

TRANNIES IN LOVE

Journal of the X-Sex

Free! Issue N° 7



DO NOT DESTROY

THESE INSTRUCTIONS MUST REMAIN WITH EQUIPMENT

trannies in love p.o.box 171 sch'dy ny 12301

I am the Girl of my Dreams

I am Tina, the outrage. I am the Girl of my dreams
I've come from then to this day, life long from childhood dreams.
And now have my feminine way. I am the girl of my dreams.
Art and music my bliss and my joy, a science freak wiz-kid besides.
From when I was just a little boy had also the intellectual prize.

I am Tina, the outrageous. I am the girl of my dreams.
As a hippy, I was contagious, wore net stockings with seams.
Oh, I wish it was like that, but I was a closet case.
In my cross-dresser hat, I never showed my face.

But now I'm fully legal, female 'round the clock.
Lots of clothes with fancy label, what a clothing stock.
A thousand dollars at least and more, from mostly the thrift store,
Beautiful as never ever before, exciting clothes galore.

Churned and burned, turned and spurned by the "born-again" fundamentalist craze,
Dark night of my soul, brought down so low, wretched torment those days.
From the darkness sought sanity, fought my way from calamity.
Struggled for reality, not crude vanity, found God, REAL spirituality.

Forbidden childhood aspiration now a realized occupation,
Diligently strove for reclamation now a fulfilling recreation,
I play hot Spanish guitar, a favorite in a certain friendly bar.

AT Stephanie's one entertaining night, a local singer was drunk so tight.
He called me a goddess, I heard him right, so in his cups that sultry night.
Weeks later at his singing gig, he spotted me with my flute.
He said "Tina, come up here, ya dig?" another chance for me to toot.
He sang "At last", a sultry love tune, I played my best, made it croon.
At song's close "That's Tina", he bragged, both of us golden, in the bag.

One time at a bus stop waiting, a guy stopped for me in a car.
Was it for me? I was debating. He poked his head out, said "Are you going far?"
Was this guy on the make? He'd mistaken me for another.
The advantage I did take, "Am I crazy?" I was aflutter.
It's OK, my fears did abate. Small talk eased my agitation.
In my driveway he asked for a date. Was he thinking procreation?
"No thanks, I'm staying loose and free". To my calf his hand meandered.
"Oh well, you got nice legs." He said and let me go unhampered.

Called my friend Chyrell, we girl talked on the 'phone.
Had some stuff to tell, can't always be alone.
What's "girl talk" anyway, just expressing what we feel.
What happened the other day, what're we doing to be real.

I buy my clothes at thrift stores like "sally" and those places,
City Mission with variety galore, none of those pricy rat races.
For pennies I buy great threads which do turn people's heads,
From women an approving smile, and men I do beguile.

Hey gals, check out foottraffic.com, it's on the internet.
Tights and hose so very graphic, a variety, the best yet.

One of my singing diva friends wants to see my closet.
Three of us are co-diva musicians.
We're hot, we're now, and we're in the spotlight,
We raise the roof without munitions.
Stephanie's on the Park, I play flute,
Joye and Lanette sing.
We're the rage. It's a lark when we do our thing.

I'm Tina, the outrageous, and I'm contagious, I am the girl of my dreams.
Now I feel blessed, not outrageously messed,
As in those religious guilt days.

I found God from out of the fog, with loving and beautiful schemes.
Now I can make it, never again hate it,
And rightly give God highest praise.


I'm Tina unquestionably, girl of my dreams I am.
Won over all the rest of me, verse and meter I cram.
It just pours out of me, it seems soon I'll have a book.
Of "I am the Girl of my Dreams", you can all have a look.

Of course there's so much more to know than merely threads and fetish.
The satisfaction of your soul, deep understanding to relish.
We're all both genders deep within, known throughout the ages.
Tons more beneath the skin filling far more than these pages.
The Kabala, Yoga and Zen, deep wisdom from of old.
Take the time to meditate and then, such understanding to behold.

To take part in this important project by doing an interview, call Steve Periard at 482-1112 for details and arrangements.

**The Capital District
Transgender
Oral History Project**

**"It was an enlightning experience"
-recent interviewee**



Steve Periard, Historian

Several area transfolx have already contacted, and recorded interviews with, oral historian Steve Periard for the Transgender Oral History Project. This is a groundbreaking project that is recording interviews of the personal experiences and perspectives of many local trannies for use as a special radio program and for historic archives.

Steve is a great interviewer and he makes it a comfortable, convenient and special experience.

It's all there, it's really so, research does ever find.
Ever deeper inward go, tap your soul and your mind.
The architecture of the soul, ever deeper layers of you.
Intuitively you will know, deep peace will be there too.

Our culture is so sick, NO spirituality.
Blind ignorance so thick, religion is a calamity.
Real spirituality is so simple, all derived from caring.
Just care, that alone is ample, and joy you will be sharing.

Ah, have I been standing on my soapbox, raving and imploring?
Sound like I'm demanding, ranting 'bout inner exploring.
Oh well, I know "It was there" as Sir Edward said of Everest,
And I have been "there" within to share with the rest of us.

Past midnight, so well past, repose to me is calling.
Sated by Muses at last, to sleep I will be falling.
I did my creative whirl, tomorrow's another day.
Of my dreams, I am the girl to go my outrageous way.

Trannies In Love Outrages All With Its Website <http://www.tranniesinlove.com>



TRANNIES IN LOVE Ad Rates, Subscriptions, Sample Copies

TRANNIES IN LOVE is an independent quarterly periodical sponsored by the Albany Gender Project, our advertisers, subscriber and supporters. The publisher is bitchy Xzhaouxiye Crowbar. We appreciate letters and submissions.
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Transcendental Capitol District Online

Your electronic connection to the heartbeat of the Capitol District Transgender Community.

To join, send a message to TCDO@yohooogroups.com.
Instructions how to join will be sent to you via return e-mail.



Know a girl that's glam?

Then let her know she can get free stuff with



All she has to do is get to Rite Aid's Glam Camp — the coolest place to get all the products she needs. With every Glam Camp product she buys, she'll get GC points to cash in for free stuff.

So tell that girl to get to Glam Camp asap, or send her to www.glamcamp.com for more information. You'll be cool just for passing the word on!



