# The Transsexual War

14 views

**ObedientFemme**

to

Jul 6, 2002, 10:00:08 AM

The Transsexual War

By Roberta Angela Dee

When I was growing up, the word transgender did not exist. There was no color television; and no Internet, at least not, as we know it today.

I couldn't tell anyone how I felt about myself because the word for how I felt simply didn't exist. It was like trying to tell someone you're a girl in a world where the word 'girl' doesn't exist, and in a world where no one can perceive of anyone being young and female.

My first inclination was to say that I was gay. It sort of made sense, because I was attracted to men and I was physiologically male. The problem was that I didn't perceive of myself as male.

I was very different from gay men. A gay man was attracted to men but didn't have a problem with being a man. To make matters worse, or at least more complicated, a gay man would not relate to me. He simply felt that I was too feminine.

Gay men can be effeminate. However, there's a distinction between being effeminate and being feminine. Effeminate behavior is contrived and masculine based. Feminine behavior is natural and feminine based.

After realizing that I couldn't be gay, I started saying that I was transsexual. That didn't work either, because a transsexual was "a woman in a man's body" who wanted to have a sex change operation. I was definitely a woman trapped in a man's body. However, I never perceived surgery as a way out of that trap.

Christine Jorgenson was a transsexual. In fact, some would say that she was a "true" transsexual. Why? Because she was so desperate for surgery that she allowed a surgeon to remove her penis even before he had the surgical expertise to create a functional vagina. Christine was, in fact, a eunuch. Nevertheless, she managed to convince the world that a man could become a woman, if he was willing to have his penis removed.

To this day, that's the first question most people will ask, if you tell them that you're transsexual or transgender. They'll ask, "Have you had your surgery yet?

They cannot understand that gender can't be surgically altered. If one identifies with being a woman, then she is already a woman in terms of her gender. Surgery doesn't alter gender. Surgery can't alter gender.

Still, the only idea that most people understand is that if your sex is male, then your gender must also be male. All they know is that if you're born a male, then removing your penis makes you female.

It does?

When a woman has a hysterectomy or a mastectomy, does she become a man? I don't think so. Anyway, the sex change idea didn't work for me either. So, I abandoned the notion that I was transsexual.

What's left? It's a simple process of elimination. If I'm not transsexual, and not gay, I must be a cross dresser.

Well, that didn't work either. Cross dressers were men who liked women and liked being men. The only way transvestites were different from ordinary men is that transvestites would occasionally put on a dress and wear makeup. However, they never really wanted to become women. They never wanted to be perceived as women on a full-time basis or to live as women on a full-time basis. Why? Because, they liked being men.

So, until I was 10 years old, I was someone without a word to define myself.

Then, in 1959, a man with fully developed female breasts and wearing a dress appeared on the Alan Burke talk show. Alan Burke was the Oprah of his day, and very popular.

The man's name was Virginia Prince; and he told the audience that he was a transgender. He explained that this meant that although he was born anatomically male, he preferred living as a woman and identified with being a woman.

Voila! I had a name. I was a transgender.

At this time, transsexuality was still considered being a woman trapped in a man's body, or being a man trapped in a woman's body. The only difference between transsexuals and transgenders was that transsexuals sought sex reassignment surgery. Still, transgenders and transsexuals both understood that they were women in terms of gender. They also understood that they pursued different directions towards attaining lives as women.

The transsexual focused on surgery. The transgender focused on hormones and a being able to live as a woman on a full-time basis. Whichever path we pursued, we understood that we were sisters seeking the same objectives, that is, being legally and socially accepted as women -- not on the basis of sex but on the basis of gender.

Inevitably, transgender and transsexual women expressed an interest in attending the Michigan's Women's Music Festival -- a yearly outdoor concert held primarily for lesbian women. Lesbians were outraged. They did not want their all-woman festival tainted by the presence of women defined solely by gender, or women defined solely through a surgical procedure.

Feminists, many of whom were lesbian, quickly created the phrase "woman-born women." It was a phrase with only one purpose: to exclude transgender and transsexual women from attending the festival.

Suddenly, at the age of 35 years old, and after having lived successfully as a woman for 10 years, my status as a woman was being dismissed. Needless to say, I responded the only way that I knew how: by writing.

And I wrote. I wrote letters to every lesbian organization in the country. I wrote letter to the National Organization for Women (NOW). And I wrote articles for every and any publication that would accept my work.

I started my personal campaign back in 1984. A little over 10 years later, the Festival succumbed to social pressures attesting to the fact that the lesbian facilitators of the festival were being perceived as hypocrites. For this reason, they began allowing post-operative transsexuals.

Logically, they should also have admitted transgender women, but they refused. They used their festival to create a wall between transgender and transsexual women.

"You can only become a woman, if you have 'the surgery,'" the feminist claimed.

Transsexuals were elated that at least one community, the lesbian community, had accepted them as woman. So, back in 1994, a few transsexuals interpreted this to me that if they distanced themselves from transgenders, they could more readily be accepted as women. That's when a small minority of transsexual women began insisting that surgery was the only means by which anyone born a male could become a woman.

