



THE GATEWAY



VOLUME 2, NUMBER 6

DECEMBER 1979

SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER

Monday, December 10, 8 p.m.
MCC, 150 Eureka, San Francisco
(on first floor, all the way
to end of hall, door to left
of restrooms)

Thursday, December 27, 8 p.m.
Get-a-Way, 21859 Mission, Hayward

SAN JOSE CHAPTER

Friday, December 7, 8 p.m.
Friday, December 21, 8 p.m.

MCC, 160 N. 3rd St, San Jose
(around side, upstairs,
ring bell)

MEETING HAPPENINGS...

During the past few months, our Image Improvement consultant has been unable to present her lectures and demonstrations to all of us in Golden Gate Girls/Guys. However, we are pleased to announce that Dianna is returning to Golden Gate Girls/Guys beginning in January with a newly-revised program.

We believe our new meeting place at the Metropolitan Community Church will better accommodate Dianna's lectures, and all will be able to hear and see a lot better than they could before. We also hope to extend Dianna's lectures to the San Jose Chapter of Golden Gate Girls/Guys. Watch The Gateway for each month's topic so that you can come prepared to participate and with relevant questions in mind.

Dianna plans to attend our December 10 meeting in San Francisco. How about bringing or wearing your Christmas and New Year's ensembles to the meeting? Dianna can offer tips on how to make the holiday season one of your most elegant. Every one of us girls can use a little feminine advice, and a quick once-over won't hurt any of us guys either! This holiday season we can

all be prepared to ring in the New Year in style!

This meeting will also be the perfect time to discuss with Dianna those topics you would most like to hear covered in her lectures. Is there one particular area of your feminine image that you are unsure of? Are prints or solids best for you? Is there a way to camouflage your weak spots? What's the correct way to apply cosmetics? Dianna is there for you -- so don't be shy!

See you all there!

SPOUSES AUXILIARY

Because the spouse of the cross-dresser/crossgenderist is often the "forgotten partner" in the cross-dresser's/crossgenderist's world, and is as much in need of the companionship of others "in the same boat" as is the "crosser", Lin Fraser, a psychologist specializing in the field of gender dysphoria, is starting a therapy group for spouses. Those interested should contact Lin at (415) 922-9240 or

at 2538 California St., San Francisco CA 94115.

We are glad to see that someone in the provider field is taking a positive step to offer "aid and comfort" to our spouses.

Membership in the Golden Gate Girls/Guys has always been a "family affair" and the spouse has always been more than welcome to attend our meetings. We were always glad to see spouses of some members attending meetings and special events of the past. To provide some incentive for spouses to come out, we are making a separate meeting room available to them during meetings in San Jose, beginning with the January 4th meeting. We feel that "separateness" will be more conducive to "letting their hair down" and having a good heart-to-heart with others in the same boat. We also invite spouses of non-members--we know The Gateway is read by non-members, so we encourage them to also make this information available to their spouses.

Let's see a good turn-out of the spouses!

Dear GGG/G:

Thank you for your 2 complimentary copies of The Gateway. I was very impressed with your editorship and with the newsletter. Keep up the excellent work. I know how much time, effort, energy and dedication goes into editing a newsletter, since I have been editing our quarterly "Factual Journal: GENDER REVIEW" since January 1978 and am now just completing our No. 6 November issue. The very best of luck with The Golden Gate Girls/Guys.

Nicholas C. Ghosh, B.A.
Executive Director/
Journal Editor
F.A.C.T.
Box 891 Station F
Toronto Ontario M4Y 1T0
Phone (416) 925-1731

Dear GGG/G:

A client of mine just shared a copy of The Gateway with me, and I am most impressed. So much impressed that I would like to obtain a subscription to it.

I have been forced to separate from Renaissance because of my political lobbying activities in Sacramento. I am currently attempting to get legislation introduced which will prohibit health insurance companies from discriminating against transsexuals and/or excluding it from their major medical policies. Art Agnos and Dennis Mangers have been most supportive in this endeavor. Positive although noncommittal responses have been received from Assemblyman Nestande and Calvo also.

My booklet "Legal Aspects of Transsexualism," which you referenced in The Gateway, may be ordered at \$5.00 per copy from me at the address below. Profits from the sale are being channeled into both the project and the expansion of the transsexual law library which I am developing.

