



THE GATEWAY



Publication of
Golden Gate Girls/Guys

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

Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another,
"What! You, too? I thought I was the only one." --C.S. Lewis

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 4

OCTOBER 1980

GGG/G & IAMF MERGE

The Golden Gate Girls/Guys continues to grow in membership and by extension stature. Normally our growth is limited to the new members attracted each month through word of mouth advertising by members or people/groups having heard about us through ads appearing in various print media, and through the fliers sent out from the Janus Information Facility. However, in September 1980 an enormous stride forward in our membership growth was attained when the International Alliance of Male Feminism (IAMF) merged into the GGG/G.

The mailing list for The Gateway which includes members, non-member subscribers, advertisers, complimentary copies for other organizations, members of the provider community and over-the-counter sales now approximates 500 monthly with some months seeing an increase to 600 for special sales.

After a meeting of the Board of Directors in which the merger was formalized, the Board issued the following statement:

MEETING INFORMATION:

Meeting locations as usual.

San Francisco

Wednesday, October 8, 8 pm

Oakland

Wednesday, October 22, 8 pm

San Jose

Friday, October 3, 8 pm

Friday, October 17, 8 pm

"It is with great pleasure we announce the merger of the IAMF into the Golden Gate Girls/Guys and the appointment of Glenda Rene Jones, former president of the IAMF, to the Board.

"We wish to assure the members, both old and new, that the organizational philosophy remains unchanged. We shall continue to accept as members the male-to-female and the female-to-male transsexual or crossdresser regardless of sexual preferences so long as the individual is not a disruptive element within the organization.

"It has been our opinion since the founding of this organization

that membership MUST be open to all seeking the help we offer. We believe that closed membership policies tend to lead to narrow goal orientation and exclude many of the very individuals needing the support of an organization such as ours. Leaving individuals to fend for themselves simply because they don't fit the mold established by a membership committee. We feel the transgenderist is already sufficiently stereotyped by society at large to make additional stereotyping by others of similar lifestyles unwarranted.

"Organizations such as the Golden Gate Girls/Guys exist solely to provide support to those seeking it. We cannot exist without members and to exclude potential members out of hand is both heartless and short-sighted.

"The Golden Gate Girls/Guys is now one of the largest, if not the largest, organization of its kind with members in 31 States, Canada and Mexico. It is expected the membership list will continue to grow and there is no reason for it not to.

"The Gateway is now a publication combining the best features of both The Gateway and the Journal of The IAMF. As such we shall continue to add new features helpful to, and drop features less useful to, the readership. We shall continue to solicit articles from the provider community so as to provide a balance of opinion. All articles submitted will be published under the author's name whether submitted by a member of the provider or consumer community. Of course those stories appearing as "The Adventures of Courtney Davis" need not bear the author's name.

"Because the name 'Golden Gate Girls/Guys' has connotations of regional restriction, we are in the process of changing the name to The Gateway Gender Alliance.

"A set of by-laws is being drafted for the new organization and will be filed with the State of California to register us as a non-profit organization. We expect this to be completed by the end of this year so we will be able to officially start functioning under the new name in 1981. Until the by-laws are accepted we shall continue as the Golden Gate Girls/Guys.

"It wrenches at the heart of those of us who have poured blood, sweat and tears into these two fine organizations to see the names laid to rest but we are positive a better organization will arise from this merger. While the name of the parent organization will change, there is no need for the chapters associated with either the Golden Gate Girls/Guys or The IAMF to change names. They should easily be able to continue functioning under the names used now.

"New members need have no fears concerning security. All membership applications are retained in a locked file and only members of the Membership Committee are allowed to see them. The membership list is retained in a secure manner and certainly is not now, or will it be in the future, sold

The Gateway

Published by
Golden Gate Girls/Guys
495 Ellis St, Suite 2507
San Francisco CA 94102
(408) 734-3773

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

All material submitted will be carefully considered for publication. In reprinting any portion of this publication, please note The Gateway and the above address as the source.

or leased to other organizations or commercial mailing houses.

"We know the members will be happy with the new organization and we, the Board of Directors, will continue to insure organization growth and membership satisfaction."

Members of the Board of Directors
Kathy, Glenda, Dianne,
Beth Ann and Georgia

Membership Directory

We have been promising a new Membership Directory for the past couple of months. The merger has postponed the publication of this important part of the organization's publications. Well, we have started assembling it and it should be ready for distribution in October 1980.

The increase in its size is the primary reason for the delay, since it takes a good deal of time to type all the information.

We plan to separate the membership listing by State and sequence them by ZIP Code within each State, thus making it easier for you to locate people near you to contact.