This was about the same time that gay, lesbian and bisexual (GLB) organizations began including transsexuals and transgenders, thereby becoming GLBT organizations. Gays, lesbians, and bisexuals had not acknowledged any major distinction between transgenders and transsexuals. Unfortunately, there were a few transsexuals who felt that if they aligned themselves with transgendered, they would be losing their status as socially acceptable women -- a status that only existed in the minds of a minority of feminists and lesbians.

Suddenly, the was a war between transgenders and transsexuals. Most reject surgery as the only means by which one can become a woman. Individuality and identity, for most people, is innate and means much more than surgery. However, the anti-transgender movement, although still a minority, only grew to be increasingly more vocal.

Obviously, there were far more women who qualified as transgender than as transsexual. So, the feminist and mainstream society made a brilliant move, they gave "legal" status to transsexuals but not to transgenders. This way they only had to address a very small minority. Furthermore, they helped to keep transgenders and transsexuals at philosophical odds with one another, and essentially ignore the human and civil rights objectives of both groups.

It's really simple, people: The majority wins, the minorities lose. The Christian right wins, the minorities lose. The Stonebutch lesbians win, the minorities lose. The conservative feminists win, the minorities lose.

Personally, I feel that a transsexual woman is entitled to pursue womanhood any way she chooses. What's most important is her right to express herself as an individual. Transenders and transsexuals share this right. It is an innate right acquired by being a human being.

Separation is not only foolish, it's destructive and it hinders the aspirations of both groups. Perhaps, it's time both groups wise up. The issue is not to cut or not to cut. The issue is that we each want to exercise our inalienable right to express our individuality, and we want legal protection to do so.

The End

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**Marina Brown**

to

ObedientFemme <obedie...@aol.com> wrote:

RAD:

I'll answer your post in one paragraph. The experience of TS's including the many TS's is different than TG's who feel and live the statement "gender is between the ears". While these two groups often live and work together there is a big difference between them. To have TG's represent the TS's is just as wrong as having the Boss of a plant be a Union shop stewart or to have a rich white person head up an Urban anti-racist group. All these people may be of good will, but they don't represent each other.

Marina

•••

**DANIELEgrl**

to

Oh come on marina... Gender is between the ears not the legs. You were a woman before you transitioned. However, the differences isn't in GRS it is DOING something to PRESENT that which you feel you are. Not living a LIE or at a half way point as in part time TG's / CD's and calling yourself a total woman.

A woman doesn't live as one part time. She is one all the time. Allowing society to see you as a male is accepting that as your identity. That is the key. Just as a lesbian who is in the closet stays there she isn't being that which she is. She is living a HALF LIE.

Now a CD or a TG or a TV that lives as such is what they are. A truth of a mix of gender. The problem arises that they want the full rights of a Woman even though they do only half measures.

The same goes for a Lesbian who stays in the closet. She wants all the rights but doesn't go the distance. To me she isn't a lesbian. She is a lesbian wanna be.

As in AA and NA half measures avail us nothing. A CD TG TV is going full measures as a mixed gender person. They however are not a full gender woman or a full gender male.

bye love Danielle

To thine own self be true if you are a half measure accept that. If Roberta Angela Dee is really a woman she wouldn't go half measures. However, we all know that some can't do the imposible in the case of the poor, the sick, the obese and FtM's with poor surgery acomidations. That doesn't make them any less a man. HALF MEASURES IS DIFFERENT THAN LIVING HALFWAY BETWEEN TWO OPPOSITES male and female.

**ObedientFemme**

to

Mariana,

Your simplistic response doesn't even rate a comment.

Roberta Angela Dee

Founder of TG Woman
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tgwoman/

>RAD:

•••

**ObedientFemme**

to

You and marina share the same school of thought.

Unfortunate.

•••

**Amanda Angelika**

to

"ObedientFemme" <obedie...@aol.com> wrote in message news:20020706100008...@mb-mc.aol.com...

•••

Just a few points

Expressing individuality is not a problem as long as you are what you say you are or believe in yourself.

I think the problem with some MtF transgendered people (and I'm playing devils advocate a bit here) is they play, pretend and fantasise about being women and expect to be taken seriously as women, but unfortunately one can't have it both ways.

I'm not arguing that SRS is necessarily the only answer. It's just an observation really that people take one seriously if you believe in yourself and take yourself seriously everything else tends to be seen as fantasy. Being a woman is not about making a big deal out of being TG or even TS for that matter.

I don't think this has anything to do with rights or laws no amount of legislation can make a difference to human nature and how humanbeings think, (we don't have thought police yet) it's up to the individual to believe in them self and be what you are and to hell with the rest.

I suppose to most people who are neither TG or TS if someone says they are a TG Woman it is like saying I'm a woman but I don't take myself seriously enough to have the operation. On the other hand I suppose at least one knows with a post op TS woman that she takes herself seriously, whether people think TSs are women is another matter (it may depend alot on appearance and how one comes over), some people may think SRS is madness, but at the end of the day even a lunatic has the benefit of being taken seriously.

So unless you truly touch madness no one will take you seriously it's pointless rationalising it, just be it. It's good to be a lunatic.