A 25 Year Reunion

Look at Mother Nature on the run in the 1970's.
I was lying in a burned out basement with a full moon in my window
There was a band playing in my head, I felt like getting high
I was thinking about what a friend had said and hoping it was a lie

Now 25 years later I know it wasn't a lie, he is now a she
We were young and confused and played the grown up game
We produced two children that grew up in a strange life
As a mother I was not accustomed to the waves of reality
My life was only a dream of stories that always failed

I was young and trying to make the best of my time
Trying to live up to others expectations, I failed as they knew I would
They saw no one in me, I was a waste of society, I was apart
I have a friend I have never seen; only love can break your heart
Lost to the cause of purple haze, I was only on a high
Looking for the ultimate refuge, I found God

But whose God did I find? Not mine, not yours, just theirs
And once again my life didn't fit the mold, it was their religion not mine
Everyone is going out and having fun, I am a fool for staying home
But staying home is my life; I have a home finally in these woods
I live apart from the world, but live in my own religion now
No one judges me for they know not that I exist

There must be some way that I can lose these lonesome blues
I can't get over how my life has ended, in peaceful misery
Why am I depressed and unable to forge foreword?
Cold wind whipping in the morning sun, don't let it bring you down,
It's only castles burning; see the river of sight, just a waste of my life
Find someone who is turning and I will come around.

Flying away with me in timber songs of wilderness
When you dance with wolves you can really love
When you sing with birds you can really see
When I sail away I won't come back
Now that you found yourself losing your mind
Finding what once was real is gone and changing



Jomo Wolfgirl

I know I can do better than this

In my words I play the keys of my keyboard
Sounding like a broken record
I feel the piano under my fingers never to play
I have no harmony or tune of my own

I start to say, but hold things to bay
I trigger thoughts to be caught on paper
Never to really say the thoughts
My mind strays

I keep writing for my future
Hoping that someone will give me a break
Only to find out they are after what they can take
I give it freely to everyone

Voices are in my head
I feel spent
In luxury of my heart and mind
I keep all behind

It is time to send the love to those that tried
Sitting in silence I hide
Listening to the tune of my mind
Fearing I am lost to any kind

Looking for that rose with no thorns
It is cheap and unkind
I fear the darkness and I am blind
I fear the turning of day

I beat my drum and hum a tune
Of days gone by and nights too soon
I watch the sun set and rise
Another day of my demise

THE STRANGER USING MY HAIRBRUSH

S/he fills my hairbrush
with unwelcome platinum threads,
has the effrontery to commandeer
my combs for hir' personal use as well.
Everywhere, s/he leaves aged silver traces
interspersed with my own
forever brunette hairs.
This stranger leaves other traces,
ointments for painful joints,
painkillers and patent
nostrums
for every ailment
under the sun.
S/He's taken to borrowing my glasses,
leaving me hirs, as if my vision
weren't already 20-20.
I loudly complain
of these impolite incursions
into my private life, but
from the used hearing aid batteries
s/he leaves everywhere,
the creature probably never
heard a single word I said.
Now, s/he's taken
to wearing my clothes,
shrinking them,
upsetting their fit upon
my own unchanging measurements.
What to do, about
this stranger, who leaves
more and more
silver in my hairbrush?

V. MAULSBY 2003

A life of being different
 is a lonely life indeed
 Never really trusting anyone
 to know who you really are
 All the time wanting it to end
 and sometimes you go to far
 you almost make it
 Only to wake up feeling that
 you are a failure even at death
 A soul forever to endure unrest
 A lot of crying in secret
 God forbid anyone should know
 that you have weaknesses
 They might find out your secret
 and your cover would be blown
 So many hours spent in self loathing
 so that you really were never able
 to enjoy life
 So much so you decide to take a wife
 Hoping she would change everything
 so that you may be able to endure
 only to be disappointed
 when you tell her your secret
 now its not just your life in ruin
 but also hers
 All you were ever doing was trying
 to find a place in this life
 to find one little part of happiness
 God knows you would never hurt your wife
 But that weighs too now heavily on your soul
 You feel that perhaps to stop all the madness
 It may be time for everyone to know
 It becomes a time of elation of pain and remorse
 and reflections of things you would change if you
 could
 but time has already taken its course
 Your revelation becomes painful
 with more loneliness at hand
 because most will refuse to believe
 that you are a woman ,because you look like a man
 So you spend every waking moment
 trying to please them by changing your face
 your walk and your talk
 soon you begin to find your place
 And although you really enjoy
 the changes that are made
 theres a part inside that feels betrayed
 by the fact you were forced
 to let others rule the best part of your life
 and the decisions you made
 were out of anger , fear ,and strife
 things should have been different
 and no matter how great they may become
 I can never forget ,that I am one of the lonely ones
 Ariel

ANYWHERE

We used to brag about
 How we could go anywhere
 Not like those other trannies
 Locked up
 in their comfortable ghettos
 Or at the University
 Where by law no one is allowed
 To look at them cross-eyed....

(The real world
 it ain't like that, friend....)

The three of us, Jenny and I,
 And sometimes Amanda
 Cruising around
 in the big ol dented Cadillac
 Wondering where our new lives would
 Take us;
 Hormonally invigorated,
 Bearing brand new drivers licenses
 And all the possibilities
 of our new genders....

We started out in the worst dive bar
 in Capitola
 I commanded the jukebox
 And the table
 For at least a month or two;
 I was bursting with arrogance,
 In my boyish way
 Until the bartender
 outed Jenny one night
 To a recently released convict
 Who flashed his chest to her
 And said "mine are bigger than yours!"
 And we got out of there....

Then to the sleaziest bar downtown
 The "nasty Asti"
 Where a bunch of skinheads cornered
 And questioned
 Her one evening;
 she brought me there later
 And said
 "I'm gonna hand you my car keys...
 if I give you the signal
 run across the street
 and call 911!"
 we ended up ok
 but decided perhaps
 that wasn't the best place
 for us
 after all....

eventually
 we ended up at
 the local gay bar
 but were immediately
 under siege by the
 heterosexual crowd;
 the bio chicks
 overflowing
 with their hatred
 and condescension
 towards Jenny
 it was sometimes
 too much to bear;
 she was either their toy
 or their rival
 there was never an in between;

and in that bar,
 not even the cross dressers
 would stand up
 for us!