All members will be listed in the Directory but some will be listed as NO CORRESPONDENCE. We will be sending out forms to the new members to complete with the information they wish to appear in the Directory.

We will be supplementing the Directory as often as necessary to keep up with new or changed listings. We don't want to see members changing their listing information just to change it--that can become a non-productive and unnecessary workload and cause unnecessary funds expenditure to print the supplements.

We are working with a local printer to get the best quality and format possible while keeping the costs as low as possible. Of course there is no charge for the Membership Directory but each of you does in fact pay for it since the monies come from the treasury which is an accumulation of the dues paid by each of you.

L A B E L S

How about those new mailing labels? Marilyn (CA-62) donated the time on her microprocessor for us to build the mailing address file. Now we can update the file with additions and changes in a few minutes, rather than the hours previously spent each month. The photocopy process we used before cost us about $1\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ per label, whereas now it only costs about $\frac{1}{4}\text{¢}$ per label.

The format difference is minor. The information concerning the membership number and expiration dates used to be on the last line, but now are on the second line of the label. We thank Marilyn for donating the free time on the "computer" so that we can keep up with the state-of-the-art in getting the labels produced and expediting their delivery to the post office. When we get the number of pieces needed to qualify for a bulk mailing rate, we will be able, through the use of the microprocessor, to presort the labels by ZIP Code. As you can see, we are constantly seeking ways to reduce operating costs to keep your costs as low as possible and give you more for your dollar.

Don't forget that when you move, remove one of your labels and send it to us with your new address so we will know where you were as well as where you are.



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The Milpitas Electrolysis Center offers \$10 off on the first full-hour treatment for those who bring in this ad. GGGIG thanks Mary Archibeque for thinking of us!

F E E D B A C K

Dear People:

Your review of Journal of a Transsexual by Diane Leslie Feinberg is both inaccurate and irresponsible in its misstatements about Workers World Party and in the redbaiting that seems implicit in some of the remarks about the Party.

If you didn't know anything about WWP, you could have written to them for information, because the review shows you had their address readily available. But the least you could have done in your review was avoid giving misinformation about the Party. It is not a "revolutionary" off-shoot of the Communist Party. As I understand it, the WWP originated in a split in the Buffalo branch of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) some years ago. The SWP is the largest Trotskyist organization in the USA and has nothing to do with the Communist Party.

It may be "news" to you that WWP is "addressing transsexualism" and you may not know "why the Workers World Party is in on it," but if you had done even the most cursory investigation, you would have learned that WWP has consistently opposed the oppression and repression of women and gays, that WWP has consistently supported a wide variety of lesbian and gay struggles over the years, that lesbians and gays are welcome as WWP members and that many of our gay sisters and brothers work actively in the Party, and that WWP's newspaper, Workers World, features regular and high-quality coverage of women's, lesbian and gay issues.

I am not a member of WWP, never have been and probably never will be, and have no affiliation whatever with it. I have some major disagreements with them on non-gay political questions. But I object strenuously to anyone publishing the kind of uninformed and ignorant smears on Left political parties that you have indulged in.

In gay struggle,
Paul Trollope
Toronto, Ontario

Dear GGG/G:

Around the middle of June I wrote a letter to each of the following which were listed in the Membership Directory: CA-68, CA-71, CA-73 and CA-74. One of these letters was sent to you for forwarding, the other three were mailed to the addresses which were in the Directory. I have never received a reply from any of them.

They are, of course, perfectly free not to reply, although they all indicated that they were interested in corresponding and meeting with others. However, none of them even returned my photograph, although I requested it and enclosed a stamped return envelope.

Now I am in something of a quandry. I am not an assertive person and, if they are simply not interested, I certainly do not wish to write them again. However, I would like to have my photograph back.

On the other hand, they simply may not have been delivered, although all four went to different places, so this seems unlikely (unless the local postman threw all the mail into the sewer that day). If this were the case, however, then I would want to write once more. I joined the Golden Gate Girls/Guys so I could meet with others having similar interests.

Is there any assistance which you could give me in this? For example, have you any record of whether my letter for forwarding passed through your office? I would appreciate any help or advice you could offer.

Yours truly,
Angelia (CA-75)

P.S. I wrote a separate letter to each of them, with return address, etc., at the top.

This is one of several letters of this theme received at the office recently. It is strongly suggested that each of you receiving letters answer each of them, even if it's only a postcard to say, "Thanks, but no thanks." We suspect that each of you has written to someone at one time or another and felt that the letter may as well have been addressed to the moon, since you never heard from the addressee. If people write and receive no response, soon no one is writing--then where will we be? Do unto others....

