

TWENTY MINUTES

JUNE 1988

THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB

Two Dollars

XX CLUB TO HAVE
BOOTH AT HARTFORD
GAY PRIDE FESTIVAL

During a recent XX Club meeting, it was announced to have a booth at the 1988 Annual Connecticut Lesbian/Gay Pride Festival, scheduled for Saturday, June 25, 1988 in Hartford, CT. A number of club members expressed positive opinions towards this endeavor and some offered to help out. A check for \$25 has been sent in to "CLGPF" to reserve our booth space and plans are being made for our presentation.

Our booth will consist of a couple a card tables and chairs, posters, XX Club and gender clinic brochures, and handouts specially written for the festival. We need representation from pre and post-op people of both genders, from significant others and from friends, relatives and families of club members. If there is power available, a VCR and monitor will be used to show gender videos.

Lesbian and Gay people are as much in the dark about transsexualism and gender dysphoria, as are the rest of society. The Lesbian/Gay Pride Festival is an excellent opportunity for the members of the XX Club to provide outreach and education to the community.

If any XX Club member would like to offer some input as to how the club is to be represented to the general public, or would be interested in helping out at our booth, see Becky or Veronica at the next XX Club meeting. We will need people on hand at the festival to answer questions and talk to people.

I call to mind the summer day,
The early harvest mowing,
The sky with sun and clouds at play,
And flowers with breezes blowing.

- John Greenleaf Whittier

TIMELY QUOTES

Over heard at former Hartford (CT) Mayor Milner's home during a political meeting by State Treasurer Borges: "What are all these gays doing here?"

(Reprinted with permission from the May 6, 1988 issue of the METROLINE)

Education

Transsexual Support

Outreach

THE GATHERING ANNOUNCES NEW POLICIES FOR MEMBERS

Recognizing that a loose organizational structure, as well as dependence on voluntary contributions by participants, can no longer serve our needs, GATHERING founders Renata [REDACTED] and Jana Thompson, with legal advisor attorney David Tolbin, have determined a need for a major reorganization of the group's policies and procedures. The former board of directors has been replaced by an executive council. All Gathering members are encouraged to act as leaders or participants on committees responsible for club activities.

Club membership will be available as Full Member or as Associate/Subscriber. Full members will pay \$24 yearly and \$7.50 per meeting while Associate/Subscribers will pay \$15 each year and \$10.00 per meeting. Both will receive the Passages Newsletter.

(Reprinted from PASSAGES, Number 11 EXTRA, May 1988, the newsletter of the GATHERING)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS TO APPROVE CLUB FORMAT

On Monday evening, May 9th, the XX Club board of directors met to discuss and approve a more structured format for the twice a month club meetings. For the past several months, more people have attended the meetings and the needs of some have not been addressed.

One problem discussed was the starting and ending times for the meetings. People have continually straggled in late, socialized for a while and the scheduled 2 PM meetings would not start until 2:30 or 2:45 PM. Meetings will begin promptly at 2 PM from now on.

The board decided to allow a maximum of fifteen minutes for announcements, followed by a general discussion and/or a special program for no longer than ninety minutes. At 3:45 to 4 PM, the group will pause for refreshments and form two or more smaller special interest groups. These small discussion groups can be composed of but not limited to, M-F and/or F-M people, partners of significant others, or whatever type of

group is necessary. The meeting will conclude between 4:30 and 4:45 PM.

To help prevent burnout of the current club leaders, and to give those interested the chance to enter a leadership role, volunteer moderators will be sought out and trained to help facilitate meeting proceedings.

NEW TV/TS SUPPORT GROUP FORMED FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE AND MAINE AREA

There is a new support group for TV/TS or gender interested persons in the New Hampshire and Maine areas. It is:

TRANSUPPORT
POB 17622
Portland, ME 04101

There are informal rap sessions every other Sunday (6:00 PM) in the Portland area. There are no fees. Sometimes professionals are invited to participate, and usually one of the group is chosen as facilitator for the meeting. For those interested, please drop a line to the above address.

Among those in attendance at the most recent meeting were Pat, Diana, Jill, Josette, Miriam, Paula, Carol, Barbara and Lisa. A lively discussion was followed by light refreshments.

(Reprinted from the current issue (Volume 2, Issue 4) of ROSEBUDS, the newsletter of the TIFFANY CLUB.)

IN THIS ISSUE...

The Transabridged Dictionary
by Megan G. and Diana C.

What's Wrong With This Picture?
by Lynda [REDACTED]

Community Center Update
by Staff

A Letter of Salvation
from Sy Rogers

This is an extremely
primitive
and paranoid culture



TWENTY MINUTES

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB

THE TRANSEXUAL SUPPORT
GROUP OF NEW ENGLAND

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

\$18 per year (12 issues)
\$2 per single copy

THE XX (Twenty) CLUB, INC.
POB 6070, STATION 'A'
HARTFORD, CT 06106

THE STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF - Veronica Jean Brown

ASSISTANT EDITOR - Lynda [REDACTED]

ASSOCIATE EDITOR - Becky O.

CONTRIBUTORS - Megan G.
- Diana C.
- Robert Harrison
- Sy Rogers

ADVISOR - Rev. Clinton R. Jones

All contributions are welcome. All material must arrive at the post office box by the fifteenth of the month, to be considered for publication in the next month. A backlog of material may prevent the immediate publishing of submitted material. The editors reserve the right to refuse any material considered unsuitable, or to edit and/or re-write poorly written material, if that material content is of interest to our readers. The editors also reserve the right to edit all such material for brevity and clarity.