I finally have a client who is willing to go to court with Medicare, so that issue may be resolved soon. It is unfortunate that the only way to resolve the issue is in court;

The Gateway

Published by
The Golden Gate Girls/Guys
681 Ellis St, Suite 2507
San Francisco CA 94109

A Social/Educational
Organization
for Male-to-Female
and Female-to-Male
Crossdressers and
Crossgenderists

In reprinting any portion
of this publication, please
note The Gateway and the
above address as the source.

however, the issue has been unresolved for over two years now.

If I can ever be of assistance to your group, please do not hesitate to call on me. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Joanna M. Clark
Legal Research Project
Box 2476
Mission Viejo CA 92690

Thanks to Joanna for copies of the two letters on the right. Some of us may want to look into a Prudential policy!

Dear GGG/G:

I used to attend something called DREAM in Oregon. It was a 5-day deal where everyone spent the entire time crossdressed (in the gender of choice, but always male-to-female). I know that there are things like this available to the people on the East Coast, but haven't been able to find anything like it on the West Coast for the past couple of years. Is it still going on? If so, when and where? If it isn't, why don't you ladies have a nice 3 or 4-day "happening" so we outsiders will have an excuse to visit San Francisco and live in our resplendant finery for the whole time?

Wondering in Oregon

Dear Wondering: As far as we know, DREAM has fallen by the wayside. There is a FANTASIA on the East Coast and SHANGRI-LA on the Gulf Coast, but nothing out here. We guess the reason we haven't had one is "cause nobody asked before." If we thought there'd be enough interest, we would be glad to put one on for all you "outsiders" and give you an excuse to come to the City and live it up. Something like that would, of course, take a great deal of organizing. Any volunteers?



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Elizabeth W. Scovill
Director, Public Relations
Public Relations and Advertising Division

October 1, 1979

Ms. Joanna M. Clark
Post Office Box 2476
Mission Viejo, CA 92690

Dear Ms. Clark:

Thank you for your letter asking about Prudential's policy in regard to sex reassignment surgery. The reason that we pay these claims is basic to our purpose as an insurance company. Our first responsibility as a mutual insurance company is to our policyowners and beneficiaries. The very nature of the insurance contract whether it be life or health is to provide security.

Our health policies pay for illnesses which include "a bodily or mental illness of any kind". Since the desire to change ones sex is psychologically motivated, we feel obliged to pay such claims.

Thank you for your interest and good luck with your thesis.

Sincerely,

E. W. Scovill
Director, Public Relations

EWS:amk

United States of America
**Office of
Personnel Management** Washington, D.C. 20415

OCT 24 1979

Ms. Joanna M. Clark
Post Office Box 2476
Mission Viejo, California 92690

Dear Ms. Clark:

Thank you for your letter of October 8, 1979.

The health insurance plans participating in the Federal Employees Group Health Insurance Program are negotiated, bilateral contracts between the Office of Personnel Management and the insurance carrier of each Plan. As such, the determination of whether or not a benefit or service is covered by the particular contract is one that is made jointly by us and the carrier.

Our Health Benefit Plans provide a wide range of benefits but they are not intended to cover all desired services and procedures. They specifically exclude benefits for services that are not medically necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury, and it is on this basis that the Plans do not cover sex reassignment surgery.

Sincerely yours,

Willie Brown
Willie Brown
Assistant Director for
Insurance Programs

Dear GGG/G:

I just received the latest Gateway and am pleased to see that you continue to improve your publication. It is the best I have seen in the field.

I took particular note of Joe Dillion's advice on how to achieve a beard shadow for the female-to-male TV and will pass it along to some female acquaintances who have expressed an interest in cross-dressing.

The enclosed clipping was snipped from the Baltimore Sun. You may like to use it in a future Gateway.

Best wishes,
Julie E. Kelly
Julie's TV Diners
P O Box 11554
Baltimore MD 21229

Thanks to Julie for the clipping. We've included it in our WHAT'S GOING ON?! -- it's the one about Sharon Ransom. We hope everyone is keeping their eyes peeled for gems like these in their newspapers and other periodicals and sending them along to us so we can all share them!

Dear GGG/G:

Thank you very much for your donation to Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco. I am pleased that your group found the facilities quite satisfactory. It is exciting that the San Jose chapter plans to contact MCC-San Jose regarding meeting space. I look forward to Metropolitan Community Church being of service to you in the future.

Please continue to inform the members of your organization that they are welcome to worship with us at Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco.

