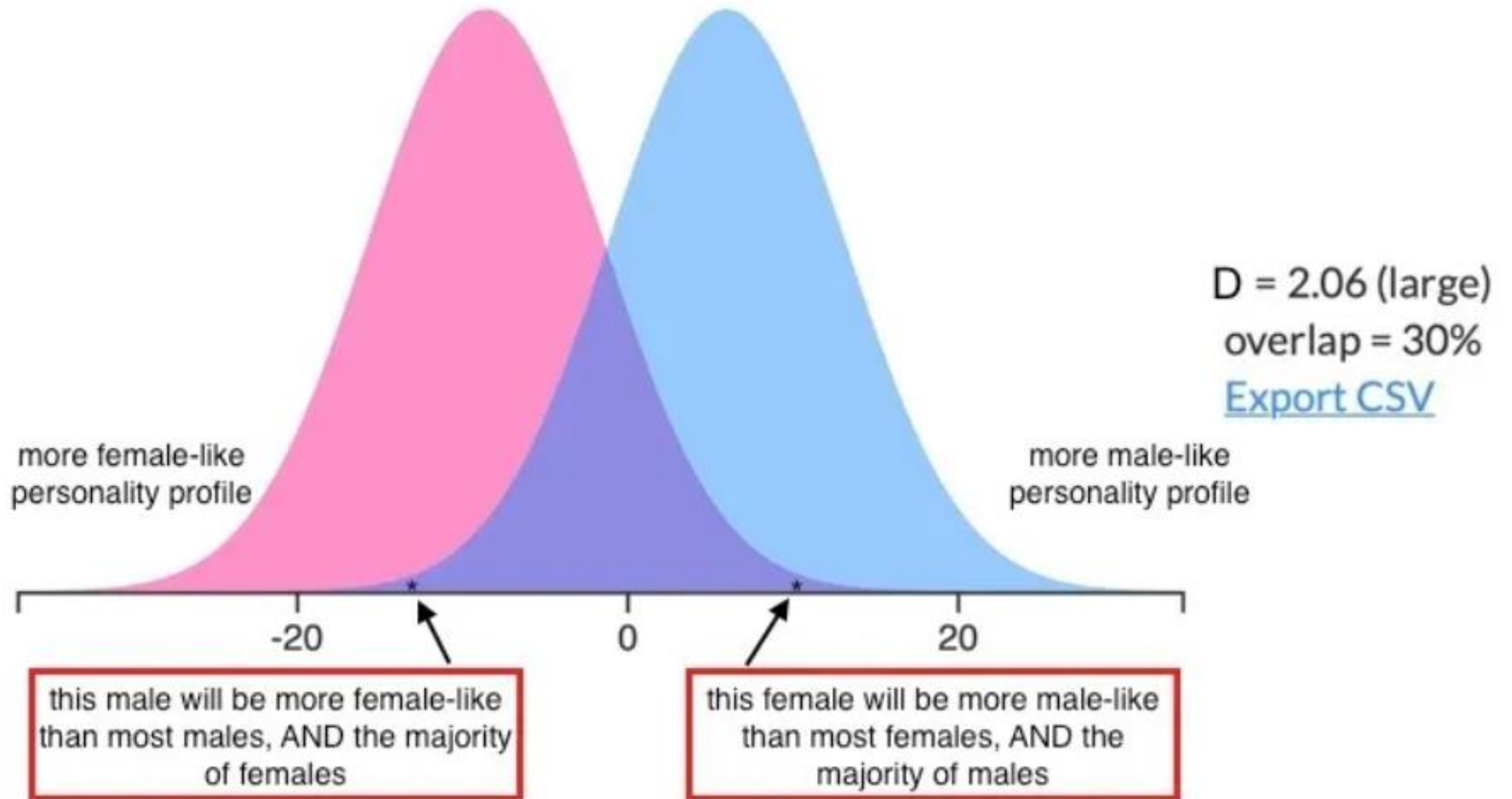
*Incongruence between body and identity*

- Should we alter the body to conform to the gender identity? (through hormones or transgender surgery)
- Should we alter the identity to conform to the body? (through counselling and psychotherapy)
- Should we support the person in their conflicted state?

