

THOSE LEGAL U.S. SEX CHANGE OPERATIONS

UNCENSORED

ALL THE FACTS... ALL THE NAMES

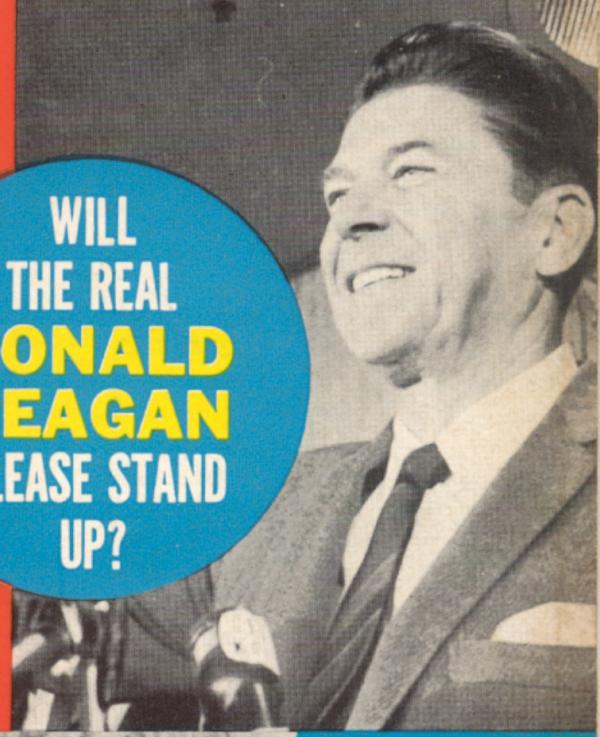
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CHRISTINE JORGENSEN

**How the Former G.I.
Lives Today As a Woman**

**WILL
THE REAL
RONALD
REAGAN
PLEASE STAND
UP?**



**HOW COMPUTERS
CREATE INSTANT SEX**

**THE SHADOW WORLD
OF PETER FONDA**

**WHAT NOBODY'S TELLING
ABOUT TEACHERS**



**THE
SKELETON
IN
Elke
Sommer's
CLOSET**

SHOCKERS IN THE THOSE **LEGAL** U.S.

For those who'd rather "switch" than fight, Johns Hopkins is performing sex change surgery

A million Americans do not know what sex they are.

Many of these pathetic persons are suffering from "transsexualism," a strange physical-mental mixup that medical science cannot explain.

Transsexuals are people who have the physical characteristics of one sex but the psychological makeup of the other.

"They are almost always physically normal," says a doc-

tor who has spent years studying the problem, "but they have a total aversion to their biological sex. They have an unshakable conviction that they are either females trapped in a male body or males trapped in a female body."

They are different from other sexual misfits — hermaphrodites, who have both male and female sex organs; homosexuals, whose sexual feelings are di-



George W. Jorgensen, Jr. was a 26-year army veteran when he submitted to the sex change operation and was transformed into a female.

Here's Christine Jorgensen, the world's most famous sex change, upon her return to the U. S. after the famous operation in Denmark. With Chris is Howard J. Knox who said he wanted to marry her. She chose showbiz.

rected towards members of the same sex, and transvestites, who enjoy wearing the clothes of the opposite sex.

A male transsexual is physically all male. And if he wears female clothing or indulges in homosexual acts, it is because he is firmly convinced (as ordinary deviates never are) that he is really female.

No one knows how many transsexuals there are in the



SEX CHANGES

United States, but recent studies indicate there are many more than anyone had imagined. Thousands of them live their adult lives as members of the opposite sex.

Only a few years ago, the general public and even most doctors made no distinction between transsexuals, homosexuals, hermaphrodites and transvestites. They were all lumped together as "queers" and sexual freaks.

Then George Jorgensen, a former GI from the Bronx, went to Denmark for surgery that transformed him into a shapely, long-legged blonde named Christine.

They laughed when Christine talked about her operation. But it created worldwide headlines and encouraged thousands of transsexuals to seek a similar solution to their problems.

Since Christine became a Copenhagen changeling 15 years ago, more than 3000 persons — including about 700 Americans — have undergone sex-change surgery. But nearly all the Americans have had to go abroad — to Denmark, Sweden, Japan, Mexico, Morocco or other foreign lands — to get the operations.

Only a few surgeons have per-

formed the sex-switch in this country. Most hospitals refuse to permit it.

The University of California Medical Center in Los Angeles began performing sex-change operations several years ago. But public pressure and a district attorney's threat of prosecution forced the hospital to abandon the controversial surgery.

Recently, Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore became the second major American medical institution to perform sex-switch surgery.

It also established a Gender Identity Clinic to screen applicants for the operation and make a thorough study of transsexualism. The clinic staff is headed by a special committee of 10 medical experts, including psychiatrists, surgeons, psychologists and other specialists.

At least three operations have been performed at the clinic so far. The first three patients were young males and all are recovering satisfactorily.

More than 200 persons have applied for operations. About 10% of the applications were from women, but the clinic has not yet accepted any female patients because it does not consider the female-to-male opera-

Looking back on the furor caused by the news of her switch, Christine says today that she's never regretted having had the courage of her convictions. "I'm glad legal operations happened in my time," Chris says.





Here's a photograph that played on front pages around the world back in 1953 — Christine's first press conference in New York.

tion as satisfactory as the male-to-female surgery.