Finally I got tired of spending
 My Saturday nights in a foxhole
 Not that Jenny isn't gorgeous
 And she makes me proud
 Every time,
 But I was starting to develop
 Post traumatic stress syndrome
 From having to look over
 my shoulders so much....

the frat boys used to like to
 Yell at us in front of the gay bar:
 "Hey, Tom and Jerry!" and call us both
 faggot while there was never a bouncer,
 no support to be found;
 few ever hesitated to harass, laugh, and mock....
 chipping away at our relationship
 with the outside world,
 insult by insult,
 giggle by giggle....
 As if
 Waiting for us to give in
 And become transsexual shut-ins
 For the good of humanity
 And the impressionable children

Jenny had bought me a brand new pool cue
 in Houston
 With the money she'd made
 off the old guy in Texas,
 Mr. Ray;
 It was perfect,
 Slick, gold and brown
 With playing cards all over it

I loved it!
 But sadly it remains unused,
 While I prefer to stay home
 And perform such heroic acts
 As:

jerking off,
 Fiddling with the poems,
 And not returning my calls-
 I pass as a male 100% now
 But I just don't want to go out
 Period!

Jenny still goes to the bars with her
 New girlfriend
 Who looks just like her
 But a little taller
 They are both gorgeous,
 Like teenage girls
 And getting wiser...
 they come home drunk and tell me
 The occasional horror story
 Young boys getting into fight stance
 Men yelling out of car windows
 And I tell them
 "why didn't you call me? I could
 have showed up
 and kicked some ass! Really!"

How I have managed to keep my place
 At this typewriter, and in this world
 Not to mention the love of this beautiful woman
 Having never earned any of it,
 I'll never know

Christopher Robin

THE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR GENDER EDUCATION

IFGE is an information provider and clearinghouse for
 referrals about all things which are transgressive of es-
 tablished social gender norms. Basic membership is \$35
 per year. Subscriptions to Transgender Tapestry are \$40.
 For more info phone (781) 899-2212, e-mail info@ifge.org,
 write to: IFGE, PO Box 540229, Waltham, MA 02454-



Whenever reuniting
With old feminist friends
Who knew you
"when"

(that is,
before you became a man
and realized you
knew it all)

especially the ones you
made castrating clay Moonsicles
with
back in the witchy days
while patriarchy teetered,

always
always
always
meet them in a public place

because no matter
how big your sideburns are
they are no match
for a castrating Moonsicle

Christopher Robin

The Trafficiad

There's a legend hereabouts
concerning a commuter
O infinitely on his way.

His existence is wholly one of
commutation. He is mythically in transit,

en-routed into Kafka County on
the Sisyphus Tollway, thence
along the Möbius Viaduct, which

connects to the Escher Freeway.
Sightings are alleged.

Hans Ostrom

don't get him started
don't mention those things
that would press the button
blast the rocket
off the launch pad
headed for venus or mars
those other worlds
that glitter
that sparkle
like a dream sequence
in a movie
like a fairy tale
with a sexy genie
granting three special wishes
like all those impossible happenings
in cartoons
things that could never happen
in that "other" existence
(you know --- REAL life)
so don't mention all those things
that would get him started
nylons
and those titillating things
that women say
those sexy things they do
without even realizing it
the magic of role-playing
if you don't want the mercury
to pop the tip off the thermometer
there's a lot to do today
so all of those things
will just have to wait
for another launch date
some dreams go on
forever

Joseph Verrilli

Carpooling

I'll meet you where horizon
catches a ride with freeway
and There tells Here where to go.

The Commissioner of Asphalt
will snip a ribbon, a way will
open, and we'll commute on

into Nowhere. We'll sing of
carts and dirigibles, trucks and
tri-planes, trains and schooners

and other means of trans-
importance. We'll best be getting
along into the shaking sky. Why,

we'll be late and early
both at once, nearing and
disappearing. Together!

Hans Ostrom



Schenectady Gender Alternative meets
monthly socially at a swank Sch'dy
club. For info call 518-863-2783 or
go to genderalternative.com.

I Will Need To See Some I.D.

I used to be me.
I looked at rain the way
I looked at rain.

Me-ness. Me-nicity.
A husk was I, one
to be shed—a phase,
a free throw, an interval,
a lion's tooth in savanna dust,
blood on a bird's tongue.

Now I am another me,
and another, again and no
always longer.

Hans Ostrom

WHO IS THIS FAMOUS PERSON, SUZY POE? (I'm glad you asked....)
SELF DESCRIBED "JEWISH BITCH", FORMER EDITOR OF THE MILDLY
POPULAR, "POPULAR REALITY", ONLY TRANSEXUAL TO BE IN
WHO'S WHO OF AMERICA and WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN WOMEN/
WHO CONSORTS WITH SUCH NOTORIOUS NOTABLES AS MYKEL
BOARD, BOB BLACK, JOHN M. BENNETT AND THE NEW YORK
BOARD OF THE ACLU; MENACING, YET INTOXICATING, ORDER HIR
ZINE OR BE SHUNNED.....TRANNNIES IN LOVE
P.O. BOX 171 SCHENECTADY, NEW
YORK 12301
One dollar per issue or five dollars for six issues (most likely better
than a poke in the eye with a sharp stick but we'll let you be the judge)

**Ironweed Collective meeting. 98
Grand St., Albany. Mondays, 7 PM:**
The Ironweed Collective is organiz-
ing a space at 98 Grand St., which
will be a meeting space for activists
and community members, a library,
and an artists' workshop, including
a music studio. 436-0929.

From: <Charlene...>
 To: <TCDO@yahoo.com>
 Sent: Saturday, January 03, 2004 12:40 PM
 Subject: [TCDO] Re: TG friendly

It has been an issue with a lot of people over the years in the TG community about places such as restaurants/ hair salons, stores etc. that are trans friendly. If you are an out TG individual whether you are a crossdresser, transsexual or whatever, it should not matter where you go, if you are spending money there, they, (the businesses) have no right to complain about ones appearances or voice. If you are confident to go to any business as T, you already know that you might be interacting with people who are from the general population. If you are unsecure or lack confidence, bring a friend with you when you go out, or don't go out at all. If people have a problem, it is their problem, not yours. We did not chose to be the way we are, we just are, there is no denying that to ourselves, and even if we try it will resurface and the urge will be stronger later on. By trying to repress your emotions and true self it only hurts yourself. We are unique individuals who are special people who need to break down the barriers of prejudice, bigotry, and hatred. We need to be strong as no one can be strong for us. It is up to us as individuals and as a community to change other people's perceptions of who and what we are. The only way to do this is to be visible and out. I know that being out is not for everyone, but it is easier to be out than to hide. If we are out it makes it easier for others if those among us who are willing to make the steps toward change do so. So instead of trying to find that which is trans friendly, be a friendly Trans and break down societies barriers. Be bold - be beautiful - be strong!

I had been pondering this query over the holidays and I second Charlene's comments.