God bless,
The Reverend Jim N. Dykes,
Pastor

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TELL US YOUR STORIES, IN:

"The Adventures of Courtney Davis"

"The Adventures of Courtney Davis" is a platform in which readers of The Gateway can submit their own humorous, dramatic, unusual or just plain embarrassing stories. We have selected a neuter-gender fictitious name so our readers will be more willing to tell us their adventures under a cloak of anonymity. You need not identify yourself when sending us your story. So come on! We've all had our moments. Let's hear yours.



Several years ago the pressure of meeting deadlines established by outside sources, not always qualified enough to establish them, got to me and I left my job to establish myself as a consultant. I soon found that there was more than enough work to go around and was making more money than my former employer had been paying me, while working fewer hours and always on jobs that interested me. I had a small office with a good address and no employees to worry about. The little business correspondence I had to get out was done by a secretarial service right in my building and the cost was certainly less than I would have had to pay a secretary to sit at a desk every day doing almost nothing. Within three or four years I attained a good reputation for "getting the job done." I was usually able to complete a job within the established time frame (which I established) and more often than not in less time.

I have been crossdressing for more years than I care to mention and it has always been one of my ambitions to work crossdressed. The opportunity presented itself many times over

the years, but I was too uptight to take advantage of it. One day I got into a slightly heated discussion with an acquaintance of mine over the merits of women computer programmers versus men programmers. At one point in the discussion, I said something to the effect that "I know a woman who can program circles around you." We parted, and I thought nothing of the remark.

Several weeks passed and then he called me with a small problem at one of his branch banks in a city about eighty miles from my office. We discussed the job and I agreed to take it. He laughingly asked if I was going to send "that woman programmer" and I said I'd think about it. We ended up making a small wager on whether or not she would be able to finish within the time frame allowed. He wanted to make the fee double or nothing if she did the work. Double if she finished on time or nothing if she didn't. More out of anger than good sense, I agreed with the stipulation that I be able to go take a look at the job



to be sure that it could be done within the three-day time frame. He agreed.

I packed a few things and went to the job site. I saw that there would be no problem in getting done on time; in fact, I felt that it would be done in less time than we originally agreed on.

I returned the next day, cross-dressed in a nice skirt suit, frilly blouse, nicely done hair and sensible shoes. I looked like a typical lady executive. Or at least the picture of one that most people have.

I was given a nice cubicle to work in and left to my own devices. At lunchtime three of the male employees in the programming section asked me to go with them and I did. We had a nice lunch and I was thrilled at the treatment. No one had ever taken "Courtney" to a business luncheon before.

The job went swimmingly and I was able to finish in two days rather than the originally agreed-upon three. I sent my bill and a little note with it saying that I only expected the amount on the bill, certainly not the "double or nothing."

Several months later the bank branch manager called the office with another job which I declined because of the amount of work going. He suggested that I send the lady back who had done the other job. I blushed over that one and had to decline, again saying that she was busy too. Can you imagine what that did for "Courtney's" ego?

Based on that "incident" I have taken a short job or two each year and sent "Courtney" out to do them. One of these days, I may get the nerve to employ her on a more full-time basis!

Ann R. Fowler
College of Trichodemology

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THE BOOKWORM



Dressing Up--Transvestism and Drag:
The History of an Obsession, with
146 illustrations, by Peter Ackroyd.
New York: Simon & Schuster, 1979.
\$14.95.

Though far from a frivolous spender, I barely thought twice before plunking down \$15 for this fine book. The first flip through its 160 pages bedazzled me with diversified and intriguing illustrations. The dust cover calls Dressing Up "one of the few serious studies of transvestism and drag. It is a fascinating exploration of an enduring condition which alternately terrifies, reassures, alienates and excites, and whose practice and mythology are as old as sex differentiation itself." It is one of the few recently published works on the subject.

Yet, the illustrations are its stronghold. We are treated to approximately 100 specifically male-to-female pictures, from the famous Chevalier D'Eon to Edward Hyde to David Bowie. I counted 28 female-to-male pictures, including a rare photograph of Albanian women living as men, the Senior Class at Teachers College, and a 1930's "special cabaret for women." A number of illustrations have been published before; but, if you haven't spent months searching libraries, the vast majority will be new to you.