OPEN LETTER TO I. A. M. F.

Dear Alliance Members:

Well, we did really start out last Spring for Albuquerque. In fact, we moved there, bought a house and moved in. Then out of the blue, my present company (one of the chip houses in Silicon Valley) made me an offer that couldn't be refused. So, sell the house we just bought, pack up and move to the Bay Area. Now we have a beautiful house in Sunnyvale (God, are prices for houses high out here!) and I am working at a new job.

One matter which was given a lot of consideration was the question of whether to continue the Alliance in its present form. As all of us are aware, the paraculture has virtually no political clout of any kind. In a few instances we have been able to ride coat tails (or skirt tails) on the women's movement, but in spite of the fact that most of us are heterosexual, our biggest acceptance has come from inroads made by the gays. A large paraculture organization has been needed for some time. Last year, as many of you recall, this was attempted via a merger between the Alliance and Tri Sig. Due to policy differences this was not possible. The opportunity did present itself, however, this summer to merge the Alliance with Golden Gate Girls/Guys. Since no change in any policy was required, this was accomplished by vote of the Alliance board. The name of the new organization will be decided upon shortly, but in all particulars, the new organization will be essentially no different from the Alliance. In short, each of you will receive the Membership Directory and a publication. You will get quite a bit more for your money.

Our aims and purposes will continue to be what they have been in the past: to provide a means for cross-dressers and those contemplating surgery (or those having obtained same) the opportunity to become acquainted, to provide a social outlet, to work in the direction of educating those in the professional community, and to continue to work

with other organizations. The membership policy is almost unchanged in that we are open to all members of the culture. The only area where there is any change is the fact that we welcome female-to-males as well as male-to-females. (Meeting female-to-males in my view is very healthy for male crossdressers, as they are giving up exactly the things we want to adopt.)

While there are some TS's in the group, the majority of people continue to be heterosexual cross-dressers who do not plan to have surgery. We will continue to aim in the direction of satisfying the needs of all the group.

I definitely welcome your letters as in the past. In addition, living on the West Coast will allow Linda and I to meet many of you in this area that we were unable to meet in the past. If you wish to write me, simply address your letters to the Golden Gate Girls/Guys box number. If the letter is for me personally, as opposed to business for the Alliance, simply mark the letter "personal."

Our best to all of you for the coming year.

Yours in the lifestyle,

Glenda Rene Jones

Glenda Rene Jones



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Cynthia is offering a 1/3 discount on all treatments for members of GGG/G. Jusk ask!

Thanks, Cynthia, from all of us!

"Baubles, Bangles & Beads"


Beaux Arts Ball - 1980

"Baubles, Bangles & Beads" is the theme of the 1980 Beaux Arts Ball, launching San Francisco's Halloween festivities. Some 4,000 revelers are expected at the Ball's nineteenth year, to be held Saturday, October 25 at 8 pm at San Francisco's Civic Auditorium.


Michelle, fresh from his successful performance in the all-male production of "Mame," will host the event. \$5,000 in prizes will be awarded, along with a \$500 door prize. Reserved tables on the main floor are \$15 per ticket, and the balcony (first come, first served) is \$7.50. Tickets are available at Macy's, Emporium/Capwells, The Record House (Geary & Mason Streets), both Gramophone stores, and selected Tavern Guild Bars. Tickets will also be available at the door, but reserved seats usually go well in advance of the affair. This is THE place to be in San Francisco for Halloween! Don't miss it!!!



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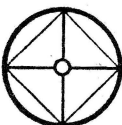


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GENDER IDENTITY

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UNION CITY, CALIF. 94587 (415) 489-1531

"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.

by GERRY (CA-54)



Today was one of those "good news/bad news" days. It has taken me several months to go shopping while crossdressed and feel confident while doing it. I have recently been trying things on in the stores and using dressing rooms when the opportunity presents itself.

Recently while on a shopping expedition in one of the large malls in San Jose, I was waiting at the counter in a J.C. Penney store to pay for a blouse I had selected when I became aware of a man across the counter staring at me. My immediate thought was, "He's read me." I just shrugged it off and continued to wait for the clerk to take my money and let me leave. After a few minutes, the staring man came over to me and said, "Excuse me, but where did you find that blouse?" I told him the approximate rack where they were and he left. I paid for my purchase and was leaving the store when I passed the man and his wife at the blouse rack searching for one similar to my purchase. I heard him say to his wife, "It's all her fault. If she hadn't found one, you wouldn't want one like it." Oh, I was two feet off the floor after hearing that.