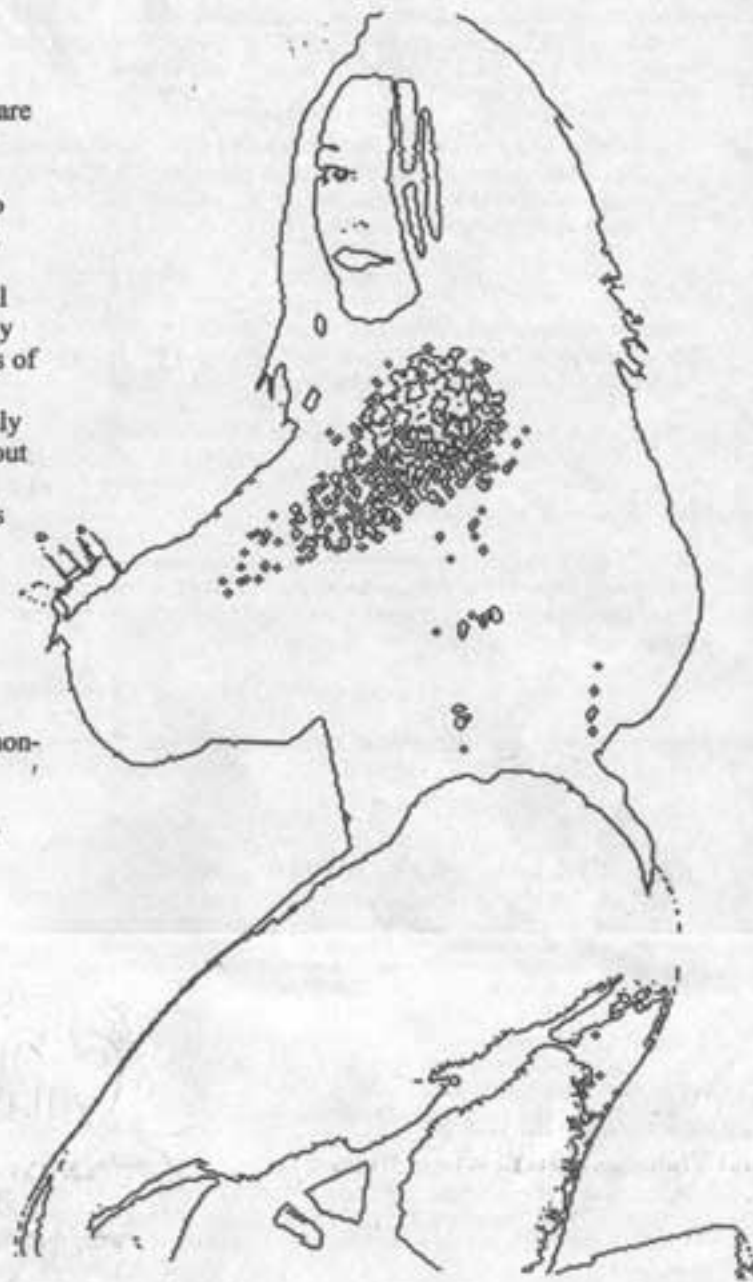
I have yet to encounter a TG unfriendly business establishment.

If you are dressed appropriately, smile, and are friendly and polite (amazingly, these rules apply to non-TGs too), you'll be treated just fine.

Use common sense: I personally wouldn't venture alone into a sports bar late at night during Monday Night Football, but I expect lots of GGs wouldn't either....

We really do build our own prisons/ghettos.

Lydia



C.A.T.S

(COLORED AMERICAN TRANSGENDER SOCIETY)

Today as a Transgender, we believe in change, if we stick together change will come.

We meet every 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**At Whitney M. Young, Jr.
 Health Center
 Lark and Arbor Drives
 Albany, New York 12207**

For more infor. Call (518) 4654771 ext. 411 Mr. H. Davis

BUILDING A DYNAMIC TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

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 IN ALL ITS FORMS**

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 CARING- EMPATHIZING-
 HELPING- WORKING TOGETHER-
 SUCCEEDING
 Fighting fear, shame & self-hatred,
 and community and domestic abuse & violence.

- Arlene Istar Lev C.S.W.-R. C.A.S.A.C. Moderator
- AGP- Albany Gender Project
- CATS- Colored American Transgender Society
- IOOV- In Our Own Voices
- MCC- Metropolitan Community Church
- RAI- Rainbow Access Initiative
- TL- Trannies In Love
- TIIC- Transgender Independence Club
- YOMOCA- Young Gay Men Of Color Alliance

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 7PM

SOCIAL JUSTICE CENTER

33 Central Ave. Albany

IOOV (518) 432-4188 TL (518) 393-0394

The program was supported by a grant administered by the NYC Office of Community Justice Services. Thank you to the sponsors and donors of the grant and to the community members who supported the program in a variety of ways.

Video of the Nov. 2003 gathering of dozens of local trans folk representing 9 groups discussing a bit of everything. \$10 donation to Trannies In Love P.O.Box 171 Schenectady NY 12301.

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 IF I CAN LAUGH AT MY LIFE, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN
 P.O. BOX 1811
 SANTA CRUZ, CA
 95061-1811

It ain't beach life but I can still hear the screaming roller coaster from my porch.....

Unprecedented Week of Transgender Activism in Nation's Capital

A bit of history occurred the end of April and early May. Three national transgender or gender-diverse civil rights organizations lobbied Capitol Hill simultaneously and, for the first time, all lobbied for the same issues. In addition, yet another rejuvenated national group conducted its first organized protest in years, and still another organization conducted a march to the Viet Nam Veterans' Memorial, and conducted a historic wreath laying ceremony.

The National Transgender Advocacy Coalition (NTAC) scheduled an organized transgender lobbying effort on April 29 - 30 that drew participants from the four corners of the country. In addition, GenderPAC convened its own organized gender lobbying event, and the National Center for Transgender Equality joined in with members of both groups to make visits as well.

NTAC alone visited over 340 offices during its week on Capitol Hill.

News from Capitol Hill Lobby Days was mixed. On the plus side, the majority of those few GOP sponsors of ENDA and Hate Crimes that were reportedly reluctant to support transgender-inclusive legislation, now appear to be supportive of the additional language.

On the negative side, the perennial gatekeepers to transgender rights still need more "time" and "education." As one Senate staffer said, it would be "immensely helpful" for us to get the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) on board, and a House staffer bolstered it, saying their office would "be there in a minute - but it's not our bill. You need Barney [Frank D-MA], you need HRC."