--
Amanda

Amanda Angelika Berry

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Version: 6.0.373 / Virus Database: 208 - Release Date: 1/7/02

**Marina Brown**

to

ObedientFemme <obedie...@aol.com> wrote:
> Mariana,

> Your simplistic response doesn't even rate a comment.

Your eloquent writing did not make a simplistic peice any more more worthy of a lengthy response.

In College I once turned in a 13 page paper for a 40 page assignment. Some students who turned in more than 40 pages were penalized.

I was not.

There was nothing more to say on your piece. I'm not ussually one to re-hash ideas in different formats.

Marina

•••

**ObedientFemme**

to

>Just a few points
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>to be taken seriously as women, but unfortunately one can't have it both
>ways.

Amanda,

The transsexual believes that by altering her genitalia she alters her sex. Yet, everyone acknowledges that sex is more than a matter of genitalia. Furthermore, genitalia is only one dimension of womanhood. There is nothing about sex reassignment surgery (SRS) than can alter or eliminate years of social conditioning as a male.

You have undoubtedly, at some point in your life, encountered the postoperative transsexual who remains decidedly masculine in his outlook, senitments and ideological points of reference. Surgery has no effect on gender, as gender cannot be surgically altered.

As for being taken seriously, I don't perceive surgery as any sort of rite of passage into womanhood. Womanhood is an attrinute of gender, not sex. And, I appreciate that understand this distinction.

Living full time as a woman, without the legal protection afforded a postoperative transsexual is about as serious and comitted as one can be about being a woman.

>I'm not arguing that SRS is necessarily the only answer. It's just an
>observation
>really that people take one seriously if you believe in yourself and take
>yourself
>seriously everything else tends to be seen as fantasy. Being a woman is not
>about
>making a big deal out of being TG or even TS for that matter.

Correct. Being a woman is a matter of identity, not surgery.

>I don't think this has anything to do with rights or laws no amount of
>legislation
>can make a difference to human nature and how humanbeings think, (we don't
>have
>thought police yet) it's up to the individual to believe in them self and be
>what you
>are and to hell with the rest.

Well, that's the only option available to anyone. Isn't it?

>I suppose to most people who are neither TG or TS if someone says they are a
>TG Woman
>it is like saying I'm a woman but I don't take myself seriously enough to
>have the
>operation.

I don't believe that most women are as closeminded as you suggest. Women are far more emotive than men, and tend to care more about what lies in your heart, mind and soul than what lies between your legs.

My genetically female friends take me quite seriously. However, the focus of those relationships is not on my being transgender but on my being a human being.

On the other hand I suppose at least one knows with a post op TS
>woman
>that she takes herself seriously, whether people think TSs are women is
>another
>matter (it may depend alot on appearance and how one comes over), some people
>may
>think SRS is madness, but at the end of the day even a lunatic has the
>benefit of
>being taken seriously.

Well, of course. Any decision to undergo surgery is a serious matter. It is not, however, a decision that always results in an individual becoming more of a woman (gender) than he or she was prior to surgery.

>So unless you truly touch madness no one will take you seriously it's
>pointless
>rationalising it, just be it. It's good to be a lunatic.
>--
>Amanda

I guess insanity is both relative and subjective.

Roberta Angela Dee

•••

**Amanda Angelika**

to

"ObedientFemme" <obedie...@aol.com> wrote in message news:20020706214821...@mb-fj.aol.com...

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| Amanda,

| The transsexual believes that by altering her genitalia she alters her sex.
| Yet, everyone acknowledges that sex is more than a matter of genitalia.
| Furthermore, genitalia is only one dimension of womanhood. There is nothing
| about sex reassignment surgery (SRS) than can alter or eliminate years of
| social conditioning as a male.

Well yes it is as far as one can go in changing ones sex, but yes I agree it doesn't change much else.

| You have undoubtedly, at some point in your life, encountered the postoperative
| transsexual who remains decidedly masculine in his outlook, senitments and
| ideological points of reference. Surgery has no effect on gender, as gender
| cannot be surgically altered.

Yes that's true, but a person who hasn't had SRS and never is going to have SRS doesn't wish to change sex and although it is ultimately impossible to *change sex* not having SRS could seem to indicate a lack of conviction because in the main women don't have a male member.

I think if one can live as a woman and not have SRS and believe in oneself and be oneself as a TG person that's fine but I don't think this is enough for everyone.

| As for being taken seriously, I don't perceive surgery as any sort of rite of
| passage into womanhood. Womanhood is an attrinute of gender, not sex. And, I
| appreciate that understand this distinction.

Well if a person has a penis they are usually still percieved as a man by society because a penis represents male sexuality

| Living full-time as a woman, without the legal protection afforded a
| postoperative transsexual is about as serious and comitted as one can be about
| being a woman.

It could be nothing to do with being a woman, it could just mean one is committed to being weird or different. I don't think that argument really holds much water at all.

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| >making a big deal out of being TG or even TS for that matter.
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| Correct. Being a woman is a matter of identity, not surgery.