Ackroyd divides his work into six chapters: The Transvestite Community --Theories and Definitions; Transvestism Accepted; Transvestism Rejected; The Famous Cases; Transvestism as Performance; Transvestism in Litera-

ture. His prose is somewhat cumbersome and often repetitive, though far from boring. He attempt to explain the crossdressing phenomenon from many angles and therefore covers a lot of territory. Particularly noteworthy is Ackroyd's scholarly exercise in understanding and explaining, rather than sensationalizing or exploiting the crossdresser. He even quotes Plato: "So ancient is the desire of one another which is implanted in us, reuniting our original nature, seeking to make one of two, and to heal the state of man. Each of us when separated, having one side only, like a flat fish, is but the tally-half of a man, and he is always looking for his other half."

He gives us a synopsis of the theories of transvestism according to Krafft-Ebing, Magnus Hirschfeld, Havelock Ellis, Freud and Robert Stoller. He notes Stoller's claim that female transvestism does not exist because "men's clothes have no erotic value whatsoever." Woe is



Edward Hyde, Governor of New York and New Jersey (1702-1708), parading the streets in female attire

THE BOOKWORM (continued)

Mr. Stoller! (See "Are There Really Female-to-Male Transvestites? Why?", November Gateway) But Ackroyd comes to the defense: "I suspect, however, that this analysis is too narrow to be entirely correct, and that male clothing has no 'erotic value' because of its ready availability for women within our culture. In other circumstances, it might well acquire fetishistic qualities for certain women and it would no doubt be possible ... to construct a plausible etiology for female transvestism."

Ackroyd takes us on the usual safari through Tahiti, Brazil, Borneo, Siberia and Ceylon (plus several other places I've never even heard of) to explore berdaches, shamans, and transvestic male initiation rites. He traces crossdressing through organized holidays in the 16th century, through the times when men played all female roles on stage, through 1642 when the Puritans closed the theatres. (When they reopened in 1660, women played the female roles in an attempt to "civilize the stage.")


All in all, I think Dressing Up is a fine work, although the organization of the material left something to be desired. There was a bit too much jumping around from male-to-female to female-to-male accounts, beginnings of a biography in one chapter and its ending in another chapter, etc. I was also disappointed in the sparse Bibliography and the glaring exclusion of many famous crossdressers (Mary Walker, Deborah Sampson, Katherine Hepburn in *Sylvia Scarlet*) and many important professionals in the field of gender dysphoria (Harry Benjamin, John Money).

Even though Dressing Up is not the all-encompassing work it could have been, it is still the most complete look at the crossdresser in print at this time. Check it out!



'James Barry' with her poodle and black servant

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The Male Hormone Therapy Experience

BY JOE DILLON

I became familiar with various problems while taking androgen (testosterone) and you, or maybe someone you know, should be aware of possible complications too. The best thing to do is stick with your endocrinologist. Take his advice--even if it means you must withdraw from treatment for a while. If it's worth doing, it's worth doing right!

In my two years of taking male hormones, I have become familiar with two types of androgens:

(1) Trade name Halotestin. Tablet form in 10 mg. Dosage given: 30 mg. daily. This may vary in price throughout the country; however, I purchased 100 tabs monthly for \$50.57. This is quite expensive, especially when the endocrinologist increases your dosage.

(2) Trade name Depo-Testosterone. Injection only, 200 mg. Dosage given: 200 mg. every two weeks. The price of the injections is much cheaper than the tablets described above. A 6-month supply can be purchased for about \$50. This includes 12 vials of testosterone, the needles and syringes which are disposable. The tricky part is to give yourself the shot! This is an intramuscular injection, so line up your muscle first before taking a stab at yourself. The best injection sight is in the leg area--usually the outer thigh. Since the needles are pretty big and the drug is thick and oily, you'll want to see exactly what you're doing. Now I'm NOT a big baby, but these things can hurt, so take a little advice from someone who knows: if you find the needle too painful, use an ice

cube on the injection sight for just a few seconds. Don't freeze the area, just numb it a bit. Then swab the area with sterile cotton and alcohol after you're through with the ice. Then let the alcohol dry before you inject the solution. This will remain just as sterile and will cut down on the burning sensation you'll have. You must also swab the area again after the injection.

So much for your dose. Let's talk about the results.

There are a few things the doctors may not discuss with you. There may not be reason to. You might just be one of those ideal patients without any side effects or various reactions to hormone therapy. I wasn't.

Within months after you first start taking testosterone, your endocrinologist may request blood tests from you. Have them, and be totally aware of the results. You will want to know what your body is doing with the testosterone, as the results may not be just what you expect. It is very difficult to change the natural female hormonal system without a hysterectomy. A patient without a hysterectomy can be on testosterone for months and it won't even show up in the blood! This can mean only one thing: your female side is not ready to surrender under male hormones and the genetic war is on--estrogen versus androgen. If this should apply to you, ask your doctor to increase the androgen dosage. If he refuses, bare with it or get a complete hysterectomy, which completely obliterates the female endocrin production.