"All of the hard-sell the transgender community was given about Barney Frank and HRC championing our cause from their own press and from those they enlisted to pass along have been nothing more than illusion," said a markedly disappointed Vanessa Edwards Foster. "We're now faithless in these self-appointed conservators of our rights."

This discovery on Capitol Hill happened coincidentally as a protest by Transsexual Menace was preparing to take place. Transsexual Menace, a national activist group begun by Denise Norris and Riki Wilchins in 1994, fell into inaction during the early years of the new millennium. Recently resurrected by Gwen Smith, the group organized a protest of the Human Rights Campaign - its first demonstration in years.

The protest, brainchild of TS Menace co-organizer Eihan St. Pierre, drew 15 to the organization's national headquarters, including members of NTAC and GenderPAC, as well as unaffiliated protesters. "I am also very proud to have stood there in front of HRC's office building with other folks from around the community who are angry enough to take action against the largest group in [the] country who professes to advocate for GLB as well as T people," St. Pierre said of the demonstration.

"I was shocked that HRC would be surprised that Transsexual Menace would protest their office," he added. "This angered me almost as much as why we were protesting!"

Capping the week of unprecedented activity, transgendered military veterans also conducted a historic first march to various military shrines. The Transgender American Veterans' Association (TAVA) organized a march to the Viet Nam Veterans' Memorial Wall, a visit to the two Jima monument, and finishing with a historic wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

"Transgender people who had made history before in the heat of battles fought in foreign lands, were very aware that this was another historic moment that they were a part of," said Angela Brightfeather, organizer for the TAVA march. "[T]his time, they were doing it with total honesty and pride, not having to hide who they really were." Brightfeather added that everyone who participated felt the "historic impact" of the event.

The solemn wreath-laying ceremony was notable, being the first wreath ever laid that publicly acknowledged transgendered veterans.

Overall, the week of activity and coordination was a significant advance in the Transgender movement. As the groups take a second look at their findings following the watershed week, the community is in the process of assessing where the movement goes next.

Founded in 1999, NTAC - the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition - is a 501(c)(4) civil rights organization working to establish and maintain the right of all transgendered, intersexed, and gender-variant people to live and work without fear of violence or discrimination.

Opinionated

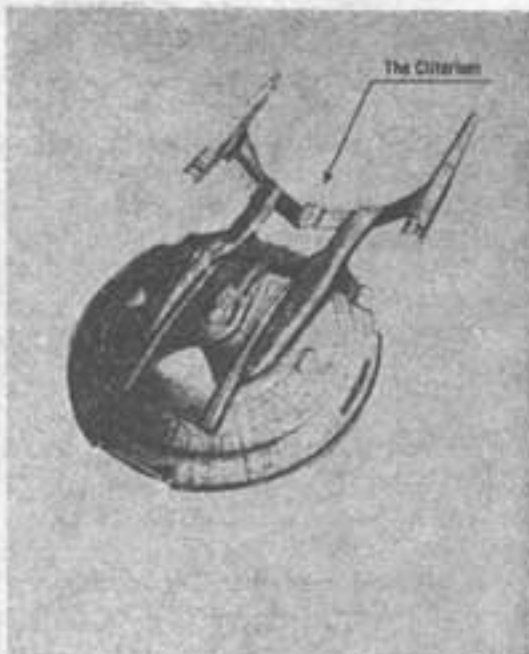


It seems that everyone has some sort of opinion about something. Write about it and let the world know what you think. TIL is always looking for good writing.

Send your submissions to:
Trannies In Love, P. O. Box 171
Schenectady NY 12301

-or-

E-mail your text-only submission to
tranny@tranniesinlove.com



What Transgendered People Should Know

Capital Region Anti-Violence Project

IF YOUR PARTNER...

- physically assaults surgically or medically altered body parts
- tells you that you are not a "real" man or "real" woman
- ridicules your dress, mannerisms, voice, etc.
- withholds medication or money for health care
- threatens to "out" you to family, friends, co-workers or others
- threatens to prevent you from seeing your children
- coerces you into changing your body back to what he or she wants it to be
- refuses to call you by your preferred pronoun
- hits, kicks, shoves or throw things at you when jealous or angry
- threatens you with a knife, gun or other weapon
- forces you to have sex or do things sexually that you don't want to do
- drinks or uses drugs and becomes bossy, moody or violent
- threatens to kill himself or herself if you try to end the relationship
- tries to convince you that the abuse is your fault or that you deserve it

...YOU COULD BE A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

IF YOU TELL YOURSELF...

"She's only like this because of the hormones."
"It's my fault, I shouldn't provoke him when he's tired or stressed."
"She's only like that because of all the crap she has to put up with out there."
"He's gonna change. She didn't mean it. She's getting counseling."
"It's my fault; I wouldn't be in this situation if I looked more like a 'real' woman or a 'real' man."
"If I look for help, they'll just make me call the police and they don't like trans people or people of color."

YOU NEED TO KNOW...

There is NO excuse for abuse. Drug use, stress, trauma and oppression may be factors but an abuser CHOOSES his or her behavior.

Domestic violence is the responsibility of the abuser. Coercing the victim into believing that the abuse is his fault is part of the abuse cycle.

A trans identity has nothing to do with being abused. Abuse can happen to anyone regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, size, "butchness," class, religion, HIV status and ability. Anyone can be a victim and anyone can be an abuser.

You don't have to call the police to get help from domestic violence programs. Counseling, referrals, information and support are all important resources. You also have a right to call the police if you feel threatened.

IF YOU HEAR...

"You deserve it because you can't pass. No one believes you are a 'real' man or woman."

"Why don't you just leave? You don't have anything to lose anyway."

"People already think that trans people are 'crazy' — talking about abuse just confirms it."

KNOW THE FACTS...

No one deserves to be abused, regardless of gender identification. Domestic violence is a crime.

Leaving an abusive relationship isn't easy for anyone. For trans and particularly trans people of color it may be harder to seek help, because of prejudice and discrimination by providers and lack of available resources.

Talking about abuse in LGBT relationships allows victims to come forward, abusers to identify and change their behavior and the community to advocate for accessible, affirming services.

IF YOU ARE BEING ABUSED....

- Know that the abuse is not your fault.
- Make a safety plan in case you need to leave your home in a hurry. Know the exit points in your home, have a safe and secret place to go to, have a bag prepared with money, identification, necessary medications.
- Seek professional help. Even if you are not planning to leave your relationship, talk to a supportive counselor, therapist or call a hotline to find out about supportive resources in your community.
- Be sure to get medical attention for any injuries.
- Don't be afraid to call 911 if you are in danger.