Now for the "bad news" part. I stopped at several more shops in the mall and finally was looking at some

skirts in one of the stores when I noticed two men take up positions near me. I kept glancing at them out of the corner of my eye because they seemed to be watching me rather than looking at the merchandise. After a few minutes one of them came over to me and said he was from Mall Security. They had seen me in one of the other stores and while at the jewelry counter they "had seen me hold something up near my head and when my hand came down it was empty." In other words, they were suggesting I had shoplifted something. I offered to let them search my purse and my hair but they declined. Apparently they were not sure enough of their case to press it. He mentioned that they had "broken contact" with me and thus allowed me enough time to dispose of whatever I had shoplifted - that is what they thought I had shoplifted.

I was in a cold sweat all the time he was talking to me, even though he constantly referred to me as "ma'am." If he read me, he wasn't sure enough of himself and his suspicions to press it.

The worst outcome of the day is that I shall have to stay away from some of my favorite shopping places for a couple of months, since I suspect all of the security people will be keeping an eye out for me. The last thing I, or any of us, wishes to happen is to be constantly under professional watching. It's hard enough to go out shopping while dressed without having anything like that chipping away at our confidence.

Let me add here that I didn't shoplift anything.

The Transsexual and the Military

by

Joanna M. Clark

The United States military's long-standing employment policy of discriminating against transsexual individuals is somewhat ironic insofar as the federal government is generally regarded as being in the forefront of liberal, nondiscriminatory employment policies. Present military regulations, however, bar appointment, enlistment, and induction of those individuals who have undergone sex reassignment and disclosure of one's desire for sex reassignment can be grounds for immediate dismissal.

This discrimination has particularly far reaching effect, because a transsexual person denied appointment, enlistment or induction into, or dismissal from, the military for transsexualism will encounter severe problems in subsequently locating employment in the private sector. It has, in effect, the potential for fixing upon the transsexual "an official defamation of character."

APPOINTMENT, ENLISTMENT, AND INDUCTION

The specific disqualifying regulation, common to all service branches, which bars appointment, enlistment, and induction of those individuals who have undergone sex reassignment, reads:

Section IX. GENITOURINARY SYSTEM 2.14. Genitalia

The causes for rejection for appointment, enlistment, and induction are:

s. Major abnormalities and defects of the genitalia such as a change of sex, a history thereof, or complications (adhesions, disfiguring scars, etc.) residual to surgical correction of these conditions.

The Department of Defense's rationale in implementing this regulation is based upon the determination that "enlistment of transsexuals would not be in the best interest of the individual or the military ser-

vice. Transsexuals are not considered psychologically or sociologically suited for military service, and they require continuing sophisticated medical care because of the absence of organs and glands normally present in an individual at birth."

The medical and constitutional validity of the preceding regulation and policy are currently under legal challenge in our Federal court system. The initial complaint, cited as **Clark vs. Brown, et al.**, and filed in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, was dismissed without prejudice and without finding. The complaint has subsequently been rewritten by the ACLU Foundation of Southern California and filed in the United States Court of Claims. The revised complaint, cited as **Clark vs. United States**, challenges the medical and constitutional validity of the preceding regulation as well as the constitutional validity of a Navy assigned RE-4 (Ineligible for Enlistment) reenlistment code.

DISCHARGE, DISMISSAL, SEPARATION

There are no specific regulations that require the immediate discharge, dismissal or separation of a service member seeking sex reassignment. The vagueness of military regulations utilized in separating service personnel, however, permits easy discharge, dismissal, or separation without cause, especially in the case of service personnel suffering from transsexualism. Consequently, completion of the service contract, without disclosure of one's transsexual feelings, may gain the service member an honorable discharge with assignment of an "eligible for enlistment" reenlistment code. An "ineligible for enlistment" reenlistment code can be just as damaging to the individual as a less than honorable discharge.

Readers desiring more information on this subject should obtain a copy of **TRANSSEXUALISM AND THE LAW: A SOURCE BOOK FOR PROFESSIONALS.**

About Joanna

Articles highlighting Joanna M. Clark's continued feud with the U.S. Army and Navy Departments appeared in the Los Angeles Times on August 19, 1980 and The Pilot on August 21, 1980.

Ms. Clark was a Chief Petty Officer in the Navy as a male and served honorably for 15 years. Subsequent to her (his) release from the Navy, Clark underwent genital corrective surgery and later enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve as a female. Having made full disclosure of her reassignment surgery and having undergone testing, both mental and physical, no different than that undergone by other enlistees, she was of the opinion that she would be allowed to serve her full enlistment and finally qualify for retirement.