In all due time your body will start adjusting. Since the male hormone will affect certain areas of the muscle tissue, you may feel slight (or not so slight) muscular "cramps" due to changes in the muscle tissue. The muscles are actually

THE MALE HORMONE THERAPY EXPERIENCE (continued)

changing in their firmness and will bulge in time as a genetic male. I experienced pretty bad leg cramps at one time, though gradually the complication did cease. So if you do feel this from time to time, don't get up-tight over it. It will go away in time.

Another effect can be temporary acne. Did you know that acne is caused by an overload of testosterone in both male and female? Well, it is. Since testosterone can increase the activity of the sebaceous or oil glands, it is little wonder that various skin parts become irritated. If this becomes real bad, see your doctor, not the drug store. What you buy could only make the condition worse!

After you've been on androgen for over a year, you should see and notice bodily changes. Here are a few:

Deepening of your voice. Perhaps it breaks and sounds hoarse, but that's a major start in the proper direction. It just may lode off if you're lucky. Mine still breaks at times, usually when I become vocally excited.

Another nice change has been hirsutism or development of body hair. This means all over!! The last to develop is facial hair and the beard. Regardless of how sparse the facial hair is, keep shaving it. This is the means of nurturing it. You'll surprise yourself in time.

Next usually comes the menstrual irregularities or the stopping of the flow altogether. This is a true blessing to all of us who found this to be quite a little hang-up!

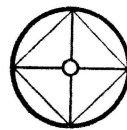
And there's that increase of sexual libido. The androgen can cause clitoral enlargement, and perhaps this is the reason for priapism. Priapism is a form of "sexual madness" NOT due to sexual desire, but to an excessive quantity of androgens. This would be similar to a persistent erection.

I've been awakened from a deep sleep with the pseudo-erectile feeling, so this does prove that the androgen and sexual desires are connected but still remain separate elements.

And of course that appetite of yours will really soar! If you should already have a weight problem, beware of the intake of calories. Androgens will make you gain if you're not aware of it. Within time you will lose that slim, shapely female body. Your waist line just disappears and you're straight up and down.

I have been asked which effects are reversible. It is my opinion that perhaps the clitoral enlargement would reverse itself to normal if the androgen is withdrawn from the system. Discontinuing androgen will prevent any further androgenic changes, but will not reverse those already existing, such as voice change and increase in body hair. Therefore I advise those who want male hormone therapy to be sure of their male identity before they start something they may later wish to reverse and can't.

Taking male hormones will only help in certain areas. The true male identity comes from within the individual. You are wrong to think that taking hormones is going to make you a total male. Take a minute to do some self-evaluation of your image--the way you walk, the way you carry yourself, your mannerisms and in what circumstances you must apply them. People are people-watchers and they do look at you and form opinions about you. Ever think about it? Remember, hormones can't do it all. So if you aren't satisfied with what you do see, why not work on it a little. True identity comes from within--not out of a bottle or through a needle.



LIN FRASER, M.A.

PSYCHOTHERAPY
GENDER SEXUAL IDENTITY

2538 CALIFORNIA ST.
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 94115

(415) 922-9240
BY APPOINTMENT

IN FIGHTING RAGES AT HOPKINS

Despite announcements by chiefs of plastic surgery and ob-gyn at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine that sex-reassignment surgery will not resume, the Medical Tribune reports that Dr. John Money, chairman of the Gender Identity Committee at Hopkins and a prominent authority on transsexualism, claims that surgery will continue.

Dr. Jon K. Meyer, director of the Sexual Behaviors Consultation Unit at Hopkins, had announced that surgery at Hopkins would be discontinued, based on his study which showed no difference in social adjustment between transsexuals who had the surgery and those who did not (see October Gateway). Following publication of the study, Dr. John E. Hoopes, director of the division of plastic surgery and a former supporter of the sex-reassignment program, and Dr. Theodore M. King, ob-gyn chief, commented, "We do not intend to resume the surgery of altering external genitalia. Our feeling is that it hasn't solved the problem of the total individual and is not an adequate solution."

However, Dr. Money explained, "We had no warning of the publication of Dr. Meyer's paper. The Gender Identity Committee did not participate in the research and the surgeons have not told us they plan to stop." The Committee is responsible for the final decision on surgery at Hopkins after a transsexual has completed the two-year trial period of living and working in their chosen sex role.