OTHER RESOURCES

Albany Gender Project
(518) 785-7866

Color American Transgendered Society (CATS)
(518) 465-4771 ext. 411

Trannies in Love
www.tranniesinlove.com
(518) 372-1027

Transgendered Independence Club (TGIC)
(518) 436-6789

NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence
www.opdv.state.ny.us

YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN TO US...

In Our Own Voices
LGBT Domestic Violence
Support Line
Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm
(518)432-4341

24-Hour DV Hotlines

Albany—(518)432-7865
Columbia and Greene—(518)943-9211
Montgomery—(800)721-2173 or
(518)842-3384
Rensselaer—(518)272-2370
Schenectady—(518)374-3386
Saratoga—(518)584-8118

Equal Rights for LGBT People

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) Americans continue to face discrimination and persecution in all aspects of everyday life. Employers fire, mistreat and deny benefits to LGBT workers. Lesbians and gay men are denied the ability to protect their relationships, including the right to marry. Gay kids are harassed in schools, refused recognition of gay support clubs, and sometimes even coerced into reading Biblical passages condemning homosexuality. And LGBT people face enormous obstacles in raising families due to laws and practices that screen them out as adoptive parents and deny them custody or visitation rights.

Recent victories won through strenuous ACLU legal and lobbying efforts have begun to change the climate. But we still have a long way to go to ensure equal protection under the law for LGBT people.

What's At Stake: When any individual is denied his or her rights due to their sexual orientation or gender identity, the Constitution is rendered little more than a meaningless piece of parchment.

The promise of equality guaranteed in the Constitution is not fulfilled when the state of Florida denies the right of two gay men to adopt the HIV-positive foster children they have cared for since birth. That promise is not fulfilled when a five-year-old child of a lesbian couple is denied Social Security survivor benefits. That promise is not fulfilled when partners in a committed, loving relationship are denied the right to marry. And it is not fulfilled in the 36 states where it is legal for employers to fire someone for being LGBT, for landlords to refuse to rent to same-sex couples, and for businesses to refuse to serve LGBT people.

The ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project works every day to keep real meaning in the Constitution by guaranteeing equal rights, equal treatment and equal dignity to LGBT people.

2004 Outlook: Last year's Supreme Court ruling in *Lawrence v. Texas* struck down a Texas law that made most kinds of sexual intimacy a crime for same-sex couples. In sweeping language, the Court agreed with the ACLU's argument that the Constitution protects the rights of gay people to form intimate relationships and "retain their dignity as free persons."

The *Lawrence* ruling also invalidated similar laws against sexual intimacy in 12 other states and established a precedent that ACLU attorneys are now citing in efforts to fight other forms of discrimination against same-sex couples. This is the best opportunity we have ever had to compel governments, businesses, schools and other institutions to treat LGBT people with dignity and respect.

We are also encouraged by last year's Massachusetts Supreme Court ruling that recognized the right of same-sex couples to marry. The ACLU filed a friend-of-the-court brief in *Goodridge et al. v. Department of Public Health* in support of couples who had been refused marriage licenses by the state. Our brief helped convince the Court to rule that "barring an individual from the protections, benefits, and obligations of civil marriage solely because that person would marry a person of the same sex violates the Massachusetts Constitution."

However, a fierce backlash against LGBT rights has been unleashed by these victories (and related ones in Canada) and is certain to grow even more virulent over the coming months. Protecting the "sanctity of marriage" has already become the mantra of pandering politicians in both parties and support for a constitutional amendment that would prohibit same-sex couples from marrying is building in Congress.

Far-right groups like the Christian Coalition and Family Research Council are rallying their supporters to defeat the so-called "radical homosexual agenda" that in reality includes nothing more than securing basic rights heterosexuals take for granted. Opponents of gay and lesbian rights are pouring millions of dollars into their fear-mongering campaign to convince the American public and our leaders in government that equal rights for lesbians and gay men is somehow a threat. We believe that people in America know better and are no longer willing to accept discrimination and inequality. That is why we have launched our "*Get Busy, Get Equal*" campaign (www.aclu.org/getequal) to win full equality for LGBT Americans.

In addition to our efforts for full legal recognition of LGBT relationships, we will continue our work to ensure equal treatment for LGBT people by protecting the rights of LGBT parents and their children, ensuring a bias-free learning environment for students and teachers, and fighting discrimination in employment, marriage, housing, and public places.

ACLU Strategies: Our Lesbian & Gay Rights Project will continue to bring "impact" lawsuits — cases designed to have a significant effect on all our lives, but particularly those of LGBT people — and promote laws and policies that will ensure full equality and fairness. The Project is staffed by experts in constitutional law and civil rights with decades of experience handling cases involving lesbians and gay men, writing legislation, and litigating for fair and equal treatment. Cognizant that equality for LGBT people requires changing laws as well as minds, we will continue to pursue a three-pronged strategy of litigation, public education and individual empowerment. All three strategies are being synthesized and synergized in our *Get Busy, Get Equal* campaign, which helps individuals stand up for their own rights and become effective advocates for the equal rights of all people.

NYCLU

New York Civil Liberties Union
Capital Region Chapter

90 State Street
Albany, New York 12207
Phone (518) 436-8594
Fax (518) 426-9341
www.nyclu-crc.org

NYCLU has public membership meetings every 2nd Monday of the month at the Albany Public Library.

NEAL WILGUS

Gettogether, CU (LEAK) — Jesus Christ was definitely not married to Mary Magdalene, it was learned today, but he was married — to Judas Iscariot. Dr. Isaac Testament, a bible scholar and traveling salesman in diapers and munitions, told reporters that his research proves that Jesus and Judas had a lifelong relationship that was recognized as a marriage by the other disciples, their friends and local authorities. "You can forget about Jesus surviving the crucifixion and running off to Egypt or India to raise a family with Magdalene," Testament said, "cause that's just not how it happened."

Asked about the source of his information and theory, Prof. Testament referred to the controversial Dead Tea Scrolls which he claims to have discovered at a restaurant called the Oil Press near Mount Olive. "Much to my astonishment," Testament testified, "I found in a sub-cellar, sealed off from the rest of the ancient establishment, the actual remains of the Last Supper carry-out and, in the very Silver Chalice itself, the actual remains of the green tea that had been served. Inspired by divine lite I brewed up a cup for myself and when I read the tea leaves at the bottom everything became clear."