Subsequent to her enlistment in the U.S. Army Reserve, Ms. Clark was asked to apply for civil service status and was accepted. Ms. Clark was moved into positions of both responsibility and authority and was transferred to fill position openings on the West Coast. All seemed to be going well until 2½ years into her 4-year enlistment when in June 1977 Ms. Clark was informed that "numerous allegations of misconduct" had been made against her. She later learned that the allegations included such charges as "drug addiction, immoral conduct, theft of classified documents, subversive activities and fraudulent enlistment." To show the seriousness of the allegations, Ms. Clark was allowed to resign. (Had the allegations been true, she probably would now be in the slammer.) In July 1977 Ms. Clark resigned her position and fled to Hawaii to lick her wounds and reassemble her shattered life. It was during this period she felt she should fight back not only to clear her name, but get the retirement benefits due her.

Ms. Clark was never, as required by the legal code of the U.S. and the Constitution, confronted by her accusers nor was there ever a trial.

All the actions were "administrative" and thus outside the bounds of legal happenings. Surely if Ms. Clark had been in shape to think straight at the time, she would have stood her grounds and would now have this behind her. Of course from the security of her position she now can see this although at the time the pressures and the trauma were such that she was not thinking quite straight and was in no emotional condition to stand her ground and fight.

Since leaving the reserve, Ms. Clark has done a great deal for the transgender community. She has written several informative booklets concerning the legal aspects and rights of the transsexual. She has also become involved with the Gender Clinic at Dana Point and the American Civil Liberties Union. So, what appeared to be an ill wind really did blow some good.

We commend Joanna on her stand and the work she has done, and hopefully will continue to do, for the gender community. We know how "fighting city hall" can be and hope she doesn't get lost in the quagmire of bureaucracy.

Joanna M. Clark, Legal Research Project
P.O. Box 2476, Mission Viejo, CA 92690
(714) 493-0397

- [] LEGAL ASPECTS OF TRANSSEXUALISM: A Handbook for Transsexuals (1980 Edition, 54 pages)..\$5.75
- [] NAME AND SEX CHANGE LEGAL KIT (Reprint of Chapter F--Identification: TRANSSEXUALISM AND THE LAW: A Source Book for Professionals).....\$5.00
- [] DEVELOPMENT OF AN INFORMATION DATA BASE ON TRANSSEXUAL SURGERY, Final Report--Volume 1, Prepared for the Department of Health and Human Services (Limited Supply).....\$10.00

The LEGAL RESEARCH PROJECT is a nonprofit endeavor which attempts to maintain a data bank involving administrative decisions and legal decisions relating to the transsexual community. Individuals requesting information are asked to include a self-addressed stamped-envelope. Copies of data bank documents are available at a cost of 10¢ per page, plus postage.

WHAT'S GOIN' ON!?

The Pines & Co, 1093 Pine Street at Jones in San Francisco, presents an all new show, Fiasco Follies "Grand Confusion," a beautifully done collection of laughs, lovely "ladies" and visual delights. Shows are Wednesday through Saturday, 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. There is a \$2 cover charge per show.

♂ ♀ ♂ ♀ ♂

Los Angeles' oldest and best, now in its 21st year, GGRC's Halloween Costume Ball will be held at 8 pm Saturday, October 25, at the world famous Hollywood Palladium. \$1500 will be awarded in prizes for the costume contests--the theme is "Las Vegas." Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door (personal checks accepted until October 15 only). Send to Ray Harrison, P O Box 69971, Los Angeles CA 90069 or call (213) 652-5513.

♂ ♀ ♂ ♀ ♂

Alice Webb, formerly Coordinator of The Gender Clinic at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston and Assistant Director of the Janus Information Facility, and the primary psychotherapist for many of the transsexual clients of the Clinic, has opened a private practice in San Francisco. Ms. Webb, having extensive experience in all phases of treatment for the transsexual and others with gender identity conflicts, is seeking applicants for two therapy groups to meet twice each month. Membership in each group will be closed once the maximum of 5 participants is attained. There will be no drop-in attendance. Those participating must be willing to give up two nights per month and commit themselves to a minimum of six months' participation.

Interested individuals may contact Ms. Webb at (415) 641-4887 for further information.

♂ ♀ ♂ ♀ ♂



VOLKER SPENGLER
A magnificent Elvira

The transsexual tragi-comedy, "In A Year of 13 Moons" will be shown on Wednesday, October 8, at the Strand Theatre, 1127 Market Street in San Francisco. In Berkeley, the U.C. Theatre at 2036 University Avenue will show the film on Wednesday, October 22. Its Los Angeles premiere will be held October 1-7 at the Vista Theatre, 4473

Sunset Drive in Hollywood. Call the theatres for showtimes.