Its a matter of self belief for you but what if you didn't have that self belief? One would need to have surgery I would think.

| >I don't think this has anything to do with rights or laws no amount of
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| far more emotive than men, and tend to care more about what lies in your heart,
| mind and soul than what lies between your legs.

True up to a point but there does seem to be a lack of acceptance amongst lesbians against both TG and TS women. I've experienced that first hand in the middle of being seduced by a diesel dyke, she asked me if I had ever been a man? Well I gave here an honest answer and that was the end of that. Which might have been a blessing in disgu ise since she was bigger than me and might not of been to happy if she had found out later ;)

| My genetically female friends take me quite seriously. However, the focus of
| those relationships is not on my being transgender but on my being a human
| being.

Yes, this is a good point, many TSs and full-time TGs have to hide some aspects of themselves in everyday life and it is good to have close friends whom one can be oneself with.

|
| On the other hand I suppose at least one knows with a post op TS
| >woman
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| Well, of course. Any decision to undergo surgery is a serious matter. It is
| not, however, a decision that always results in an individual becoming more of
| a woman (gender) than he or she was prior to surgery.

true in a way but it does make the body more congruent with that identity and I think for some people this is fundamentally the only way to go. Personally I find it very difficult to believe I'm a woman. I never believed I was a man these are both quite alien concepts to me in some ways.

Gender is imposed from outside based on what one looks like and upon the type of genitalia one has. It is these things that shape how one is treated, brought up and expected to behave. This may be wrong but it's a fact of life, it's human nature so I think it is quite natural to believe that the problem lays between ones legs and not between the ears.

a 24/7 TG has a strong self belief in their identity as a woman and in the idea that one can be a woman without SRS. This is fine but I don't think everyone can think like that. I think for me if I never have SRS I would always doubt myself and if I do it will be because I want to be female this may well be impossible, but one thing is certain in my mind I'll never be female with a penis. In some ways this has nothing to do with being feminine or masculine or self belief I think there is something deeper than that, which I don't think is difficult to explain or rationalise.

| I guess insanity is both relative and subjective.

I suppose Transsexuality can be to.

•••

**ObedientFemme**

to

>"ObedientFemme" <obedie...@aol.com> wrote in message
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>| social conditioning as a male.
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>Well yes it is as far as one can go in changing ones sex, but yes I agree it
>doesn't
>change much else.

Yes, physiology is far more complex.

>| You have undoubtedly, at some point in your life, encountered the
>postoperative
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>| ideological points of reference. Surgery has no effect on gender, as
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>I think if one can live as a woman and not have SRS and believe in oneself
>and be
>oneself as a TG person that's fine but I don't think this is enough for
>everyone.

Again, I don't equate surgery with conviction. It requires considerable conviction to live as a woman on a full-time basis without the legal protection afforded to a post-operative transsexual.

My partner is genetically female and accepts my commitment to being a woman. Our friends also accept it.

Commitment isn't acquired through surgery. It's acquired by how you live on a daily basis. There are, after all, postoperative transsexuals who after they've had the surgery have deep regrets. Is this because they lacked commitment or because the results were quite not what they had expected?

>| As for being taken seriously, I don't perceive surgery as any sort of rite
>of
>| passage into womanhood. Womanhood is an attrinute of gender, not sex.
>And, I
>| appreciate that understand this distinction.
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>Well if a person has a penis they are usually still percieved as a man by
>society
>because a penis represents male sexuality

Absolutely. However, now we are talking about sex, not gender. It's also true that society will perceive you to be a man because you were born male and will always be genetically male, before as well as after sex reassignment surgery.

>| Living full-time as a woman, without the legal protection afforded a
>| postoperative transsexual is about as serious and comitted as one can be
>about
>| being a woman.
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>It could be nothing to do with being a woman, it could just mean one is
>committed to
>being weird or different. I don't think that argument really holds much water
>at all.

One could say the same thing about a postoperative transsexual: that the surgery is merely a means to have one's genitalia mutilated. There are individuals who seek amputations through a surgeon, as well as inidviduals who are predisposed to self-mutilation. Which is more bizarre -- living as a woman or mutilating one's own body?

On a more likely plane, however, I don't perceive living as a woman to be anything perverse or bizarre.

>
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>| Correct. Being a woman is a matter of identity, not surgery.
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>Its a matter of self belief for you but what if you didn't have that self
>belief? One
>would need to have surgery I would think.

I'm not sure I'm following you. Being a woman is totally a matter of identity. Surgery cannot provide that identity; and no one born male would ever request surgery, unless a female identity already existed.

>| >I don't think this has anything to do with rights or laws no amount of
>| >legislation

>| >can make a difference to human nature and how human beings think, (we don't

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>a
>| >TG Woman
>| >it is like saying I'm a woman but I don't take myself seriously enough to
>| >have the
>| >operation.

Again, I disagree. I take myself very seriously, and those who know me take me seriously.

