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A NEW GLOSSARY FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING

We have long held the view that terms, categories and definitions which do not clearly describe a particular behavior should be avoided. However, we also recognize the need to bridge the gap between outmoded and misused terminology which has been by professional people and the general public. Therefore, in the interest of improved clarity and better communications and understanding, the following glossary of operational terms is presented.

CROSSDRESSER

(Synonym for TRANSVESTITE), a person who wears articles of clothing of the opposite gender.

ANDROGYNE

(Synonym for BIGENDERIST), a person who can comfortably express either alternative gender role in a variety of socially acceptable environments.

TRANSGENDERIST

(Synonym for the term PRE-OPERATIVE TRANSSEXUAL), a person who has decided to transit from one gender role to a preferred alternative gender role permanently.

TRANSSEXUAL

(Used to describe a behavior associated with surgical intervention), a person who desires anatomical congruence with the preferred, alternative gender role preference.

NEW WOMEN/MEN

(Synonym for term POST-OPERATIVE TRANSSEXUAL), a person who now lives in the preferred alternative gender role and who has completed the surgery needed to achieve anatomical congruence.

PARACULTURE

Refers to that part of the general culture in which are associated behaviors that deal with gender-related issues, androgyny and crossdressing.