The XX Club, or its individual members, are not responsible for the opinions expressed or accuracy of information provided by the writers of unsolicited or solicited materials. All submitted material becomes the property of the XX Club and should be addressed to the EDITOR. Should any author wish his or her article(s) returned, they must provide a self addressed stamped envelope with the proper postage for that purpose and state such request in a cover letter.

Any part, or parts of this newsletter may be freely reproduced, photo-copied, transferred to magnetic media (whether tape or disk), or copied in any other form known to man, providing source credit is given.

In spite of all your cards and letters, we have published yet another TWENTY MINUTES. It consists of local club news, national news, original articles, reprints from other transsexual or transvestite publications, book reviews, profiles, letters and etc. We welcome submissions of any kind.

People have expressed a desire to write something for TWENTY MINUTES. It's easy. WRITE IT DOWN and send it to us. We will either use as is, return it with constructive comments and ask for a re-write, or we will put it into polished form. The important thing is to write it. Another type of welcome contribution are articles clipped from newspapers. These can be TS, TV, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or 'straight'. Please include the original article, the name of the paper it appeared in and date published.

calendar

Saturday, June 11 - MEETING
Saturday, June 25 - MEETING

Regular meetings of the XX Club are held the second and fourth Saturdays of the month at Christ Church Cathedral, 45 Church Street, Hartford, CT, at 2 PM sharp. If you are a transsexually inclined person who has questions, you are welcome to visit and find out more about our group. The XX Club is not a social organization, though we do socialize after the meetings over coffee, soda and snacks. We provide peer support and practical information about making the gender transition. We provide preliminary information for the Gender Identity Clinic of New England to transsexuals, their families and friends. We are not a transvestite group, nor a dating service. Write to our post office box for more information.

VIDEO TO BE SHOWN

While changing the CATV tuner one night recently, we came across a program where the guests were two former transsexuals, one of whom was Sy Rogers, who had 'seen the errors of their ways' and had decided not to go through with their impending sex change operation. The show is a religious program called 'Straight Talk' and appears on the (CBN) Christian Broadcast Network. This twenty minute video tape will be shown at the June 11th meeting. If you've never 'had the pleasure' of watching one of these transsexual bashing programs, you are in for a real treat.

EXTRA COPIES!

Extra copies of the special APRIL FOOLS edition of TWENTY MINUTES can be ordered from the XX Club by sending a 9 by 4 inches, stamped (25 cents), self addressed envelope, plus a dollar, to the XX Club post office box. They're going fast. Get yours now.

NEED MORE INPUT!

If you check the treasurer's report, you will notice that for the past four meetings in March and April, the club has taken in a total of \$22.50 or \$5.44 per meeting. These donations, which are placed in a designer wicker basket on the goodies table, go towards the expenses incurred for said goodies. The last four meetings have attracted 12 to eighteen people. If 15 people would donate 50 cents, that's \$7.50. If 15 people would donate a dollar, that's \$15.00. The problem is the average cost per meeting for club provided refreshments runs about eight dollars, so we are losing three bucks a meeting and this money comes out of the treasury. The purpose of the treasury (since September) has been to provide funds for postage and related expenses to allow us to continue our outreach and education work via the newsletter and brochures we publish. Of the total people on our current mailing list, half are paid subscribers and half (some are other clubs or helping professionals) are free. The 'profits' from the paid subscribers are offset by the freebies. We need more support from those who attend the meetings to at least cover the costs of the refreshments. We get our room space from the church for free. Imagine if we had to charge everybody for the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance - from April \$455.00

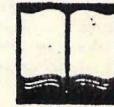
INCOME:	
Meeting 5/14/88	12.00
Meeting 5/28/88	4.50
Newsletter subscriptions	46.00
Brochure sales	26.25
Brochures- Gender Clinic	75.00
IFGE sales	88.00

EXPENSES:	
Refreshments	13.00
Postage	39.00
Supplies	28.00
Gay Pride booth	25.00
Brochure printing	23.25
May Newsletter	5.00
June Newsletter	15.00

Balance - end of May \$558.50

XX CLUB

PUBLICATIONS



TRANSEXUAL GENERAL INFORMATION

Brochure contains everything you always wanted to know about transsexualism, but were afraid to ask...and a few things you don't want to know about. (12 pages) \$2.00

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC OF NEW ENGLAND

Brochure contains initial contact and general information about the gender clinic. (4 pages) \$1.50

THE BRUSSELS CONNECTION

This brochure contains initial contact and general information about the low cost male-to-female sex reassignment surgery option available in Brussels, Belgium with places to stay and passport information and including a color keyed map. (12 pages) \$2.00

TRANSFORMATION IN COLORADO

Brochure contains general information about Dr. Stanley Biber and the sex reassignment surgery available in Trinidad. (4 pages) \$1.50

Discount price for all four brochures is \$6.00

Make check payable to:

THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB

KUDZU

by Doug Marlette



MAIL BAG

Dear Veronica,

I received the April TWENTY MINUTES and was very surprised. There is humor in the gender community after all. I loved it. Thanks ever so much for the breath of fresh air. But I can also see the enormous amount of work that went into this! I do hope you sent a copy to Dr. Seghers. It was a very enjoyable look into the future. I can definitely see your spark behind the work.

For myself, I am still bouncing around up here in the North Country. Doris and I are still together as loving sisters. Many things you had mentioned to me have come true, as I knew they would. Around August '87 I did start to find MEN SOMEWHAT INTERESTING! And after surgery, even more so!

The process of electrolysis is going well and is about 80% done. I still go for 3-4 hours a week. I can see the end in sight. How sweet it is! I am saving for one final surgery and that's a nose job. Maybe I'll return to Brussels once more and have Dr. Seghers do it.