# What is GD/GID?

- **Normal variant?**
- **Cf. Body Dysmorphia?** i.e. A mental disorder characterised by an obsessive preoccupation that some aspect of one's own appearance is severely flawed and warrants exceptional measures to hide or fix it.
- **Cf. Anorexia nervosa?** A false belief about one's body leading to radical attempts to change it through dieting

# Personalities vary hugely



# **Christian responses**

# Two distinct entities

**Transgender ideology** – a false belief system attempting to shape morality, law and society that needs to be met with dispassionate refutation

**Gender dysphoria** – a rare but real and distressing medical condition that needs to be met with compassionate understanding and appropriate treatment

# Christian responses

- We need to see it through the eyes of creation
  - The Bible is unashamedly binary (Genesis 1:27, 2:24)
  - 6.500 genes expressed differently in men and women
- We need to appreciate that we live in a fallen world
  - We are all sinners and affected by sin
  - Transgender (and intersex) are to be expected
  - Personal experience of transgender may be very painful
  - Full healing may not be possible in this world
  - Churches need to be welcoming redemptive communities



# Christian responses

- We must not capitulate to transgender ideology
  - Loving transgender people does not mean affirming their beliefs
  - We should seek to support people in their birth sex
  
- We must grasp the gospel opportunities transgender presents
  - Jesus called all to repentance and faith
  - Jesus gives the power to face all life throws at us
  - Our true identity is in Jesus

# CMF Articles – www.cmf.org.uk



**Key points**

- Increasing the focus on the social and cultural context of gender identity is essential to a holistic approach to care.
- The transition process is a social and cultural one, not just a medical one.
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**G**overnment legislation and professional guidelines reflect cultural norms. As culture changes, and with it the nature of what is generally acceptable, the Guidelines follow suit. This, what was deemed acceptable by our generation may be followed by the next and generations thereafter.

Thus, what was deemed acceptable by our generation may be followed by the next and generations thereafter. This is the nature of the Guidelines – the evolution of human norms over time. Today, autonomy has become the moral imperative of the modern world. It is expressed in the appeal for authenticity: the cry for freedom to be 'who we really are', to find personal meaning and purpose. The one thing we must never do is allow others to impose their external moral code on us.

In this world, traditional binary gender roles are perceived as constraining social constructs, not moral imperatives to define our own gender identity. Gender has been liberated from biology and even those who are uneasy about these changes don't deeply resist, as a challenge to any individual's chosen identity is perceived as not only a challenge to individual liberty and the right to self-determination, but also a challenge to the very fabric of society.

The transgender movement, like the wider LGBT movement, is not simply about advocacy for

acceptance of people who are gender non-conforming. Its goal is the deconstruction in society of sex and gender and traditional models of marriage and family, not less.

"When or no longer and 'big or girl' in order to start gendering an object – only then will men and women be socially understood as naturally equal. And when that happens there will no longer be any need for gender at all."

Such a vision would have us believe that Gender Dysphoria – the distress experienced by those whose sense of gender identity is not congruent with their anatomy – is the result of societal pressures to conform to traditional gender roles. Deconstruct these roles, accept the notion of gender as fluid, and dysphoria will be no more!

We do not live by areas of this gender and consider an appropriate response to the distress. The danger is that in seeking to be culturally relevant we lose sight of those who are struggling with true gender dysphoria and who desperately need compassionate and sensitive care.