♀ ♂ ♀ ♂ ♀

The Queen Mother and King Father of California Coronation and Ball will be held Saturday, October 11 at Lake Merritt Hotel in Oakland. There will be a live show with live music. Donation is \$10; Victory & Awards Brunch \$8; or the package for \$15. Proceeds benefit "Love & Care Inc" homes for the elderly. For more information, call (408) 264-1453.

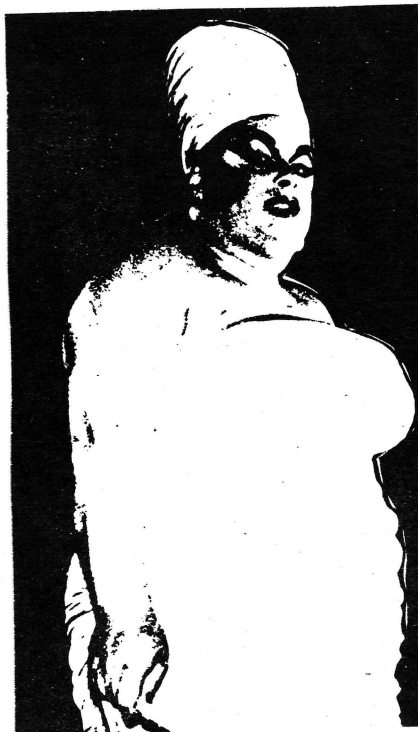
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1537 FRANKLIN, SUITE 205
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109



♂ ♀ ♂ ♀ ♂


The Hotel York's Plush Room Cabaret in San Francisco presents, "A Divine Halloween," featuring singer Sharon McNight, and the One and Only Divine as Master of Ceremonies. Costume contests include a Divine look-alike contest. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door (if available). The Hotel York is offering a special weekend rate with ticket purchase: \$69

for 3 days/2 nights (Oct 31-Nov 2). Call (415) 885-6800 for information.

♀ ♂ ♀ ♂ ♀

"The Club," an all-male play performed by an all-female cast, will be closing out a 17-week run in San Francisco on October 4. From there, it opens October 7 at the Huntington-Hartford Theatre in Los Angeles, where it will play for four week. "The Club" then heads to Houston, where it opens November 19 for three weeks. Don't miss this one!

WINNER OF 10 OBIE AWARDS!



THE CLUB
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"★★★★. An extraordinary entertainment"
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AND: KIM SUMI CHAN
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THE BOOKWORM



CAREFUL, DOCTOR, THE PATIENT IS LISTENING! (Critique of Brierley's Transvestism, final installment)

by Kathy (CA-45)

I'd like you to consider some possible effects of narrow thinking out of the "AWFUL" model and its supporting restrictive definition of TVism and sex/gender negativism. Feedback would be greatly appreciated.

(1.) The portrayal is a narrow view of womanhood, too restrictive even for females who have reached their maturity. It leads to bad public relations and leaves us open to attack by advocates of personal freedom (feminists).

(2.) It may limit, through restricting the range of ideas and through guild, one's sex and gender-related fantasy life.

(3.) It sets boundaries on the range of appropriate appearance and behavior of TVs. This especially through helpers who get a narrow view of what a TV is, wants to be, and can be.

(4.) Sets a fixed ultimate objective for the TV. Does not look at other intermediate positions for temporary or permanent role residence.

(5.) Tends to restrict individuality; for example, creative thinking and personal experimentation regarding the ultimate extent, developmental path, and time ordering of the development and quality (style) of one's emerging persona and role(s).¹

(6.) Perpetuates a stereotype of crossdressers both within and without the CDing culture (paraculture) based

on those who came out in the past and especially who moved into one of the few social organizations.

(7.) Encourages arbitrary subdivisions in thinking about this paraculture (for example, "true" TVs, fetishists, homosexuals, bisexuals, asexuals, and those with various social motives). While this division may provide meaningful working research hypotheses and is perhaps valid in dividing into social clubs, it does not help our causes in social advocacy.

(8.) Feeds into the isolationism among gender people.

(9.) Does not encourage new social models, nor does it help implementation of extant ideas such as the various androgynous models.²

(10.) Sets up a one-dimensional prestige system; those who match the "AWFUL" model are at the top.