>| I don't believe that most women are as closeminded as you suggest. Women
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>| far more emotive than men, and tend to care more about what lies in your
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>honest answer and that was the end of that. Which might have been a blessing
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>ise since she was bigger than me and might not of been to happy if she had
>found out
>later ;)

LOL Lesbians can be quite unique. My experience with lesbians is that they only tolerate other lesbians, and only other lesbians who share a particular philosophy. The lesbian community is very diverse with stonebutch femmes, stonebutch dykes, feminist lesbians, and a variety of other descriptions. Some get along, many do not.

•••

Actually, you're incorrect. Sex has to do with anatomy. Gender has to do with identity. So, when you are error to suggest "...Gender is imposed from outside based on what one looks like and upon the type of genitalia one has." Gender is not determined by genitalia. Sex is determined by genitalia. Correct?

>a 24/7 TG has a strong self belief in their identity as a woman and in the
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>nothing
>to do with being feminine or masculine or self belief I think there is
>something
>deeper than that, which I don't think is difficult to explain or rationalise.

You feel as you do because you are transsexual and not transgender. Surgery, it appears, would be the best option for you, but not the best option for everyone.

>| I guess insanity is both relative and subjective.
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>I suppose Transsexuality can be to.
>--
>Amanda

How refreshing to have an intelligent discussion within a newsgroup.

Thank you.

Hugs,

•••

**Cathryn Platine**

to

"ObedientFemme" <obedie...@aol.com> wrote in message news:20020706100008...@mb-mc.aol.com...
> The Transsexual War

snip

> Personally, I feel that a transsexual woman is entitled to pursue
womanhood any
> way she chooses. What's most important is her right to express herself as
an
> individual. Transenders and transsexuals share this right. It is an
innate
> right acquired by being a human being.
>
> Separation is not only foolish, it's destructive and it hinders the
aspirations
> of both groups. Perhaps, it's time both groups wise up. The issue is not
to
> cut or not to cut. The issue is that we each want to exercise our
inalienable
> right to express our individuality, and we want legal protection to do so.

Nice post, then we have this AFTERWARDS from "Ms" Dee in ASSRS regarding a post-op woman joining a health club:
" When has it ever been normal for a surgically altered male to sneak into
a
woman's locker room. Define 'normal'."

This is just a small sample of similar venom spewed forth regularly on a newsgroup for surgery bound transwomen.

Clearly Mr Dee actually hates transsexual women. Clearly Mr Dee views post-operative transsexual women as "surgically altered males". Clearly Mr. Dee doesn't deserve consideration as any brand of woman himself.

I once read a theory on why some men crossdress that went along the lines of it being a confirmation of their masculinity. That even in women's clothes, they could still "get it up". One is sorely tempted to consider this when faced with Robert(a)'s constant reminders to the rest of us that he has a penis. Frankly, most of the non-op transwomen I know do NOT push this fact. Non-op transsexuals I can respect and accept as women, verbal "flashers" dashing their virtual doodles I'll never accept as either female or worthy of any respect whatsoever. All the hypocritical crap in the world won't change his true tune as played over and over on a group he invades to harass and torment.

One only hopes that since Mr Dee views it unacceptable for a post op transWOMAN to use a ladies changing facility, he has the decency himself to use men's rest rooms and public showers. One wishes he had the decency to cease his clearly phony calls for unity as well.

Loree, this sort of crap coming from outside your "community" would have caused an uproar, why not from inside? Still wonder why I won't refer to this person as "she"?

--
Cathy Platine
@)-'-,--'
"Leading transies is like trying to herd cats. You get nowhere and just annoy the cats."

http://centralhouse.gallae.com

**DANIELEgrl**

to

Miss roberta angela dee SAYS : >>>Commitment isn't acquired through surgery. It's acquired by how you live on a daily basis. There are, after all, postoperative transsexuals who after they've had the surgery have deep regrets. Is this because they lacked commitment or because the results were quite not what they had expected?<<<<<

They were not real women if they were concerned it didn't work afterwards.

RAD SAYS:::

>>>>
One could say the same thing about a postoperative transsexual: that the surgery is merely a means to have one's genitalia mutilated. There are individuals who seek amputations through a surgeon, as well as inidviduals who are predisposed to self-mutilation. Which is more bizarre -- living as a woman or mutilating one's own body? <<<<<

... Your phobic on bad surgeries.. OH MY GAWD.. i see it now.. I did this with the idea that if it works then so be it. If it doesn't then so be it. I had to get rid of that thang that you have between your legs.. Your afraid of it not working oh my.. Well that is it.. I have seen the light.. I also did FFS on the same logic. I knew that i wouldn't at least look like i did.

LOL... OH MY .. worried about it not working huh???

LOL

I knew the truth would come out sooner or later..

A woman doesn't care if her vagina works. She just surely doesn't want a penis hanging there.... OH MY ..

RAD as they say you have lost my vote as your being a woman.. If surgeries scare you and lose of your penis does too and lose of your penis working scares you then you are a man no if and or buts about it..

if you couldn't afford it or were sick or didn't want it as you were obese or as you were non op and it didn't matter to you one way or the other than i might say your a woman. However, you bring up the GRS as genital mutilation 2 times and even more so you say a post op isn't a woman but you are then that shows you have serious issues about what is and isn't a woman.
You have no respect for others when others such as me accept non ops as women. But i only accept non ops who don't complain about pre ops or post ops and who call them selves women as you do but don't call a post op a woman as you do. That is the most hypocritical thing i have seen come from you.