The Jesus-Judas marriage was always a love/hate relationship, Testament said, with Jesus the smooth, confident man-in-charge, and Judas the jealous, neurotic dependent, always suspicious of betrayal. Things were only made worse when Jesus took unto him the circle of disciples — a close-knit group of men from Jesus' hometown who looked upon Judas as an outsider. There were arguments, disputes, spats, Testament reported, and when it got physical Jesus was clearly the winner, "in a nonviolent way, of course."

Jesus was relaxed and jovial around the disciples and often kidded them about their personal flaws and sexual preferences — something that added to Judas' sense of alienation. The final

camel through the eye of his needle came, Testament said, when Jesus told the disciple Simon that he was going to change his name to Peter because he was "hard as a rock." When Simon-Peter responded with a rude gesture Judas stormed out of the upper room where they were meeting and went to the local authorities to swear out a domestic dispute charge.

Judas and the cops then followed Jesus and his followers to the Oil Press Café and while the authorities waited at the door Judas entered the gathering humming "a kiss on the cheek may be quite sacramental, but silver is a boy's best friend." Judas then approached Jesus but rather than giving him a peck on the cheek he gave Jesus a full Al Gore press, then slapped his face and shrieked, "How dare you treat me this way?" That's when the cops moved in and arrested the Saver, as he was called, for resisting arrest.

Rev. Testament's account is challenged by Dr. Chapter Versa, whose own theory is that Jesus was the meek of the earth while Judas was the Angry Young Disciple who dominated his every move. "My study of the Dead Grape Scrolls show that the men had been drinking wine all evening and were deep in their cups," Dr. Versa said. "When Jesus mildly said he'd pass over the lamb, Judas flew into a rage and killed him on the spot — leaving the other disciples to cover up the crime and make it look like a cruci-fiction."

Testament later issued a statement in which he dismissed Versa's version as ridiculous and without legs. "Typically," Testament wrote, "Versa's position defends the little-end view of things and is totally without merit or evidential support. The Dead Tea position, on the other hand, takes the big-end point of view and is clearly the authentic account."

Both stories end with Judas' death — Testament's involving self-cruci-fiction and Versa's with suicide by a disciple. Ecumenical authorities maintain there is truth in both versions of the story and hope that a compromise can be worked out. All sides agreed that at the very least Magdalene has been put to rest.

What, Me Illuminated?

Psionic Plastic Joy

Issue 9

Interviews with

Suzy Poe,
Fetish
Chickon,
&
Zero
Times
Infinity

Art By

Thompson,
Marcel Harris,
Malcolm Wright,
& Jason Rodgers

Psionic Plastic Joy
AND ITS ANCIENT
MYSTIC RITES



\$3 (\$4 International) to:

Jason Rodgers
PO Box 138
Wilton, NH 03086

Articles on
Man Ray, Disinformation for just looking too damn far into
something, Camera Obscura, Angst in a box (by Turpendine
Consumption), Blame Canada (by Jacob David), Book of
Purchased (by Sir Hieronymus & Blankenship), Like Hats in
a Spinner Box (by Blind Authority Manipulation Corporation)

FROM THE CUTTING ROOM FLOOR

I'm a smooth operator
in the operating room
and boy do I clean up.
Some tissue here
some muscle there,
it's enough to fill my cup.

The doctor's work
is to make a change
in how the patient works.
And what they leave
in leftover parts
is one of my major perks.

I don't make much
in an hourly wage
but a howl won't leave my lips,
'cause my eyes light up
when I think about
the fortune I make in tips!

Neal Wilgus

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with Tina Andrus
Every 3rd Friday, 7PM
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Trannies In Love

The Capitol District Journal of the X-Sex

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girls are, what they're
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Boxholder 3705
State Rt 9N
Port Henry NY
12974

I am a 40 year old crossdresser looking for couples or ladies to spend time with. I'm well built with long blonde hair. All a woman does. If I sound ok to you call anytime 518-856-0079 or write; B. Maxwell
P.O. Box 5 Dickinson Center NY 12930

White Male, Late 30's, Fit, 5'7", 165#, Drug & Disease Free, In Search Of A Local TV Girl To Fulfill Fantasy. I'm Ready To Try Something Different. Safe And Discreet, No Strings.
T.M. P.O. Box 604 Albany NY 12201.

37 year old white male seeks pre-op transsexual or passable cross dresser 18-25 years old for discreet times and/or hot letters. Looks, weight, breast size unimportant but please be between 18-25 only. Email: john30@earthlink.net
John PO Box 92303 Warren MI 48092

Dear Popular Reality
(aka Trannies In Love);
This ^{\$10.00} should solve
the fiscal crises in the
Tranny Stars Gone Wild girl
scout chapter.

That ^{soozy crawlers} big-shoed Mussolini
of yours, I publicly accused me
of "Neglect" and "How could you" in
regard to the financial collapse of your
clit depository (Just check Crowbars freezer - they're
fine). She sent me a clit ~~just~~ the other day and it works
^{just like Jesus once told me it would.}
I demand a public apology and that this letter
be published in TIC.
I also demand a 2nd clit so ~~soon~~ that I
can cum twice at the same time, just like
the rest of you (Frank Zappa had 5 of them).
signed,
"Bob" McGlynn,
Maximum Leader of He-Man
Women Lovers Club,
528 5th St
Brooklyn NY 11215
(I would like mail re. sexual proposals, chaos templates and ug wanted hair donations)

Hi Honey,

Well, it's been a long time, hasn't it? I notice that Susan Poe, having worn out her welcome with everybody else, including old friends like myself, wore out her welcome with you too. Leaving you rather in the lurch, I should say.
I know you've had big problems getting your neo-pussy to work right. If your surgery had taken place in New York, this New York lawyer would have jumped to take your malpractice case, but who the hell knows what the froggish Quebec law of malpractice may be, and by now the statute of limitations will undoubtedly have run. You already had a huge chip on your shoulder and I can only imagine your current state of mind. You did everything possible to become a woman, at much pain and expense. At the very least you must have expected to get fucked by men with big dicks. But when they do, they tear up your insides. You will never have the dick-in-pussy, old-fashioned glory you wanted. So now what?
I suggest a new arrangement, now that Susan is out of the picture. First off, I LOVE to eat pussy and I saw that Susan's eating you out was fundamental to your relationship. I enjoy that and I could do you very well that way. And, while your vagina may not be in condition for ae:uus fucking, your anus still is. I'm surely not the only man who has explored its pleasures. So, I suppose I am suggesting that you drop by after work to be eaten out and bugged. It's so convenient, and we can keep it on a pure sex level, it's true I still want a tranny girlfriend, some emotional commitment, but obviously you're not ready for that. Not now, probably not ever. So let's just keep it as sex.