Money criticized Dr. Meyer's Sexual Behaviors Consultation Unit, which administers the trial period, saying, "The majority of those individuals who register as gender cases are seen only 3 or 4 times during the two-year trial period. They are not given any psychotherapy and they are not offered hormonal treatment. They must find their own physician on the outside. Parents and partners of patients are not seen. The Gender Identity Clinic insists on this procedure, and a complete psychological work-up as well."

Around the country, authorities on sex-reassignment have rejected Meyer's study. Psychiatrist Dr. Richard Green, former director of the UCLA Gender Research and Treatment Program, and co-editor with Dr. Money of Transsexualism and Sex Reassignment, also criticized the study on methodological grounds. "The study is not a scientific experiment. Patients were not randomly assigned for surgery or observation. The group into which a patient fell depended on such variables as the patient's motivation and capacity to live in the cross-gender role. Some pre-operative patients met those criteria and received surgery. Others failed to, and did not. Had the patients who met the criteria for surgery been denied access to surgery at Hopkins or elsewhere, they may well have turned out to be psychiatric and sociologic disasters. If more of the surgically spurned patients had been operated upon, they may well have also constituted a disaster group. So an alternative conclusion is that the clinicians were successful in selecting the best patients for each group--not what Meyer contends: that surgery is not better than psychotherapy as treatment."

Dr. Green also pointed out that half the surgical sample was lost at follow-up time. Meyer's study compared 15 surgically-reassigned patients with 35 unoperated patients. There were originally 34 surgically-reassigned patients. "Typically, transsexuals with the best operative results melt into the general community to begin new lives and are impossible to locate by psychiatrists." Dr. Green was disturbed by the lack of any comparative psychological data on anxiety, depression, drug abuse, sleep disorders, self-esteem and general coping mechanisms. "What we do know from Dr. Meyer's study is that no surgical patient regretted the decision to have the operation," he said.

(continued on next page)

Dr. David Forester of the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, who helped pioneer the modern surgical techniques, commented, "Many of the cases in this study are early ones, when procedures were crude. If a male-to-female transsexual is given a small vagina with which she can't have intercourse and the external genitalia looks like meat in a butcher shop, naturally that is going to affect adjustment. It is not fair to compare those techniques with the ones we are using now which are aesthetically acceptable and functional." Of the 80-100 male-to-female operations Dr. Forester and his colleagues have performed, excellent psychological benefits have been observed. Only one patient wanted surgery reversed.

According to Charles Marion, administrator at Yonkers Professional Hospital, where approximately one to five sex-change operations are performed monthly, the operations will continue. Surgeon Dr. Michael Wesser commented, "In another study (at Stanford University) 1,500 patients were studied and it (the surgery) was found to have a beneficial effect. The closing was blown way out of proportion. I think political and economic factors had as much to do with it."

Psychologist Dr. Paul A. Walker, director of the Gender Clinic at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, also commented, "Since any transsexual who receives surgery at a reputable clinic has lived at least a year in the role of the opposite gender, he or she has already gone through a tremendous improvement. The claim that there is no further improvement ignores what happens in this real-life test, and that is strongly affected by the understanding that surgery will be the end result. I try to do as little referral for surgery as possible. I challenge all my patients after the trial period by saying, 'Why don't we stop here?' The typical reply is, 'I never would have gone this far if I had thought

I wouldn't get surgery. That is the only thing that has kept me going-- I would have killed myself by now.'"

Dr. Money emphasized the subjective benefits of sex-reassignment surgery which were sorely overlooked in Meyer's study. "The individual's sense of well-being is a prime consideration in any treatment."

Dr. Walker says that in the last month he has talked with the head of every established clinic in the country. None plan any changes in their transsexual surgical programs.



Cosmo Tries

In what appears to be "space filler," the November 1979 issue of Cosmopolitan magazine devotes about five columns to an article entitled "Transsexual Surgery." The article begins, "Little in modern science astonishes us more than transsexual surgery," and indeed author Dodi Schultz seems most astonished of all. She does not go into any great detail--about the surgery or transsexuals themselves--but dwells on THE MYSTERIOUS PHENOMENON OF SEX CHANGES. The whole article seems to be saying, "Can you believe this??"