I am very active in public around here and have found remarkable acceptance from friends, neighbors and townspeople. I belong to a local woman's auxillary club. I have complete acceptance now and am very happy.

Sincerely,
Abby Marie, NH

Dear Abby,

Thanks, but I had lots of help from Becky, Lynda and a few friends who offered their ideas.

Veronica

Dear Veronica,

First of all let me say you are a genius! The April issue of TWENTY MINUTES was great!! It was one of the most creative ideas I have seen about in any form of publication for years. The entire aspect of the newsletter was top notch right down to the fictional advertising. I applaud your efforts.

Sincerely,
JoAnn Stringer, CO

Dear JoAnn,

When I was working at the TIFFANY office last year, I got to see club newsletters from all over the country. Some were really good and others weren't, but all served a purpose. The one ingredient missing from all these publications, except for a few cartoons, was humor. It is difficult for pre-op (and some post-ops too) people to laugh about their gender dysphoria (or their post-op transition). There is humor to be found all around us, only if we take the time to look for it. Humor can take the edge off the pain and frustration. What do you mean, fictional advertising?

Veronica

Dear Editor,

I found your feeble attempts at bringing humor to those like myself, afflicted with transsexualism most disconcerting. This is not a game any of us play, it is deadly serious.

As for your so-called editorial (in the April issue - editor's note), I am whole heartedly behind the owner of that Christian bookstore. As a Bible reading Christian myself, I found your attack on Christianity quite blasphemous. I am against any form of so-called 'New Age' propaganda. And now that the President and Mrs. Reagan have been found out consulting an astrologer for personal guidance, and probably to run the country, I don't know what to think. I have turned to God for guidance. I was going to subscribe to your newsletter, but I've changed my mind.

Sincerely,
Roberta [REDACTED], CA

Dear Roberta,

You may find Sy Rogers' letter on page 4 and 5 quite interesting. One of the founding principles of this country was the freedom of religion. That means to be free to worship (or not to worship) as one sees fit. Since you are anti-New Age, the following two books may be of interest to you, and should be available at your local Christian book store. DARK SECRETS OF THE NEW AGE, (Crossway Publishing), \$8.95. UNMASKING THE NEW AGE, by Douglas Groothius, \$6.95. You might also note the two books that Sy Rogers listed at the end of his letter.

Editor

Dear Editor,

Enclosed is my check for a year's subscription to TWENTY MINUTES. Did you know people are making copies of it? That's how I first heard about it.

I am extremely interested in New Age philosophy. This is not meant to be negative against the Church or anything, but I find some of the teachings somewhat incompatible with my transsexuality. I am in the middle of my transition and it is weird, yet wonderful at the same time to have qualities of both genders. But I hope all this passes soon.

The local bookstores at the mall have only limited New Age material. Do you know of any place I could write to for more information?

Sincerely,
Sylvia A., NY

Dear Sylvia,

Write to CIRCLE, Box 219, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572. Send a check for two dollars (they are a non-profit organization) and then stand back.

Editor

Attention: Editor, Twenty Minutes

Dear Veronica,

Since my last letter, I am sorry to say that two of the Canadian Transsexual groups have folded. Please make these changes in your files.

FACT
POB 1149, STATION 'F'
TORONTO, ONTARIO
CANADA M4Y 2T8

This organization was formerly quite large, but due to various problems, it is now barely hanging together. As of April 9, 1988, FACT has virtually closed down as an organization, but hopes to continue as an informal network. The constitution has been allowed to lapse,

and the application to the province of Ontario for incorporation has been cancelled. The means of contact remains the post office box listed above.

METAMORPHOSIS
POB 5963, STATION 'A'
TORONTO, ONTARIO
CANADA M5W 1P4

This group too, has folded as of April 26, 1988. The group was formerly known as the METAMORPHOSIS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION, when it catered only to F-M transsexuals. It recently expanded to include M-F people. The pool of knowledge on transsexualism within this group was probably the best in Canada. Rupert Raj was forced to resign because of burnout and nobody volunteered to take over.

Thankyou for listing the Canadian Transsexual Groups in Twenty Minutes, with a reference that you have on file information on available professional services. I will keep you up to date if any of the information I have given to you changes.

Sincerely,
Micheline, Ottawa, ON

(EDITOR'S NOTE...the Canadian transsexual support groups are listed on the back page of Twenty Minutes. The editorial office has on file a current list of available Canadian professional services. Please send a self addressed, stamped envelope (a large one) when writing to request this information.

(EDITOR'S NOTE...reprinted from the letters page of the Springfield Union News, May 1988.)

Supports Gay

Rights Legislation

I was glad to read Leslie Pasquini's letter against gay rights.

First, I was glad because I hadn't realized there were still bigoted, judgemental people in our society. I thought we had grown past that. I was being naive.

It also made me glad to have a governor like Michael Dukakis, whom I'm sure we can count on not to be swayed by such people.

Third, I'm glad I was raised to have respect for all human beings, regardless of color, religious beliefs, nationality or sexual preference. It makes it really easy for me to sleep at night.

Joanne M., MA

TRANSITIONS...

Congratulations to the following recent post-op people...