It would have best be that you just said you were a non op TS woman and left it at that. However, you have jumped on those of us who have had the surgery. That is where you lose all my respect.

bye love Danielle

**Loree Thomas**

to

"Cathryn Platine" <evilest_Trans...@radicalbitch.com> wrote in message news:<gT_V8.113809$GY.39...@twister.nyroc.rr.com>...

> "ObedientFemme" <obedie...@aol.com> wrote in message
> news:20020706100008...@mb-mc.aol.com...
> > The Transsexual War
>
> snip
> > Personally, I feel that a transsexual woman is entitled to pursue
> womanhood any
> > way she chooses. What's most important is her right to express herself as
> an
> > individual. Transenders and transsexuals share this right. It is an
> innate
> > right acquired by being a human being.

<snip>

> Nice post, then we have this AFTERWARDS from "Ms" Dee in ASSRS regarding a
> post-op woman joining a health club:
> " When has it ever been normal for a surgically altered male to sneak into
> a
> woman's locker room. Define 'normal'."
>
> This is just a small sample of similar venom spewed forth regularly on a
> newsgroup for surgery bound transwomen.

<snip>

> Loree, this sort of crap coming from outside your "community" would have
> caused an uproar, why not from inside?

It DID come from outside. While I read RADs very inclusive and TS friendly post in sst, I didn't see the original that you selectively quote from because it came from assrs which is NOT my community.

Now I could take the time to track down the thread where your snippet came from... to confirm that RAD did indeed write that and that it actually has the meaning you attribute to it, but I'm just not that interested. RAD is an individual that you have a long running fued with... so anything either of you says about the other is suspect from the start.

I am NOT RAD, RAD doesn't represent my views. I agree whole heartly with her post in SST. You do too. The snippet from assrs you posted sounds bad... it's certainly not something I'd agree with.

I have to wonder why you choose some of her writings as being more "real" than others though... and why it's the stuff you percieve as negative that you give the most weight to... to the point of dismissing the good stuff out of hand.

All humans are contradictions... good and bad, smart and dumb, compassionate and selfish... all at the same time. How you relate to others depends so much on what parts of them you CHOOSE to see.

> Still wonder why I won't refer to this person as "she"?

Yes... very much so. A general statement of belief along the lines of "Transsexuals will never actually be the sex opposite that of their birth" may feel like a personal attack directed at you, but it isn't. It doesn't deserve a personal attack as a response. It calls for a statement of your beliefs back, not name calling.

Can you see this?

Hugs,
Loree

**ObedientFemme**

to

>A woman doesn't care if her vagina works. She just surely doesn't want a
>penis
>hanging there.... OH MY ..
>

Using your logic, one could say, a man doesn't care if his penis works, so long as he doesn't have a vagina.

Take care, kid. Best of luck to you in whatever direction you pursue.

Roberta Angela Dee

**ObedientFemme**

to

Loree,

I appreciate you attempt to bring some sense of civility to this newsgroups. However, I've concluded that people like Cathryn will never allow that to happen.

She, Julie, Marina and the others truly deserve each other. Frankly, I have better things to do with my time.

Again, thanks.

Roberta Angela Dee

•••

**Amanda Angelika**

to

"ObedientFemme" <obedie...@aol.com> wrote in message

news:20020707192414...@mb-fe.aol.com...

•••

In some cases this may be true.

But does acting as a woman mean anything? one could act as a woman and call oneself a man, why not? A person can call themselves anything they want, but that doesn't make it real other to themselves. Those outside may see this as a delusion and people are free to interpret language in any way they please, it is hard to live as a linguistic metaphor an expression of womanhood which is why on a fundamental level I find the notion that one can be a gender defined woman somewhat at variance with concrete reality. A painting may portray a tree but it is not a tree it is some spots of dust ground in oil and applied to a canvas with a stick with some hair on the end according to a visual linguistic convention. A man my portray womanhood but is not a woman and never can be. I think this applies to transsexuals to but at least the metaphor has some physical reality and physical reality is everything.

•••

**Morgane**

to

DANIELEgrl <danie...@aol.com> wrote in article <20020707161554...@mb-cg.aol.com>...

> Miss roberta angela dee SAYS : >>>Commitment isn't acquired through surgery.
> It's acquired by how you live on a
> daily basis. There are, after all, postoperative transsexuals who after
> they've had the surgery have deep regrets. Is this because they lacked
> commitment or because the results were quite not what they had expected?<<<<<
>
> They were not real women if they were concerned it didn't work afterwards.

This is an utterly reprehensible statement and point of view. Good health and even good sexual health is everyones right, women included. Your further mocking of Roberta's concerns about the possible surgical results are the actions of a hehumanized fanatic. I feel sorry for you.

Morgane

**Jess**

to

Coming in very very late...and because its late and I'm tired and probably lack the self control to avoid hitting "post message"

> Yes... very much so. A general statement of belief along the lines of
> "Transsexuals will never actually be the sex opposite that of their
> birth" may feel like a personal attack directed at you, but it isn't.
> It doesn't deserve a personal attack as a response. It calls for a
> statement of your beliefs back, not name calling.