Bob Black - PO Box 3142 Albany NY 12203

Oops, I'm still here. Sorry about your wishful thinking and projection. -Susan Poe

The Difference Between Transgendered People

I do believe that one of the key questions in Trans-Theory is if the various manifestations of gender transgression are qualitatively different or quantitatively different. Are we talking about basically different phenomena or are we talking about different ways that the same nature is expressed?

It is clear to me that the general public sees all gender transgressive behavior as inherently similar, from men "acting as women in homosexual relationships" to males transforming themselves into female appearing people, from part time for performance to full time with surgery. There is less visibility of the gender transgression of females, but, again, perceived masculine expression is seen as similar, as rooted in the same way across a spectrum

As transgendered people trying to find our own unique identity and voice, we have all learned how to identify the differences between us and other transgendered people. We do that, in part at least, to justify our own actions as being different from actions that we and others are uncomfortable about. "I am not a pervert / clown / dilettante / liar / queer / whatever like them."

While this self justification is useful for individual purposes, it is contrary to building a shared story that allows us to come together to make social and political changes that will ease the climate for trans/queer kids growing up today. Our stories are political, and the political notion that we are all discrete groups has limited effectiveness, especially if it is difficult for people to easily see those differences between us and those differences change over time -- crossdressers becoming transsexuals, heterosexuals becoming bisexuals and on and on.

Personally, I cringe at the words "differential diagnosis" and would never start a presentation with a discussion of categories and differences. Panels that strive for "one-of-each" representation seem to me to miss the point that we are all individuals, speaking for ourselves. An FTM does not speak for all FTMs any more than a crossdresser speaks for all crossdressers.

I have been through the racks upon racks of stuffed study skins of birds, coming from the era of shotgun ornithology, where scientists worked hard to identify difference and variation. In life, though, studying the behaviors of birds, we tend to see similarities, patterns, and see variation as adaptability, a facet of how individuals respond to a role in a complex ecosystem.

I am much more interested in that living community than in clinical dissection of individuals. Anne Bolin says "In cultures where gender is rigidly bipolar, rituals of gender transgression remind us of our continuous common humanity."

This seems to be a key point of Trans-theory discussion: are we focused on classification or on "continuous common humanity?"

Callan

The Difference Between Transgendered People

What are the differences between transgendered people? On one hand they are unlistable -- to follow a transgendered path is inherently an individual journey, and each one of us is as distinct and unique as a fingerprint. Transgendered people come from different families, are identified as different races, grew up in different cultures, with different religions and widely varying desires of all types.

But their key differences in our transgenering are simple. It is the balance between how we take what we are given -- our body, our training, our history -- and how much we reinvent ourselves. From the gay man who becomes a diva a couple of times a year, to the butch lesbian who is very masculine but remains a woman, to the heterosexual crossdresser who looks like a woman but identifies as a straight man, to transsexual women, born male and living as women, and on and on, we all have to find that balance for ourselves.

There are many, many factors in how each one of us makes that balance. They include physical issues, desire issues, family/social issues, among others.

Transgendered people use the word "passing" to speak about looking as if your body was born the appropriate sex for the gender you present. Each one of us has genetic pluses and minuses to this passing. A small male with a full head of hair and delicate features will have different challenges than a large balding and aging male. Testosterone is a magic substance, especially when added during growth, and the results are hard to erase -- adams apples, larger frames, beard and body hair, lowered voices and so on. The same issue applies to transgendered people born female -- some pass with ease, others have challenges.

Many transgendered people choose not to work hard to alter their body to pass as well as possible. This can come from a knowledge of the side effects of drugs & surgery, a choice to put financial resources in other areas, or even the requirement to move back and forth between the genders. They may know that no matter how much they modify their body, they will never pass. Others may choose not to work to pass for political reasons, feeling that passing will erase their history, and will not open space for more open expression of transgender in the future.

Family & social issues are also a challenge. We each have obligations to social networks, and gender shift can cause a problem. If, for example, we have to act as a man at work, we cannot easily be a woman at other times, or we may not be able to switch back. Lots of social networks have this demand on us, and we have to figure out how to be the person people expect and be our own person in some sort of balance.

Even in gender transition, those social issues can still be challenging. We often feel pressure when we transition, having to keep our defenses up. When we have no history of learning to cope with pressure as someone of the gender we were not raised, we often raise defenses that show our history rather than our future.

Desire issues are also a challenge. For a gay man who has learned to love other gay men, becoming a woman means that she has to start dating straight men -- quite a jump. The same challenge comes in many ways -- butch lesbians who face becoming straight men, straight men who face becoming lesbians, straight women who face becoming gay men. While there are people who have made these leaps, they are not easy, and many people solve this problem by dropping out of the system of desire that is coded by gender cues altogether to avoid the problems with mixed messages, thereby also avoiding the benefits of connection.

Some people, of course, change their object of desire as they gender-shift, going from a straight man who loves women to a straight woman who loves men, but these shifts also involve real challenges. Desire shift is very challenging, and a major reason why people have to work hard to balance who they have been and who they are becoming.

All of these shifts, in learning new behaviors, dealing with social pressures, political goals and the challenges of desire, mean that transgendered people are forced into a kind of adolescence as they gender-shift. They have to learn new ways of being before they can easily jettison the old ones they need to live -- and there may be some changes that they choose not to make. After all, simply moving from one constricting box to another is not often the most desirable way to change.

This mixture of future and past in transgendered people, the mix of genders that is visible in their bodies, voices, actions and choices, can be disquieting to people. They may see that someone is calling themselves "she" while still acting as a "he" or vice-versa. We may see, for example, someone who looks, acts and walks like a woman but still identifies as a gay man, simply because she doesn't choose to become a straight woman.

What makes transgendered people different? It is not the fact that they all have a transgendered spark, a heart that calls them to express gender that is not deemed appropriate for people of their birth sex, for this is what they share. They are all transgendered, working to follow the calling of their heart in the a world that has expectations that our genitals define who we are.

What makes transgendered people different from each other is how they balance what they are given and how they reinvent themselves. Some work hard for total reinvention, and others live primarily with what they are given with only a glimpse of their transgressive heart. To support transgendered people, the challenge is to open up room for people to more fully express their hearts, while still being accepted in body, networks and desire.