Marie A., NJ - Brussels, Belgium

Becky S., CT - Brussels, Belgium

Debra K., PA - Trinidad, Colorado

BE YOURSELF~~IT'S A
DIRTY JOB, BUT
SOMEBODY'S GOT TO DO IT

PRE-OP M-F TRANSSEXUAL, 38, HORMONES 20 MONTHS, WELL INTO ELECTROLYSIS, PASSABLE, 5' 10", 145 LBS, BROWN HAIR AND EYES, NON-SMOKER, VEGETARIAN. I AM SEEKING (1) CORRESPONDENCE WITH TRANSSEXUALS AND (2) POSSIBLE FRIENDSHIP AND/OR DATES WITH TRANSSEXUALS OR INTERESTED MALES IN THE WESTERN MA. OR NORTHERN CT. AREA. WRITE RONNIE BROWN, BOX 80458, FOREST PARK STATION, SPRINGFIELD, MA. 01138

ATTRACTIVE WHITE MALE, AGE 37, 6 FT., 180 LBS. PROFESSIONAL WANTS TO MEET MALE-TO-FEMALE TRANSSEXUALS. I WILL EXCHANGE PHOTO AND PHONE NUMBER WITH DISCRETION ASSURED. WRITE POB 322, WILLMINGTON, DELAWARE 19899

EDITORIAL

Sy Rogers answered the ad I placed in the June 1984 issue of the TRANSSEXUAL VOICE. I did not like what he said about gays and transsexuals so I answered Sy's letter with a long one of my own. I wish I had kept a copy. I wish I had kept a copy of the first letter he wrote to me. But for some reason, I did keep a copy of the second letter he wrote. It appears on pages 4 & 5.

You see, Sy Rogers had suffered with additional problems besides his gender dysphoria, but as I don't have that original letter, I can't fairly discuss them here. Besides, it's old stuff that Sy has conquered long ago.

The thing that irritated me the most about Sy's letter in addition to all #*&*&% brochures he sent along (reproduced on pages 4 & 5 and none of which pertained to my gender dysphoria), was how he was trying to tell me how to run my life, using as an weapon, his interpretation of the Bible. I had encountered other well meaning born again and regular Christians who tried to 'save me' from a doomed life.

Well, Sy got his life straightened out and did what he had to do, by returning to the male gender. I had my SRS in '85 and got my life straightened out in '86. And you know, it keeps getting better all the time.

Sy Rogers' name appeared in a recent article in the Hartford Courant, concerning groups dedicated to helping gays go straight. He now lives in Orlando, Florida, is married and the father of one. "If you want to stay gay, that's your business, but the bottom line is, you have a choice to overcome it," said Sy Rogers. He calls himself a former homosexual and transsexual.

For Sy Rogers, the path was not to get the sex reassignment surgery. For myself, the path was to go ahead and do it. Reverend Clinton Jones does not advocate hormones or SRS for anybody, neither do any of the helping professionals at the Gender Identity Clinic of New England, and neither do I. The attrition rate in many gender programs around the country is high, and for those who discover they have made a mistake after the sutures have healed, well, for them, it's too late.

On Saturday, June 11th, a video tape of the religious program 'Straight Talk', as seen on the (CBN) Christian Broadcasting Network will be shown at the XX Club meeting. One of the former M-F transsexual guests is Sy Rogers. Come to the meeting and watch the show. Get to see what a happy, former transsexual looks and sounds like. Oh yes, and Sylvia (Sy) used to be a knockout.



Mount Hope Incorporated
25-31 Summit Ave./P.O. Box 1511 • Hagerstown, MD 21741-1511 • (301) 791-2550
Rev. Bennett Murray • President

Ronnie Brown
PO Box 80458
Springfield, MA 01138

20 August 1984

Dear Ronnie,

Greetings! Thank you so much for your recent letter. I appreciate your taking the time to write and share so openly with me. Please forgive me for failing to respond sooner, but I have been traveling a good bit this summer and have had a lot of work to catch up on. Since you were so candid with me in your letter, I also wanted to share honestly with you.

It seemed from the tone of your letter, that you resented my story of freedom from the consuming condition of transsexuality. Your letter seemed to be a lengthy justification of your condition and desire for surgery. Apparently, you feel that because I do not agree with you, that I am therefore judging you and all those who do not believe as I do. This is not true. My opinion doesn't matter. Rather, we must all look to God's Word as the uncompromising and ultimate measuring stick for our lives.

In your letter, you talked of studying other religions, and that you attend church regularly. No doubt that you 'believe' in God and Jesus, and consider yourself a basically 'good' person. However Ronnie, these things in themselves do NOT make you a Christian. I doubt that you have actually had a life-changing experience with Jesus. I doubt that you have a real and vital relationship with your Creator. Being 'religious' doesn't make you right in God's eyes, according to the Bible. In fact, Scripture tells us over and over that God can't stand 'religion'. Religion is man's way of trying to be pleasing to God. God is not interested in being a side-dish in our lives. He isn't trying to save us from His judgement just so we can attend church once or twice a week. That isn't Christianity according to God's Word.

God wants our lives to revolve around Him. He wants to be number one in our hearts, over our own wants and desires. In fact, God tells us that if He isn't first love in our lives, then our faith is worthless. God makes it clear that 'believing in Him' isn't enough. The Bible tells us that even Satan and the demons "know and believe" in God—but it doesn't save them. Faith that saves is faith that believes TO THE DEGREE that it will OBEY Christ's teachings. We are not Christians because we are born in the U.S., or because we attend church, or because we 'believe'. Christians are those who commit their lives to following Christ's teachings, seeking to obey and live what Christ taught. A Christian recognizes that only by trusting in Christ's death and resurrection can we escape God's terrible judgement against sin. Trusting isn't a mental assent. It is proved in the way that we live...By totally surrendering our lives to Christ, allowing Him to be the master of our lives. Most people don't want that. They want to be their own master, and live as they choose. God will let them. But such people will give an account to God for the way they lived. This is not my opinion Ronnie. This is the Biblical description of be a Christian: a committed follower of Christ, who gives up the freedom to live as he wants, in order to become a servant and slave of a loving and holy God. That is what makes you pleasing to God. Now you can say this is too radical—hash it out with God—not me, 'cause it's God's Word with the qualifications, not my opinion. And if you feel that God's Word is only some ancient collection of myths and literary works with good moral advice, then you deny it's authority and can justify anything. However, the Word of God is a supernatural book, written by men who were inspired by God. Lives are changed and renewed when God's Word is regularly read and obeyed. Have you experienced

Homosexuality & the Christian Questions Gays Ask Most...