In this forum and context, (any sort of trans group, really) this is prima facie a personal attack. Which is not to say any response is, or is not, called for. Never actually be what? What's sex? Reducing this much complexity to such an earnestly cruel belief doesn't carry a presumption of innocence. Why not just go poke people with sharp sticks?

**ObedientFemme**

to

> A man my portray womanhood but is not a
>woman and never can be. I think this applies to transsexuals to but at least
>the
>metaphor has some physical reality and physical reality is everything.
>
>--
>Amanda

Do you mean as opposed to non-physical reality?

Roberta Angela Dee

Living is easy with eyes closed
Misunderstanding all you see
It's getting hard to be someone
But it all works out
It doesn't matter much to me.

-- J. Lennon & P. McCartney

from "Strawberry Fields Forever"

**Amanda Angelika**

to

"ObedientFemme" <obedie...@aol.com> wrote in message news:20020708095949...@mb-fq.aol.com...

| > A man my portray womanhood but is not a
| >woman and never can be. I think this applies to transsexuals to but at least
| >the
| >metaphor has some physical reality and physical reality is everything.
| >
| >--
| >Amanda
|
| Do you mean as opposed to non-physical reality?

Well Yes. Non physical reality does exist in a way it's called metaphysical reality and applies to things that exist in fiction that are expressed through language like people in novels or things depicted in paintings. Like Barbie is a *real* woman even though she is 12' tall and made of plastic.

I think this is the problem I have with the concept of gender as a means of defining womanhood divorced from physical reality it can only ever be a means of expressing or mimicking womanhood and the basis it has as an identity is open to question, because it is possible for an individual to create a personal delusional world, like for example one gets people who think they are God or people who hear voices. The problem being they are unable to define and separate what comes from inside themselves and is a figment of their own creation and what is exterior to themselves so they exist and experience a world of their own making, but to those outside this world it appears that such an individual is at best living in a fantasy world or at worse mentally ill.

Actually I should say I'm not arguing from either a TG or TS viewpoint for that matter and I'm not wishing to offend anyone in saying the above. I think I'm arguing from the confusions and dissatisfactions of chasing what my rationality tells me is a mirage. The unfortunate and depressing thing is there is no real solution. It is difficult to exist outside of physical reality and always will be and I guess the bottom line is we all live outside of physical reality to a lesser or greater extent this applies to both TGs and TSs

•••

**Loree Thomas**

to

feral...@yahoo.com (Jess) wrote in message news:<2fc91957.02070...@posting.google.com>...

> Coming in very very late...and because its late and I'm tired and
> probably lack the self control to avoid hitting "post message"
>
> > Yes... very much so. A general statement of belief along the lines of
> > "Transsexuals will never actually be the sex opposite that of their
> > birth" may feel like a personal attack directed at you, but it isn't.
> > It doesn't deserve a personal attack as a response. It calls for a
> > statement of your beliefs back, not name calling.
>
> In this forum and context, (any sort of trans group, really) this is
> prima facie a personal attack.

I disagree. Me telling a specific post op woman that she isn't female could be an insult (depending on my intentions at the time and the context it occured in) but if you dissallow every statement of belief about sex and gender that anyone could take exception to, we might as well not even bother to post or read, 'cause there won't be anything here. It doesn't matter what you believe, there is at least one person who believes something different and could choose to act upset over your statement.

THIS forum and context is the EXACT place to discuss things like:

What exactly IS sex?
What is gender?
Do they HAVE to be congruent?
Why or why not?
Are they the same for everyone?
Does SRS really change your sex?
Do hormones change your sex at all?
Does anyone ever change gender?
Can a woman have a penis? Can a man have a vagina? If the answer to those two questions is different, why?
and on and on...

Read the charter :)

> Which is not to say any response is,
> or is not, called for. Never actually be what? What's sex? Reducing
> this much complexity to such an earnestly cruel belief doesn't carry a
> presumption of innocence. Why not just go poke people with sharp
> sticks?

Adults are actually capable of carrying on discussions with people who have different beliefs without getting upset or calling the other person names.

It would be nice if there were more adults posting in this newsgroup, I admit.

The correct response to an insult is either to ignore it, or to calmly point out that is occured and express your displeasure in an adult manner. If an individual can't carry on a conversation without descending to insults, you then stop communicating with that person.

Calling things insults that aren't, just as an excuse to act like a child, is really really dumb. I try not to do it. I hope you do too
:)

Hugs,
Loree

**Gillian Gallentine**

to

Normally in the newsgroups I find individuals who puport to be women but continue to act as men with their "my way is better than your way" attitude. I still subsribe to the newsgroups because every one in a while an enlightend individual will write something truly of merit.

Ms. Dee has done that with this article. Gender does lie between the ears. If you are truly a woman then your whole essence is feminine.

I have gone through the same struggles as many here in this news group have, and I finally received approval for SRS, but now must face the fact that I may not be able to attain that goal. I have recently been diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension which very realistically could put an end to my attainment of that ever important 'Surgery'.

