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January 20, 1979

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I have received your letter and its enclosure. I do not wish to be quoted in your publications, nor do I wish to write anything for you.

I do not want to give the impression that the transsexual phenomenon has anything to do with androgyny. It certainly is not related to my concept of androgyny. It is my understanding that every man has within his personality structure certain "feminine" potentials, a more or less unconscious tendency to experience what our culture has stereotyped as feminine. In some men this has been so severely repressed as to result in an obsessional need to identify with this feminine aspect. My position is that what is needed is a change in the psychological orientation, not a physical change. By a change in psychological orientation, I mean that a man can be brought to realize that it is possible to make conscious those so-called "feminine" qualities and to experience them in the daily acts of life, even while accepting the reality of one's own body. I feel that the transsexual rejects his body and acquires a spurious female appearance. In the end "he" is neither man nor woman. I believe that the "feminine" in man should be lived inside, as a psychological attitude toward life, bringing warmth and sensitivity and intuitive functioning to the man--and that feminine qualities cannot be acquired through hormones and the surgeon's knife. Of course the same may be said of women who elect the transsexual route--although these are not so common. Women seem to be better at enduring what fate has given them. I have worked with a "man" who was born a woman, and have seen tragic results in this case, not only to the person involved, but to "his" ex-husband and the children of the former marriage.

As you can see, I am opposed to the whole idea of the attempt to change sex. I believe one only loses what one has without gaining something else. I realize that your group will probably disagree with me, and I am not interested in engaging in a debate. But I didn't think it fair to refuse your wish to publish my work without giving you my reasons.

Sincerely yours,  
[REDACTED]