Sy August
Bulte D.J.H.

Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

By Roger

this yet? Why? It sounds to me that you have all the trappings of 'religion' but you have not yet discovered God's intense, intimate, life-changing love in your life. You sound as though you know about God, but you don't know Him personally yourself. Have you really had that supernatural experience Jesus called being "Born Again"--a required experience to enter Heaven? God loves you very much Ronnie. He understands why you are like you are. He doesn't reject you. He wants you! But do you want Him? Do you want to really be pleasing to Him?

In your letter, you implied that I'm against gays, TV's and TS's. This is not true. God is not against them either. BUT...God IS against sin. He hates it. All sin: like lying, adultery, envy, bitterness, jealousy, gossip, homosexuality, murder, prostitution, drunkenness, love of money, love of material things, love of pleasure (these "loves" are called idolatry because they are more important than God to some people). Even cross dressing is called sin by God. You may say, 'what kind of loving God would judge and condemn people because of their sexual preference?'. Obviously, people who think like this are using their own reasoning and opinions, not God's Word (which has God's ultimate opinion). People who use God's 'love' as an excuse to continue sinning will face terrible judgement the Bible says. God's love is not our version of love. God will rightly judge all those who REFUSE TO REPENT AND TURN AWAY FROM SIN and return to Him, because He made a way out of sin. It cost Jesus His life to pay off your sins so you could escape God's judgement. That's why God says He'll have no mercy on those who refused to repent--because they could have, but neglected and/or rejected God's love offering: Jesus. They refused to come to God and be healed and restored.

Remember this Ronnie, where God requires all of us to change and conform to His standard He is the One with the power to make change possible. He loves you and can recreate your life--if you will give Him permission. If you love God, you'll want to give Him a chance

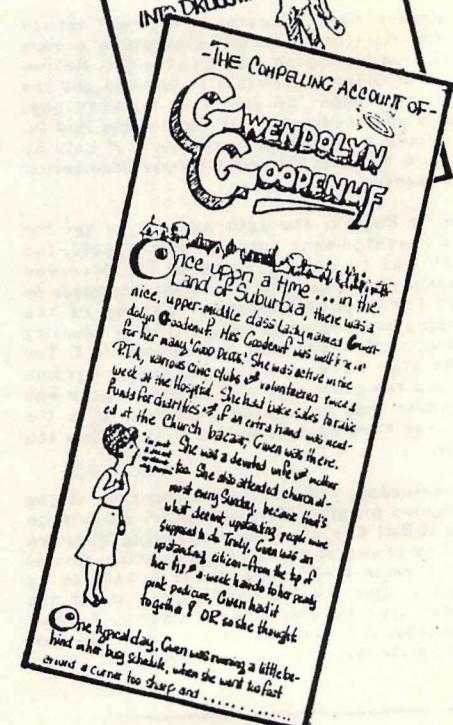
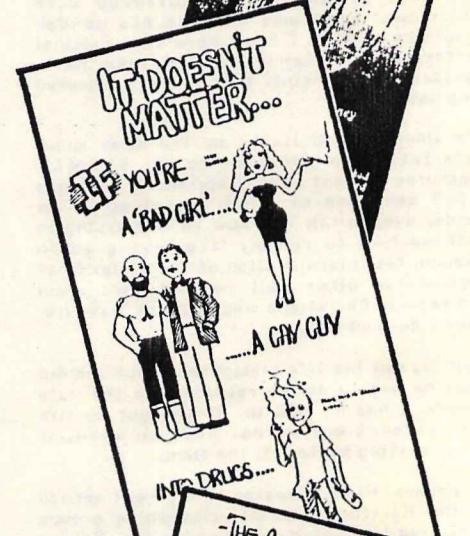
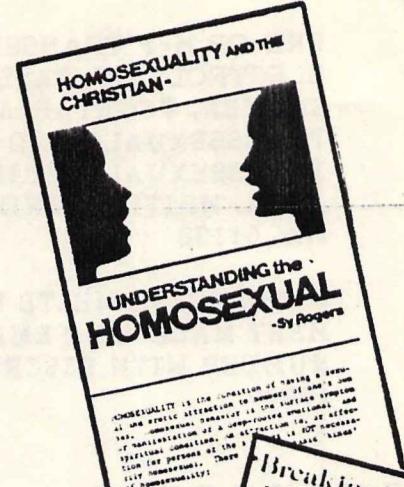
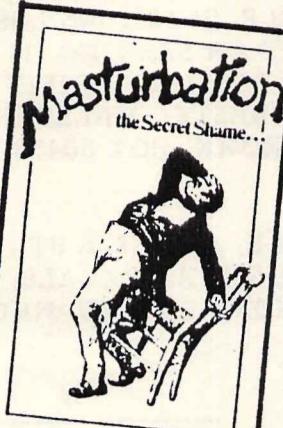
As for your transsexuality, I do not believe you are a woman trapped in a man's body. I believe your rejection of your male identity stems from childhood circumstances that left you emotionally wounded. You believe that to find love, affection, security and acceptance you must reject your male identity (probably because you feel a total failure as a man, and view your masculinity as an obstacle in finding love, acceptance, security). The sex change won't actually help heal these emotional wounds--it will help you continue running from them. I urge you to carefully consider seeking your other option to surgery: the life-changing, healing power of God. You may find (and perhaps you fear this) that God will eliminate your need for surgery. Unless your situation is the result of a bizarre genetic mishap, or you are a hermaphrodite, I DO NOT encourage you to pursue surgery. Even Baltimore's Johns Hopkins Hospital, famous for sex change surgery, doesn't perform 'The Operation' anymore, saying that transsexuals need emotional healing of their identity, not surgery to complicate and create a new one. Even if you have the surgery, you will at best be a 'man made woman'.