**Political trajectory**

The cultural trajectory is mirrored in political changes. In 2012, the Gender Recognition Act permitted transgender people to be legally recognised as their 'acquired' gender. These who are 'born' have been diagnosed with Gender Dysphoria, have lived by a consistent gender of two years in their acquired gender and who intend to remain in this same way, may apply for a Gender Recognition Certificate that may be used to obtain a new birth certificate

www.cmf.org.uk  
**CMF files** no:59  
 Gender Related Information  
 Gender Dysphoria

**By Rick Thomas and Steve Gosselin**

**Changing views of transsexuality are making waves in popular culture, politics and medicine. This file examines these developments from a Christian and scientific perspective and will be of interest to health professionals, pastors, churches, organisations and families relating to people with gender dysphoria (previously gender identity disorder). It updates a previous CMF file.**

2013 made it possible for an applicant to undergo hormone therapy following the patient's gender transition, given the agreement of the clinician.

A recent parliamentary committee report called for a more away from viewing transsexual identity as a disease or disorder of the mind, and replacement of the present medicalised process with a simplified administrative procedure based on self-declaration by the individual applicant, free of medical and legal pressure. The same report proposed that 16- and 17-year olds should be eligible to apply for gender recognition, that children should be able to independently transition and cross sex hormones, and that Government should move towards 'non-gendering' official records.

Changes in the law reflect changes in public attitudes and culture and have their counterparts in professional guidelines. The US Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (DSM-4, 1994) defined its main gender identification as 'Gender Identity Disorder'. In the DSM-5 (2013) the same phenomenon is described as 'Gender Dysphoria', shifting the emphasis from gender incongruence as a disorder to the distress (dysphoria) associated with the experience of that incongruence. This important to note that gender incongruence is not in itself a mental disorder. The critical element of gender dysphoria is the personal and socially significant distress associated with the condition.

The Equality Act 2010 made it unlawful to discriminate against transgender people and the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act

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ideologically driven, the aim being to de-pathologise gender incongruence. A minority of psychologists and psychiatrists disagree for medicalisation, preferring to see gender identity disorder as a body image disorder whereby a person may have an unshakable conviction that they are one gender while in fact they are the other.

The General Medical Council (GMC) has produced guidance for doctors treating transsexual patients<sup>1</sup> and the Royal College of Psychiatrists published its UK Clinical Practice Guidelines in 2011.<sup>2</sup>