The latter operation takes about 3½ to 4 hours. External sex organs are removed and a vaginal passage is created. The sensitive skin of the penis is used to line the vaginal passage, thus permitting patients to have fairly normal sexual relations.

Although they cannot have children, men who have undergone this operation have been able to experience orgasms.

Female hormone treatments are given before and after surgery. These reduce secondary male sexual characteristics such as body hair and bulging muscles. The hormones also help

develop the breasts and widen the hips.

For women who wish to become men, the transformation is much more difficult. Surgery includes a hysterectomy and breast removal. The vaginal opening is closed and replaced with artificial genitals. Attempts to create functioning male genitals have not yet been successful.

For this reason, Johns Hopkins surgeons will not perform a female-to-male operation even though such surgery has been undertaken by a few foreign doctors.

The Johns Hopkins clinic accepts only few patients a month. They receive thorough physical

and mental examinations, for which they pay \$100. Family and personal backgrounds are carefully studied. Applicants who appear to be psychotic or mentally disturbed are not accepted.

After a long and complicated series of tests and studies, the hormone treatments begin. Then, if the committee agrees to go ahead, a surgery team skilled in plastic, gynecologic and urologic techniques performs an operation, or series of operations, to transform the patient's external sex organs into those of the opposite sex.

"This program, including the surgery, is investigational," said

(Continued on page 48)

Christine Jorgensen took on show-biz after her first serious program of newsreels about Scandinavia failed. Nothing daunted her — she was even willing to test her talents at ballet.





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CHRISTINE JORGENSEN
"I Want to Entertain You"

LEGAL SEX CHANGES

(Continued from page 20)

Dr. John Hoopes, plastic surgeon and head of the clinic staff.

"The transsexual has never previously been given adequate medical attention. The most important result of our efforts will be to determine precisely what constitutes a transsexual and what makes him remain that way.

"A transsexual is normal, physically and biologically, as far as we can tell at present. But he feels, behaves and dresses as if he were of the opposite sex.

"Most transsexuals begin to show

signs of the problem at age 4 or 5. Usually they have no interest in the childhood play activities of their own sex. They often make the change in type of dress and social presentation while in high school or shortly thereafter.

"Far from living in the shadows of society, some of them graduate from college after assuming their new identities and go on to become successful in business and other endeavors.

"Our patients are not psychotic, but they do have extreme adjustment difficulties. They feel that nature has somehow gone awry, almost as if their mind is in the wrong body.

"You probably would never recognize a transsexual as such if you met him casually, or even if you knew him well. I cannot state too emphatically how completely these people assume the role of the opposite sex. The male transsexual looks, acts and dresses exactly like a woman. The same is true of his female counterpart.

"They are not simply transvestites,

people who receive pleasure from just wearing the clothes of the opposite sex. Nor are they homosexuals, as commonly defined."

Most male transsexuals desire only to be accepted as women. For this reason they seldom indulge in homosexual relationships. They are often sexually inactive before surgery. If they can't enjoy sex as women, they don't want it at all.

Psychiatrists have tried repeatedly to treat transsexuals without surgery, but psychiatry has not helped.

"The patients have no motivation for psycho-therapy," Dr. Hoopes said. "They do not want to change back to their biological sex. The high incidence of suicide and self-mutilation among these people testifies to the magnitude of the problem.

"If the mind cannot be changed to fit the body, then perhaps we should consider changing the body to fit the mind."

Cost of transsexual research at Johns Hopkins is being paid by the Erickson Educational Foundation of Baton Rouge, La., headed by Reed Erickson, a wealthy engineer. The foundation also supports the Harry Benjamin Foundation of New York, run by Dr. Harry Benjamin, an endocrinologist who has been studying and treating transsexuals for 15 years.

Several of the Johns Hopkins patients were sent there by Dr. Benjamin.

"I would like to see other hospitals take up sex-change surgery," he said. "There should be more research and more study done in this field to find out why the transsexual experience exists and to see what can be done to prevent it from happening."

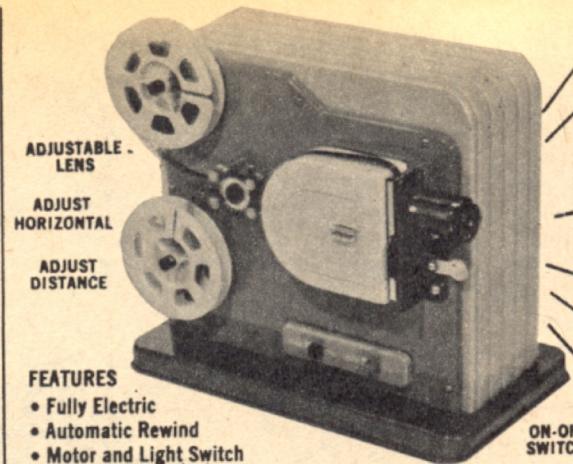
The origins of transsexuality are unknown. Some researchers believe it may be at least partly due to heredity or abnormal glandular functions before birth. Some psychiatrists believe it stems from prolonged conditioning early in life, usually within the first three years.

Christine Jorgensen, the most famous of all those who'd rather switch than fight, praised Johns Hopkins for its sex-change project.

"I am glad I lived to see it happen," she said.

The 40-year-old actress-singer added: "The biggest problem I have encountered since my operation is disbelief. Some people refer to me as 'it.' This is a smart-alec approach to a serious medical problem. I have received thousands of letters from people who don't know where to turn.

"Now at least some of these poor souls have a place to go." [END]



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