I have ~~do~~ doubt that you don't like what I've shared. Please don't feel you need to write back a lengthy rebuttal and justification of what you want to do. You may say that I'm legalistic and have no compassion. NOT TRUE. Sometimes true compassion must be honest and risk offending. Love doesn't always condon and approve. Jesus wasn't gushy with our kind of love. He was tough. He was firm. He threatened and rebuked frequently, because He knew that those who listened would be changed and be saved. You may be older, and may have had more 'experience' in life, but you probably haven't had the ULTIMATE experience in God yet. He wants to restore your broken identity. He wants to heal your hurts and wounds, and help you overcome rejection, bitterness and fear of failure. He wants to restore your confidence in your gender identity...the identity you had originally.

Below are two good books written by two men who became man-made women, and then became Christians. Their stories are relevant to your situation, and make interesting and encouraging reading.

PERRY: A TRANSFORMED TRANSSEXUAL/by Perry Desmond/Available thru Impact Books, 137 West Jefferson, Kirkwood, MO 63122. Send \$2.95 plus postage. It's excellent. THE AGONY OF DECEPTION/by Ronnie Rigsbee/Available at most Christian bookstores and is published by Huntington House. I think it's about \$5.00.

In closing, I trust you'll overcome your initial reactions to this letter, and consider what I've shared. If you'd like more information on transexuality from a Christian perspective, contact EXODUS at PO Box 2121/San Rafael, CA 94912. Sincerely... Sy Powers/staff



FEATURES

TWENTY MINUTES

NEW TRANSABRIDGED DICTIONARY

(EDITOR'S NOTE...the staff of TWENTY MINUTES would like to thank co-authors Megan G. and Diana C., for bringing an unbound galley proof of their new TRANSABRIDGED DICTIONARY to us. We'd also like to thank Becky O., for her welcome additional contributions to this transabridged listing. We have reprinted with permission of the publishers, Morning Star, Limited, a number of entries pertinent to the gender community.)

transboring tranz-bore'ing, adj., what a pre-op male-to-female transsexual is when she can speak of nothing except how well she can pass in public.

transparent, tranz-par'ent, n. 1. one or more blood parents of a transsexual. 2. a shallow transsexual. 3. a transsexual sliced very thin.

transexton, tranz-sex'tun, n. a church building caretaker who has had sex reassignment surgery.

transister, tranz-zis'tur, n. a non-cloistered female member of a religious order who has had sex reassignment surgery.

transmission, tranz-mish'un, n. a building or group of buildings where transisters live and work.

transcribe, tranz-kribe', n. a medieval monk who changed from one sect to another.

transfix, tranz-fiks', n. the surgical procedure of altering or 'fixing' external genitals to conform to the inborn gender identity coding.

transformer, tranz-for'mer, n. 1. a surgeon who performs the transfix. 2. a former transsexual of either gender who has passed through this stage to become a real woman or man.

transit, tranz-it', n. 1. a neutered transsexual. 2. one who has really been fixed.

transliterate, tranz-li'tur-it, n. a transsexual who can read this newsletter and possibly write letters to the editor.

transmigrant, tranz-mi'grant, n. a transsexual who changes location during transition to avoid detection.

transmigratory tranz-my-gra'tor-ee, adj., pertaining to those transsexuals who migrate to warmer climates for the winter.

transmit, tranz-mit', n. a leather appliance or glove used by a transsexual baseball player.

transmute, tranz-mute', n. a transsexual who can't speak.

transom, tranz-sum', n. a large sum of money paid by the transsexual to the transformer and hospital for the transfix.

transplant, tranz-plant', n. flowers or plants raised by a transsexual; v. what a transplanter does in the spring to start a garden.

transplanter, tranz-plan'-tur, n. 1. a transsexual farmer. 2. (transplanters), a rare form of hybrid peanut.

transportable, tranz-por'tuh-bil, n. 1. a boom-box carried around by a transsexual. 2. a small, easily carried transsexual.

transpire, tranz-pi'er, v. when a transsexual dies on the operating table.

transude, tranz-soode', v. what a transsexual did to the transformer when he or she didn't like the results of the transfix.

transuranic tranz-ur-a'nik, adj. a transsexual with an atomic number greater than 92.

transversal, tranz-ver'sul, n. the place where a transsexual poet reads his or her transverse.

transverse tranz-verse', n., poetry written by a transsexual poet.

translocate, tranz-lo'kate, v. the act of finding a transformer to do the transfix.

transplantation tranz-plan-ta'shun, n. 1. large southern farm run by transsexuals. 2. where large groups of southern transplanters live and work. v., the act of moving a large group of transsexuals.

transfection tranz-fec'shun, n. 1. the virus that causes a transsexual to seek the transfix. 2. what causes gender dysphoria in a transsexual.

transcend tranz-send', v., to send a transsexual out on an errand.