Through my soul searching I have had to ask
Is the surgery Important? to me yes it is important, not because it will make me truly a woman, I am already a woman, but because it will enhance my self image.
Will something bad happen if I cannot receive the surgery? No, I will continue to live as the woman I am. The only thing will be that I cannot have vaginal intercourse.

If because of this others do not wish to recognize me as truly a woman, so-be-it. I cannot force people to view me that way, however, those individuals who truly matter to me, including myself do. That is what counts.

It is time for us to accept each other for who they are, not for who we think they should be!

I say bravo to you Roberta for standing up and saying what needs to be said.

Gillian

•••

**ObedientFemme**

to

•••

Dear Gillian,

The overwhelming majority of intelligent men and women will read your letter and understand your circumstances. They will also understand that these circumstances make you no less a woman than anyone born genetically female.

There are a few bigots in every community. Some prefer to call them extremists. However, in my eyes, they are simply bigots.

For whatever reason, they believe they have the right or devine authority to tell other people what they are or are not. Their world is filled with these and other delusions.

I no longer respond to their lunacy. When you argue with anyone who writes like an idiot and expounds the logic of an idiot, it only leads to making you look like an idiot as well.

Thank you for a wonderful post.

With Love,

Roberta Angela Dee

•••

**Nicci Stevens**

to

"Cathryn Platine" <evilest_Trans...@radicalbitch.com> wrote in message news:<gT_V8.113809$GY.39...@twister.nyroc.rr.com>...
<snip>

Ok ... this bugs me:

> Loree, this sort of crap coming from outside your "community" would have
> caused an uproar, why not from inside? Still wonder why I won't refer to
> this person as "she"?

Reason for that is:

"Cathryn Platine" <evilest_Trans...@radicalbitch.com> wrote in message news:<K71X8.111341$uk2.44...@twister.nyroc.rr.com>...
> First, and most importantly.........no one (at least me) denies Blake's and
> RAD's right to define themselves in whatever manner they wish............but
>
> It is the HEIGHT of disrespect to label transsexuals in a manner they
> personally find abhorrent.

You can't have your cake and eat it to.

You cannot say you do not deny RAD's right to identify and then refuse that identification, or, is this only a courtsey you extend to transsexuals?

If that is, in fact, a courtesy you extend only to transsexuals, will you then call those who identify as female and do not live 24/7 under your definition of female, "he" "him" "mister", etc?

-Nicci

**ObedientFemme**

to

Cathryn Platine (evilest_Trans...@radicalbitch.com) lost credibility on this and other newsgroups a long time ago.

**Cathryn Platine**

to

LOL.............whatever Roberto

--
Cathy Platine
@)-'-,--'
"Leading transies is like trying to herd cats. You get nowhere and just annoy the cats."

http://centralhouse.gallae.com

"ObedientFemme" <obedie...@aol.com> wrote in message

news:20020713073806...@mb-me.aol.com...

•••

**Marina Brown**

to

ObedientFemme <obedie...@aol.com> wrote:
> Cathryn Platine (evilest_Trans...@radicalbitch.com) lost credibility
> on this and other newsgroups a long time ago.

When did you EVER have credibility ?

When you got kicked off of Trangen in 96 ?

When you got kicked off of Wombat at about the same time ?

I don't think anyone has broken your record of getting booted from BOTH those VERY loosly run lists, LOL.

Marina

**ObedientFemme**

to

Let's see, you only had to go back 6 years for that data. Transgens turned out to be a bunch of loonies who wanted everyone to undergo sex reassignment surgery, and Wombats simply couldn't tolerate anyon who didn't support a white middle-class mindset.

Oh my, no wonder you've selected those groups. They fit you so perfectly.

**Marina Brown**

to

•••

•••

I'm not on either any more. But they ARE examples of groups that are VERY difficult to get kicked out of.

You, however were definitly up to the challenge !

HEck, i even wrote a unix shell script to filter your posts out of a transgen digest. One of my better little shell scripts if i do say so myself.

Marina

**ObedientFemme**

to

Great! I'm happy to learn you think of me so often.

•••

**Riki Ann**

to

DEFINITION:

Normal..... the accepted opinion of the status quo.

**David Weinshenker**

to

Riki Ann wrote:
>
> DEFINITION:
>
> Normal..... the accepted opinion of the status quo.

My favorite quote about "normal":

"Normal is what cuts off your sixth finger and your tail."

-dave w

**ObedientFemme**

to

Poor Riki Ann. He doesn't even know how to use a dictionary. Please, let me help you, Riki.

Main Entry: [2]normal
Function: noun
Date: circa 1738
1 a : a normal line b : the portion of a normal line to a plane curve between the curve and the x-axis
2 : one that is normal
3 : a form or state regarded as the norm : STANDARD

Pronunciation Key

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**Snakes**

to

Hi:
I always thought that one of our Community's goals was to allow folks the freedom to live their life under their own definitions and self identity. That is the greatest of all freedoms that we can offer.
Blessed Be, Lady Dionne

•••