Myth-breaking may be a necessary early step in our own social consciousness raising and group advocacy. I'm not arguing against the "AWFUL" model, nor that some TVs shouldn't pursue this icon. For many, putting it together as an "AWFUL" woman can be a rewarding experience; and perhaps we should all try to do it for what it teaches us. But one must be ready, must have the parts, and the confidence in oneself and support of others. For the novice it can be overchallenging, delay his practice, and produce needless anxiety. The caveat here is that one should not automatically place himself into the model. On the other hand, I am not suggesting that one should just "do what comes naturally." I believe in conscious choice, the formulation, elaboration and testing of models which makes for meaningful and efficient self-experimentation. We are special people. Our message (to us, to others) should not be subdued nor subverted by mediocre models. This will continue to happen until we escape the trap of immediacy and isolation. Let me illustrate by the example of a not untypical TV (hypothetical).

Given continuous subtle (?) pressure to judge oneself in comparison to a "little lady" prototype (or perhaps conflicting models from a variety of different helpers in the TV's life), we add that s/he has shown low self-esteem, probably has been attacked for attempts at "impersonation," has low confidence that the possibility of ever passing will occur. S/he has strong needs to "play it safe" yet also to take at least a step toward one of those fantasies s/he has held for years. Maybe having deliberately explored a variety of roles, clothes, and situations in quest of the appropriate lifestyle s/he is, in short, not taking the quickest route to feminisation. Now take an author who holds this "AWFUL" prototype. One would expect a comment like the following; it is easy to "accept the majority of transsexual patients as being of their elected role...less easy with transvestites who are less consistent and sometimes unwilling to see themselves as others see them because they are more distressed by doing so (pg 211)." Perhaps this person who may be fighting the idea, or at least deliberating each step, will find such statements a challenge and a threat. S/he may purge or take a giant step toward feminisation.

Women speak a silent language which has a generally accepted interpretation based on clothing and behavior; given a person's own stylistic interpretation providing individuality. This idea is probably better understood by TSs than TVs. Or perhaps it's that the TV is not as interested in what others think. Instead s/he may have established a language of his own, which is for his own pleasure and which may include a fetish pattern. Early on the perceived task of the TV is to develop this language for his own optimal reward. It may be less than a complete "woman" he portrays; maybe an incomplete image, or perhaps only a surface role. But s/he looks at himself and sees what s/he needs and enjoys the magic.



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Small wonder, then, that s/he "sees" himself differently than others do. S/he does not then and perhaps never will need to appear to herself as a complete woman. But at another level s/he may need to appear completely as a woman, at least make a stab at it, in order to get along socially. Thus while the language, clothing, reward system, and needs of the TV are more private and individual, and vary greatly from one to another TV, s/he is encouraged to conform to the only reasonable model around. While going through the shibboleth of conforming s/he may get additional rewards from the approval of friends, the kick of "passing." S/he has thus found a way to solve the TV's social problem--being accepted.

But the more general answer might be to find a group that does not impose the "little lady" standard on him. This isn't likely until additional models for crossdressing roles are available. A start toward this might be organizations which specifically disavow restrictive dress and behavior codes, etc. This might also occur in an organization of helpers, but they will probably not be first.

DEFINITION

An early indication of trouble (which I didn't appreciate on first reading) is Brierley's shearing off of the fetishistic CDing. He agrees with Roth and Ball that this is "symptomatic transvestism" and with Walinder that TVism, like TSism, has nothing to do with sexual satisfaction (pgs 16-17, 90). This seems presumptuous particularly when he then links true TV to TS. He says

for example that TSism is a deeper conviction about female identity (pg 13), a deeper adjustment to a common problem (pg 17), and a need for a (more) continuous role (pg 17).

Since he does not give a direct definition we must look for it primarily by what he excludes. He seems preoccupied with a feeling that TVism is relatively pure of other deviations, e.g., "Whether or not we can usefully refine a concept of transvestism distinct from fetishism, transsexuality and homosexuality, etc." (pg 226).

A question is why does he need to define a narrow, pure group? Does he not believe that TVism, or better all CDing, doesn't have common problems, needs, etc? Obviously he did not study budding TVs and may have assumed he could not find them or that they could be adequately described by retrospective accounts of old timers. Even so the early TVs and all those along the developmental dimension should be part of the definition. There are less obvious omissions.

For example, it is useful to limit one's research domain (population) to reduce the size and scope of the task. But it can result in throwing the baby out with the bath water. It is also useful to work with "pure" groups insofar as they differ in important characteristics of interest to the study (e.g., different predictions for each, different optimal treatments, etc.).³ But this can be handled within the design by statistically "dividing" the population, while not limiting study to only one group.⁴

While Brierley probably had good reasons for working with the population he chose (a readily available group, intact, and sponsoring the study), he needn't have restricted the definition of TVism to fit it.⁵ It appears his available population was restricted to late maturity, clean appearing, out of the closet TVs. He then apparently restricted his definition in scope to fit the available subjects. It is not likely he would have done this if it had not been compatible with his

value system, which includes the "AWFUL" model and his sex/gender negativism. In fact, this would explain the tendency to exclude fetishists and other "deviations" and the tendency to include TSism (under the continuum "gender dysphoria" running between a low level in the TV through a high level in the TS). Again, I do not argue that he is not correct, only that he seems to have prejudged the situation and thus severely limited the ecological breadth of the research.