transcendental tranz-sen-den'tal, v., the act of sending a transsexual to the dentist.

transcendental meditation tranz-sen-den'tal me-di-ta'shun, adj., n., a specialized technique of meditation used by a transsexual to convince themselves they are gender dysphoric.

transport tranz-port', n., 1. the left side of a small boat owned or piloted by a transsexual. 2. games transsexuals play.

transponder tranz-pon'dor, n., a transsexual who thinks.

transpose tranz-poze', v., what a transsexual model of either gender does for a living.

transact tranz-act', v., what a transsexual thespian does.

transalpine tranz-al'pine n., a transsexual who lives in the alps.

transcript tranz-skript', n., what a transactor uses to transact.

transfer tranz-fur', n., the outer covering of a four legged feline or canine transsexual.

transfigure tranz-fi'gure, n., something that someone who transposes has a good one of.

transilluminate, tranz-i-lu'mi-nate n., 1. when a transponder gets a bright idea. 2. what a transsexual lightbulb does.

translate tranz-late' v., when a post-op male-to-female transsexual female has missed her period.

transmarine tranz-muh'reen, n., a transsexual in the U.S.M.C.

transmiserable tranz-mis'er-a-bul, adj., 1. a post-op transsexual not happy with the transfix. 2. a pre-op transsexual not yet approved for hormone therapy.

transoceanic tranz-o-she-ahn'nick, adj., a transsexual who goes overseas for a lower cost transfix.

transitive tranz-i'tive, adj., a transsexual very sensitive about not passing.

transmate tranz-mate', n., 1. transsexual room mates. 2. when a male-to-female and female-to-male transsexual attempt to produce offspring.

transvesbite tranz-ves'bite, n., a vampire, usually of the male gender, in drag.

TIFFANY AND
I.F.G.E. TAPESTRY
TO SPLIT?
EACH TO HAVE NEW
OFFICE LOCATIONS

While the office and headquarters of I.F.G.E. have been moved to Moody Street in Waltham, MA., the office of the Tiffany Club has been moved out of the Tiffany house as well. The new mailing address for the TIFFANY CLUB is:

Tiffany Club
P.O. Box 266,
Allston, MA 02134.
Phone (617) 358-2305

The new mailing address for I.F.G.E. is:

I.F.G.E./Tapestry
P.O. Box 367
Wayland, MA 01778
Phone (617) 894-8340 899-2212

In a recent Rosebuds article by Tiffany Chairperson of the Board Siobhan Donovan, the reasons for the split and separate moves by each organization were outlined at length.

In a letter dated April 25, 1988, sent to Tiffany Club members, former executive secretary of Tiffany, Merissa Sherrill Lynn explained why this move would have an eventual negative impact on both organizations. Other persons have voiced opposing views for the breakup and the matter will be taken up by the Tiffany Board of Directors during a meeting scheduled for May 20th. All Tiffany Club members were urged by Merissa to write a letter to the board of directors expressing their opinions.

WHATS WRONG WITH
THIS PICTURE

by Lynda [REDACTED]

A 28 year old M-F transsexual starts on hormones under a doctor's care after years of agonizing deliberation. Less than a month later, she wonders if she has made the right decision. She doubts if she will ever pass in society as a woman, or even be happy.

A 33 year old gay male manages to fool a gender clinic and gets approval for hormones and a year later, approval for surgery. He claims while on the operating table, he attempted to stop the surgeon from proceeding. He realizes that he has made a terrible, foolish mistake and seeks state funds to assist him in attaining corrective surgery as a mutilated male. He fails.

A F-M transsexual patient at a gender clinic gets approval for surgery. He doesn't like what he gets and becomes despondent. He sues the gender clinic and the board members disband. The door in this area has been closed to future transsexuals.

Intense pressure from a religious group in the southern Bible belt forces a county hospital to cease doing the SRS there.

While the Vatican acknowledges the existence of transsexual persons and 'look the other way' with counseling and hormone therapy, they do not approve of surgery for anyone.

A lesbian and a heterosexual male each 'go through the system' and get their SRS. After a number of years of living as a woman, the M-F attempts suicide thirty times. The F-M discovers that his life as a man is a masquerade. Both people experience a religious conversion. They both go on the Sally Jesse Raphael show in February 1987 to denounce transsexualism and all the helping professionals who participate in gender programs.

Four transsexuals who recently went through the gender program at Stanford to get the SRS have religious revelations. They become martyrs against transsexualism and the gender system. Some of the medical professionals are now wondering about the validity of the Stanford program.

A F-M transsexual begins hormone therapy but goes through years of unhappiness as he is viewed by the public as an effeminate gay male, which he is not.

Dozens of pre-operative transsexuals in an area of California commit suicide. The SRS for them is impossible for them and death seems a welcome alternative.

A M-F transsexual goes through the system, gets the SRS, but continues to work as a male in a lucrative job.

There are a large number of transsexuals in California. Is it because of the liberal, laid back attitude of the population, and that passing and credibility isn't important, or is it because it is easy to go across the border into Mexico and get hormones without a prescription?

This list of horror stories could go on for several more pages, but by now, you must have the picture. And no, I'm not going to list the unknown numbers of success stories, because most of those people fade into the woodwork.

Perhaps you know of some TS who is going through difficult times, has committed suicide, or who has reverted to their former gender. Were you in a position to help? And did you?

Have you withdrawn your support from the local TS group, because you don't need this nonsense anymore, or because you don't want to be pegged as one of them? Well, maybe one person can't change all that's wrong with the world, but it's sure worth a try.

