



## Adult Games

I am not a prude or anything. I believe in hard core pornography, legalized prostitution and drastic reformation of the drug laws in this country. But I do believe everything having its reasonable place, and in a magazine which contained a letter from a seven-year-old and another from a schoolboy, I did find some of the articles (May *Mensa*) a little puzzling.

First there was a lengthy, explicit and frivolous discussion of oriental social (or not so social) diseases. Then there was a feature article on transvestism and transsexuality, including an invitation to join a special group which specialises in this 'joyful hobby'. Joyful? At best it is a silly hobby, at worst it is perverted.

Personally I am a homosexualist (not '-al'), just so long as they don't make it compulsory, but I still believe that children should be brought up to accept the biologically normal and fun idea of girl meets boy. I understand that most TVs are not gays, they use dressing up as a stimulant and in my eyes all such things, from role playing to kinky boots, is perfectly normal. But once they start going about advertising it in family magazines as if it's as harmless and natural as stamp collecting, I think the time has come to say 'No more'.

Even with the highest IQs in the world, kids still have to be protected from some of the strange games adults play. Whatever next? Necrophiliacs Anonymous, or a P.I.E. SIG complete with its own magazine? I think not.

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I read with much interest and a degree of envy the article by Christine-Jane Wilson in the May magazine. My personal experiences of transvestism appear to be not unlike those of Christine-Jane in many ways, but not nearly so far advanced so far as coming out in the open is concerned.

In some ways my background must be similar. My first interest in cross-dressing occurred with the onset of puberty, at about the age of 12 or 13, and my involvement has continued increasing in phases up to the present time, albeit including periods of discarding all my female attire, followed by subsequent breaking of resolutions to kick the habit! At the same time, I am happily married

(to my second wife) and we have six fine and well-adjusted children between us, the youngest of whom is still living with us at home and is taking his O-level exams this year at school. My family knows nothing of my interest in transvestism, except for my wife who once found me with one or two basic items of female attire. She did not show any understanding and relations grew very cool for a while until she thought I had got over my quirkish ideas. I did, for a while, but as on other occasions, I have resumed the wearing of female attire when the opportunities arise.

A basic problem for all transvestites, I imagine, in going out in public, is that of feeling conspicuous. In my case, I feel that this is accentuated in that I am about six foot tall and I have a passion for six-inch high heels. I do rather tend to tower over most passers-by and I can feel them staring at me. I wonder what a real girl of six foot or so feels when wearing high heels.

I am not in the least bit inclined to be homosexual—in fact I feel very strongly the opposite. Equally, I am sure I too am not mad. What I would savour most would be the opportunity to be myself, to relax in comfortable surroundings whilst being a feller who enjoys being dressed in female attire, but who doesn't like being stared at or *feeling* he/she is being stared at. To do this in the company of others who share or understand and accept this is really the object of my putting pen to paper. I wonder how many other responses Christine-Jane has received to her article. She most certainly is not the only transvestite Mensan around. I am another.

'Susan'  
Name and  
address supplied

I was delighted and amused to read Christine-Jane Wilson's article on transvestism. It is always good to see one put over on conventionality, in any of its disguises. If we all do our bit, so to speak, the world will be a far more interesting

place to live in rather than the drab, samish place the powers that be would have it.

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## Mensa Diary

■ Despite one or two caustic comments, Christine-Jane Wilson's article on transvestism (May *Mensa*) was generally well received and certainly provoked some very thoughtful correspondence.

The author herself received a particularly warm welcome when she attended the London Weekend 'Icebreaker' on May 24th. "Any number of people talked to my wife and I," she reports, "and there was just total acceptance from them all. A most enjoyable and stimulating evening which we hope to repeat. It was my first attendance at a Mensa 'do', but certainly won't be my last."

Christine-Jane believes the article has also been of help to others like herself. "It's brought another three 'out of the closet' and I hope it has helped them come to terms with themselves to some degree. I know from my own experience that the mere fact of admitting what you are is a great relief, even if the world at large remains in ignorance of the fact, which, usually, it does!"

## Local Groups

If your name has appeared in the national or local newsletter you are very likely to find your fellow members anxious to button-hole you. Mensans love a discussion whether in person or by correspondence. At the London Weekend Christine-Jane and Helen Wilson were surprised to find themselves celebrities after C-J's piece in the May magazine.

Lorraine Boyce