**Sex and Gender**

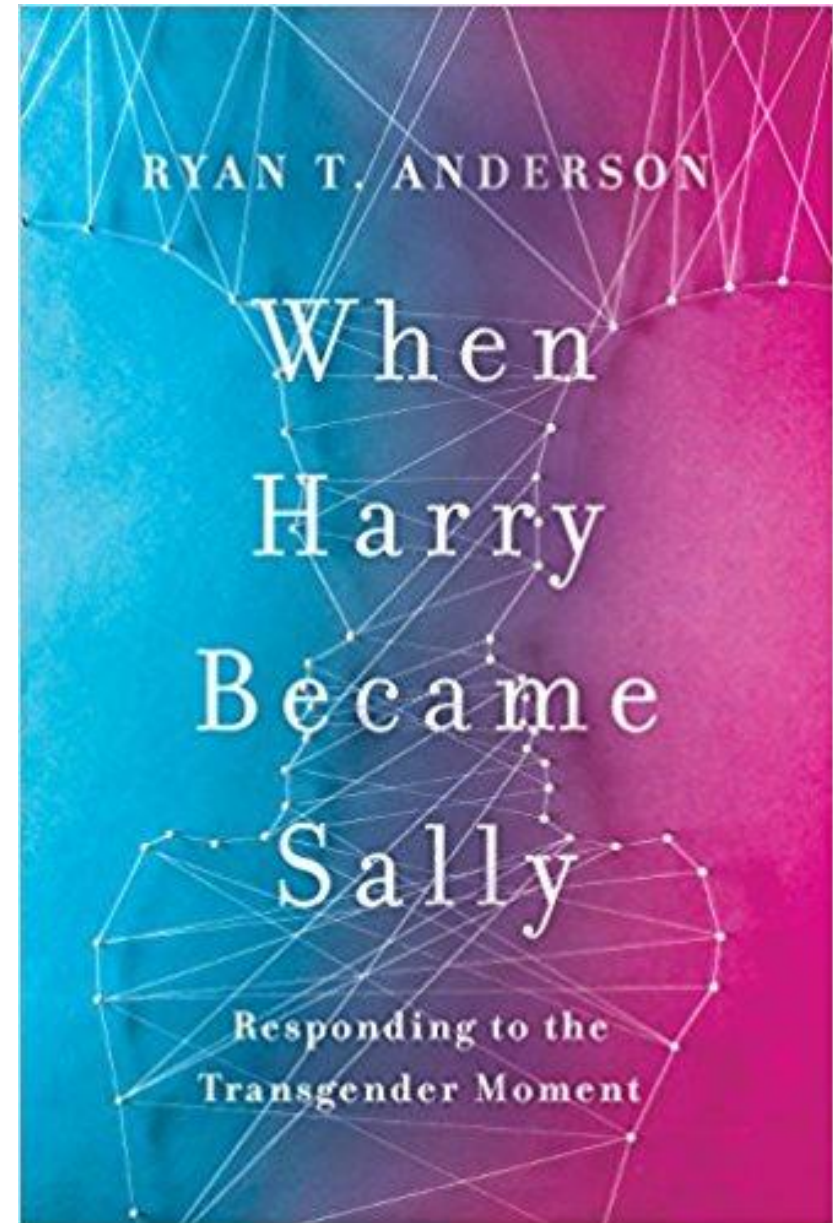
For almost 200 years, Western societies have embraced a scientific understanding of the world, based on physical observations. Thus, at birth, a child's sex is determined by examining its external genitalia. Genetically males have XY sex chromosomes and females XX, morphologically males have testes and females have ovaries. Biochemically sex hormones such as testosterone (male) and oestrogen (female) trigger the appearance of secondary sex characteristics (eg. voice, body hair distribution, etc.).

This abstract binary system fits with the biblical description of created humanity as male and female.<sup>3</sup> They exist in a binary system with an inherent duality, "often it may be very difficult to determine the sex due to abnormalities in chromosomal sex chromosomes. These individuals exhibit features of sexual differentiation in the developing embryo and do not represent a third sex". They should not be confused with transsexual people whose biology does not fit neatly into the traditional male/female binary system as if they were born into the wrong body. Most people experience congruence between their biological sex and their sense of gender identity, but for some people that congruence is lacking, sometimes from an early age, and they experience a degree of distress or 'dysphoria', as a result.

Traditionally the terms 'sex' and 'gender'

*'Ryan T. Anderson has written the definitive book on the transgender phenomenon—ranging across medicine, psychology, culture, sociology, law, and public policy. In doing so, he may have saved the minds and bodies—indeed, the very lives—of people he will never know.'*

(Matthew J Franck)



Foreword by Rod Dreher

**THE RISE AND TRIUMPH**  
*of the* **MODERN SELF**



Cultural Amnesia, Expressive Individualism,  
and the Road to Sexual Revolution

**CARL R. TRUEMAN**

# ICMDA Webinars – [www.icmda.net](http://www.icmda.net)



**"Conversion Therapy" – Should It Be Banned?**

**PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO THERAPY**

Webinar Presented 2 September 2021  
for the International Christian Medical and Dental Associations

by Laura Haynes, Ph.D., Psychologist, Tustin, CA, USA  
International Federation for Therapy and Counselling Choice (IFTCC)  
Author contact: [www.laurahaynesphd.com](http://www.laurahaynesphd.com)



The slide is a white rectangular area on a black background. It contains the title, subtitle, date, and speaker information. On the right side, there is a small video inset showing a woman with short dark hair, wearing a blue top, looking down.

22 Comments

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*Christian Living*

## Responding to the Transgender Revolution

*Rob Smith / October 12, 2017*