AN APPEAL FROM THE OUTREACH INSTITUTE

Help and understanding are essential to many crossdressers, but little is available. That is why your help is required by the Human Outreach and Achievement Institute. The Outreach Institute is the only national organization which works with helping professionals to understand the problems faced by crossdressers.

The average helping professional has little training or experience to deal with calls like:

"I'm a woman trapped in a man's body...can you help me?"

"My wife came home unexpectedly and there I was wearing some of her..."

"My wife is going to divorce me, she won't let me near the kids, I..."
"My son was caught stealing lingerie..."
"I love my wife, but she wants to be a man..."

The Outreach Institute is the only national center that helping professionals can turn to for knowledgeable information about the phenomenon of crossdressing and related gender issues. The Institute:

- * Offers information and counseling to professionals
- * Provides workshops and seminars about crossdressing and crossgender behavior.
- * Has an active nationwide professional referral service which crossdressers can access.
- * Conducts programs to help crossdressers to explore alternate gender life patterns.
- * Serves as an informational center at many national conventions of helping professionals.
- * Provides a book reprint service with a significant selection of relevant educational literature on crossgender behavior which helps the reader to better understand and cope with particular situations.
- * Publishes The Outreach Beacon, the only professional reference that is dedicated to gender issues of interest to helping professionals.
- * Publishes Our Sorority, the largest circulating publication on crossdressing in the United States.
- * Founded and sponsors Fantasia Fair.

These efforts represent a significant outpouring of funds and volunteer help. Although some effort such as Fantasia Fair help offset some of these costs, we need your help. Many non-profit organizations send mailings to hundreds of thousands of people scattered all across the country. Our base is very limited. We only know of a few thousand who are sympathetic and understanding of the difficulties that beset persons with gender conflicts. We desperately need your financial support to keep our many services available. We ask you to give whatever you can to further our efforts. Your donation is tax deductible in accordance with IRS code 501c3.

We turn to you for help so that when you need help, we can be there.

Please help,
Robert Harrison, Chairman
Board of Directors
The Outreach Institute
POB 368
Kenmore Station
Boston, MA 02215

COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE...

On Saturday, May 14th, a meeting was held by the board of directors at the Community Center on Farmington Avenue in Hartford. Opened nearly one year ago, the Community Center has provided valuable outreach to the lesbian, gay and bisexual community.

A \$2000 grant from the Haymarket People's Fund was used for: American sign language class, AIDS education workshop, Hotline training sessions and Body Positive Awareness training.

The following groups have chosen to be organizational members through the end of 1988 for a fee of \$200: Capitol Region Business Guild, Am Segulah, Gay Fathers of Greater Hartford, Coalition of Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights, Lesbian and Gay Health Collective and the CT. Lesbian and Gay Pride Festival.

The following groups or committees have used the Community Center in the past year: Men's Conference, March On Washington, All Peoples Congress, CT. Political Action, Alternatives, Body Positive, Southern New England Friendship League, UCONN Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Students in Medicine, Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, Men of All Colors CT., Dignity of Hartford, Gay and Lesbian Health Collective Women's Programming.

Potential other uses could include: Alcohol and drug free drop-in space, regular coffeehouse, George W. Henry Foundation Library, XX (Twenty) Club, Chubbies and Buddies, Your Turf, Hartford Colts, Transvestite Support Group and a Bisexual Support Network.

Looking over the wide diversity of groups that have used the Community Center and could use it, there is a need. These are the CHALLENGES for the next phase of YOUR Community Center: Realign the Center to be more responsive to the AIDS crisis, Development of an effective Community Advisory Board, Foster greater involvement of more Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual organizations, Enhance communication throughout the community, Address future space needs and develop an effective Fundraising campaign.

I. F. G. E.

PUBLICATIONS

AVAILABLE FROM

THE XX CLUB



The following I.F.G.E. publications are in stock in limited quantities at the TWENTY MINUTES editorial offices and are available by mail order, postpaid (3rd class). Please add \$3.00 for P & H for first class. These items will be available at XX Club meetings.

TV-TS TAPESTRY JOURNAL - \$10.00

Published quarterly, Tapestry is the most comprehensive publication on transvestism and transsexualism available today. Issue #51, hot off the presses from the Waltham, MA. I.F.G.E. headquarters, has 148 glossy pages sandwiched between a full color cover and the back page, and is filled with TV/TS and gender related articles, a world wide directory of services and organizations, bulletins notices and news, and personal listings.

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A collection of editorials, articles, and letters dealing with the magic pill.

(* currently being revised and will be available in July)

DEFINITIONS - \$3.00

An easy to understand gender lexicon of the terms that affect the CD/TS community, written in a relevant way to current usage.

J2CP Information Services

J2CP INFORMATION SERVICES provides information/referral services formerly provided by the Erickson Educational Foundation and JANUS Information Facility. J2CP Information Services is a separate entity and is not affiliated with either of its predecessors.

J2CP INFORMATION SERVICES provides an information package consisting of pamphlets and literature concerning gender dysphoria syndrome, transsexualism and transvestism. This information package is available at a cost of \$25.00 to cover research, printing, postage and secretarial services. Additionally, J2CP Information Services will attempt to provide referrals to reputable counselors, psychotherapists, or gender programs, and peer groups near your home.

Certified checks or Money Orders should be made payable to J2CP Information Services. Please specify whether you are male-to-female, female-to-male, or transvestite when writing. If transsexual, please provide your place of birth.

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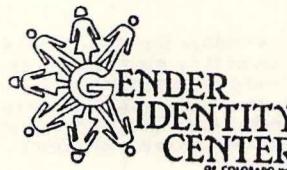
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Harriet Lane's is a social membership club
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