¹ See upcoming paper on personal experimentation and blowout therapy.

² Janice Raymond's The Transsexual Empire covers the variety of meanings. Also W. O'Flaherty's Women, Androgynes, and Other Mythical Beasts, 1980, pgs 290-309.

³ See Brierley (pg 227) for example.

⁴ If these categories are found useful he can keep them separate if he wishes. Are long-term fetishistic TVs related in some ways to his TVs? If so, the two can co-exist as subcategories in his definition.

⁵ It is only necessary for him to indicate the characteristics of his group of interest. He need not worry, for present purposes, about the characteristics of the TVs outside his study (see pgs 225-227), but he need not exclude them from an umbrella definition.

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CALENDAR

In this new regular feature, we will be listing various gender support groups, meetings and special events around the country. If your group wishes to have a free announcement, send details to The Gateway. Copy deadline: 15th of the month preceding an issue.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA

SALMACIS meets the second Saturday of each month 7:30-11 p.m. in the Glendale Area. Contact Ann or Linda at (213) 241-9093. Open to the TV and TS. \$2.00 attendance cost.

SHANGRI-LA Scyros Chapter. First Saturday of the month from 5-11 p.m. Contact Nancy (714) 834-0928 for info.

TS RAP GROUP. Contact Jean Lawrence, P O Box 532, Port Hueneme CA 93041 or call (213) 257-0500 for info.

BOSTON/HARTFORD AREA

TIFFANY CLUB--7 - 11 p.m. Tuesday and Saturday. Call (617) 891-8022 for info. Usually a \$5.00 attendance fee for non-members. (Boston)

KAY MAYFLOWER SOCIETY--Every Wednesday 7 - 11 p.m. Call (617) 254-7389 for additional info. (Boston)

HARTFORD TVIC--Every second Saturday. Contact Patsie Marie Pinchon, P O Box 180, Hartford CT 06107 for information.

XX CLUB OF HARTFORD. Primarily a TS support organization. Meetings every second Saturday. Contact Rev. Clinton Jones, 45 Church St, Hartford CT 06103.

NEW YORK AREA

TV Parties in the Queens Area (!). Contact Joyce Dewhurst, P O Box 1105, Woodside NY 11377 or call (212) 545-4073.

TV Parties in the Long Island Area. Contact Casey, P O Box 708, N. Bellmore NY 11710 or call (516) 548-7736.

ALBANY-TVIC. Meets every third Saturday. Contact W. Thordsen, 1104 Broadway, Albany NY 12200 for specific information.

MASSACHUSETTS

TS SUPPORT GROUP. Contact Rachia Heyelman, P O Box 25, S. Orleans MA 02662.

FANTASIA FAIR Cape Cod, Mass. Held Oct. 17-26, 1980. Contact Fantasia Fair Ltd, Kemore Station, Box 368, Boston MA 02215.

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Dressed for Trouble

Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: About the letter from the married couple who were very self-conscious because she was about six inches taller than her husband, so they started going to restaurants together — she dressed as the man, and he the woman. They asked you if it was against the law, and you wisely suggested that they check their local laws.

Abby, they clearly have a legal right to dress as they wish as a part of their constitutional right to privacy.

However, should they use the public restrooms, they might run into trouble. A man caught in a women's restroom, even if he's dressed as a woman, risks being charged with violating laws against peeping toms and indecent exposure. Similarly, a woman caught dressed as a man in a women's restroom, or a man caught dressed as a woman in a men's room, may be detained to prove correct sexual identity.

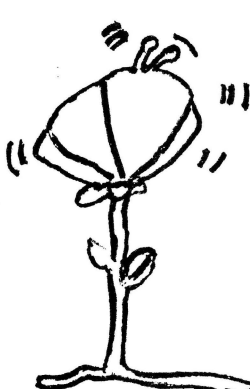
So perhaps they should consider risks when weighing whether to do something they have a legal right to do.—ARLINGTON, VA., ATTORNEY

DEAR ATTORNEY: You make several good points. Even though cross-dressing in restaurants may be legal, it's not advisable.

★ ★ ★




Long before I ever dreamed an operation could correct nature's mistake, I felt I was a sylph trapped in the body of a leprechaun.



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