Although Schultz's approach fosters shock of the bizarre, I suppose we should be glad Cosmo is at least addressing the subject. Some good quotes are included, mostly from John Money: "The origin of transsexualism is still a bafflement. Personally I think it's erroneous to assume that a single cause will be found. People are always hoping to find simple cause-and-effect relationships, yet most problems are brought on by varied determinants.

Everyone carries what I call two schemas. One is drawn from one's parent and other role models of the same sex and developed by imitation. The other is a complementary schema, drawn from the parent and others of the opposite sex. These schemas are

weighed differently in each individual, but they are normally in a balance with which everybody feels comfortable." The author goes on to say that the transsexual syndrome is a transposition of schemas, while in the transvestite the transposition is episodic.

When asked whether increased public acceptance of transsexualism will encourage more people to seek the surgery, Money answered, "If the tendency to ease up on sexual taboos continues, especially in the rearing of children, we may see fewer transsexual procedures. We all live with a delicate balance between the female and male schemas. As we become more tolerant, perhaps those who find themselves somewhere between 100% male and 100% female will no longer feel the need to have radical surgery to feel comfortable."



Schultz ends the article, too, on the same "wow-ee" note ("Those who have always wanted to spend their lives as a member of the opposite sex are ... flocking to the gender identity clinics. Transsexual surgery is a growth industry."). We can only hope that the majority of her readers will bring the facts down to a human level and see that those who "actually do it" (Schultz's emphasis) are NOT from outer space. Schultz seems to think so.

Article Reprint

The following article reprint is available to members free of charge. Simply send a self-addressed stamped envelope with a note specifying which article you'd like us to send.

- #5. "Transsexual Surgery," by Dodi Schultz. Cosmopolitan, November 1979, pgs. 220-224.

Beaux Arts Ball

"San Francisco: Past and Future" was the theme of this year's Beaux Arts Ball, where a gathering of Golden Gate Girls and Guys enjoyed an evening of entertainment, frivolity and visual excitement. The costumes were never-ending -- the past and future of San Franciscans was depicted in gay 90's apparel, belles of balls and futuristic fantasies.

Michelle, star of the recent all-male production of 'Hello Dolly,' emcee-ed the evenings events, as contestant after contestant walked the Miss America-type ramp, competing for cash prizes. Video television sets were positioned around the hall so that all contestants could be seen by everyone.

Our Golden Gate Girls and Guys mingled gaily in the crowds--obviously this was the night to fulfill all your dressing dreams!

Said one attendee, "Those of you who missed the Beaux Arts Ball should never forgive yourselves! Be sure to make it to the next Golden Gate Girls/Guys outing!"

WHAT'S GOIN' ON!?

Englishwoman Sarah Hobson, at age 23, set out to explore the complex society and culture of Iran. For a woman, travelling alone in a Muslim country is near impossible, so Sarah disguised herself as a boy to make her passage safer and to allow her to visit places that were forbidden to women. In shirt and trousers, with her hair cut short, she moved freely from mosque to palaces, village to factory to nomadic tribe. Her odyssey is chronicled in a book entitled "Masquerade, An Adventure in Iran," published in England several years ago and here in September by Academy Press Ltd., Chicago.

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Sarah Hobson in Iran and today (inset)

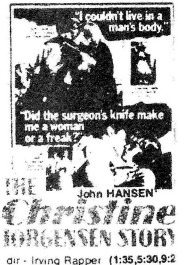
Lawyer and transsexual Leslie Phillip has formed a Lawyer's Support Group in Philadelphia. They are urging the Bar Association to establish a Sexual Rights Committee and are working in close cooperation with the Community Advocate Unit, a Department of Justice Civil Rights Office, on sexual minorities issues. Lawyers, law students and paraprofessionals are welcome to contact Leslie at (215) 546-5730.

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Inmates of the California State Medical Facility at Vacaville have been denied the right to form a discussion-and-education organization for gays and transsexuals. Joe Silva president pro tem, says public support is needed before officialization can occur. Interested people should write to J.J. Enomoto, Director of Corrections, State Bldg No. 8, 714 "P" Street, Sacramento CA 95814.

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A film entitled "The Christine Jorgensen Story" will be shown on December 4th only at the Strand Theatre, 1127 Market St, San Francisco. For more information, call the theatre at (415) 552-5990.



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"Some Like It Hot" will be shown at the U.C. Theatre, 2036 University Ave, Berkeley on December 30. Made in 1959, this classic American comedy stars Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon, who, on the lam from gangsters, don women's clothes and hide out in Marilyn Monroe's all-girl band. For details, call the theatre at (415) 843-6267.

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There is a question whether Lorraine Gibson, 42, will be allowed to wear women's clothes to her civil service clerk-typist job at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi. Gibson has been on extended medical leave from her job and has been told by doctors to wear women's clothing for one year prior to her sex-change operation. "We've never really had a case like this before. It's something we're going to have to do some work on," said a public information officer at the base. "They said that at this time they didn't see any reason why he should not return to work in women's clothes today, but a final decision is still pending," said Don Rose, Gibson's attorney.

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An alumni committee of the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, has decided that men cannot participate in this year's Homecoming Queen contest. The committee stated that Jim Myer's entry application came too late for them to process. A student at Georgia Southern College, Patrick Fetter, was elected last January over five women candidates as Homecoming Queen. Fetter said he ran to complete a course requirement on sex roles.

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Sharon Ransom, 23, was arrested on a charge of tampering with an automobile and stealing and spent one night in the women's holdover section at police headquarters and five days in the women's quarters of the St. Louis City Workhouse before police discovered, during a routine strip search, that she was a man. Ransom had no identification at the time of her arrest. Willis A. Roberts, workhouse superintendent, said that although Ransom lived and slept in the same room with them, the female prisoners were unaware of Ransom's true sex.

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LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, while winning awards and breaking records in European capitals, could become the highest-grossing foreign language film ever released in the United States (see review in August Gateway). The film is still showing at the 4-Star Theatre in San Francisco. Do yourself a favor and see this gem of a movie. For more information, call the theatre at (415) 752-2650.



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Rainier Werner Fassbinder's In A Year of 13 Moons was shown at the New York Film Festival in October, where it met with a rather cool reception. The film tells the story of a man who realizes he has ruined his life after undergoing a sex-change. New Yorker Films plans to distribute the film, probably in early 1980.

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In other film news, Jill Clayburgh will star in Sweet Libby, the story of Libby Holman, which will start filming next year. Holman, friend and lover of Montgomery Clift, according to Patricia Bosworth's book on Clift, would dress up in men's clothes and go out "to eat spareribs and cole slaw with Tallulah Bankhead and Beatrice Lillie."

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The Electric Chairs, a London rock group, has dumped transsexual lead singer Wayne County. The band claimed that too much attention was being paid to the famous sex-change and not enough to their music. (We may have heard the last, therefore, of The Electric Chairs!)

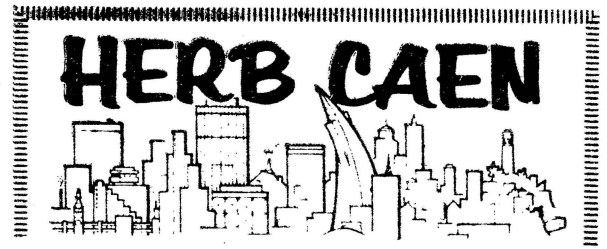
♀ ♂ ♀ ♂ ♀

Shirley Davies says she had no idea when she allowed her 15-year-old daughter to wear pants to a football game because of a cold that the girl would be expelled from school. Cindy Davies was expelled from Clinton (Maryland) Christian Academy, a Baptist school, for wearing pants, riding on the team bus after the game, and having a "belligerent" attitude when asked by school officials to explain her actions.

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Schools may not tell their students how to dress, cut their hair, or impose other appearance standards if it results in sex discrimination. Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Patricia Harris announced this November that, "Appearance codes have been used to enforce sexual stereotyping... The discrimination that stems from appearance codes can be as seriously damaging and demeaning as other types of discrimination. We have concluded that such discrimination can and should be addressed under Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972."

♀ ♂ ♀ ♂ ♀



Among Other Things

FACE IT, our cops are the greatest. On Halloween night, two of them — a Sergeant and a patrolman — came out of The Condor at B'way and Columbus, to be approached by five drag queens in outlandish garb and makeup. "Oooooo," cooed the leader, pointing campily to the young patrolman, "look at the shoulders on THAT one. And what a gorgeous behind!" As they circled the cops, the Sarge rolled his eyes at Innocent Bystander Heuwell Tircuit and sighed, "Here we are in full uniform and they're trying to put the make on us." A second later, he jumped as though he had just been goosed, which indeed he had. "Look," said the Sarge, "I'll do anything you want as long as you let me wear my gun!" Exeunt the drag queens in whoops of laughter, ending what could have turned into a beastly little scene.



WOW! These wrap around skirts are cold.



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