

• **THE SITUATION OVERSEAS:** Nearly all the EC states, 48 of the US states, Canada, Scandinavian countries, South Africa (since 1974) and many eastern bloc countries grant transsexuals legal recognition in one form or another.

As far as our researches reveal this change has not resulted in "a lessening of public faith in the records" nor imposed upon the rest of the population "new duties". These were the defences offered to the European Court of Human Rights by the UK government.

Without wishing to over dramatise the situation we would like to emphasise that the transsexual condition does cause intolerable emotional stress and attempted suicide figures are very high.

The South African legislators felt in 1974 that they "would like to eliminate any unnecessary aggravation of the emotional stress that has already been experienced"

• **WE WANT** no more and no less than the non-transsexual citizen enjoys - the right to marry and found a family, the right to privacy, employment security and dignity in death.

• **WE NEED** to be legally recognised in the status congruent with our social one. Until then, treatment however caring and skilful is less than fully effective.

► **FURTHER READING:**

New Law Journal October 5th 1990, p.1384.

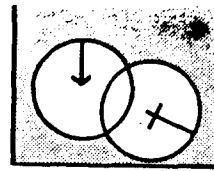
European Court for Human Rights:

Rees v UK (9532/81)

Cossey v UK (10843/84)

Caroline Cossey: "My story", Faber.

Published by PFC, May 1992.



• **PRESS FOR CHANGE** was founded in February 1992, but its real beginnings go back to the early 1970s when transsexuals including Mark Rees and Caroline Cossey started to campaign and to make applications to the European Court for legal recognition of their status.

• **PRESS FOR CHANGE** co-ordinates the efforts of all those transsexuals and organisations which support them in their fight for legal change. It has affiliated all the Self Help Transsexual organisations.

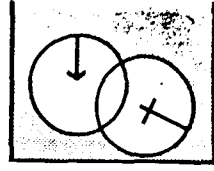
• **HOW YOU CAN HELP:** If you are in Parliament, then please press the Government to reform this law (described as "cruel" by a leading medical expert) and/or enter the ballot for a Private Members Bill.

If a private citizen please write to you MP to "press for change". Talk to people about the situation - we find that once people are aware of the situation they are very sympathetic (91% supported change in a recent radio poll).

We need funds urgently, these are to ensure that the message is heard. A recent simple black and white leaflet mailing to the House of Commons cost over £500.

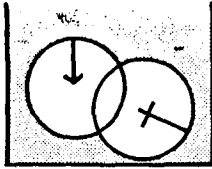
To make a donation, send support or receive more information please write to PFC, BM NETWORK, LONDON WC1N 3XX. Tel: 071-372 5917.

• **SPEAKERS CAN BE PROVIDED FOR ORGANISATIONS.**



Press For Change





► **PRESS FOR CHANGE** is a campaigning group set up to bring about legal recognition to transsexuals of their re-assigned roles thus giving them the civil rights and protection afforded to every other citizen of the United Kingdom.

► **THE PRESENT SITUATION:** came about in 1970 as a result of a divorce case involving a male to female transsexual; April Corbett (nee Ashley). The judge, Mr Justice Ormrod ruled that April was a man. This meant that in future all male to female transsexuals were unable to marry as women. The converse was true for female to male transsexuals.

The judge intended that his ruling should only apply to marriage, however it has been used since on every occasion that a transsexual's sex has been legally determined.

Prior to this case transsexuals often had their birth certificates amended, and some had very public and legal weddings.

These individuals have retained this recognition of their new legal status - this proves that it is possible for the UK government to accommodate the needs of transsexuals.

The Corbett ruling has since been overturned by courts elsewhere including the Supreme Court of New Jersey (1976) and the South Australian Court of Appeal (1988). But despite this and an increasing amount of scientific evidence showing that transsexualism is NOT chosen but a condition determined before birth, possibly due to hormonal factors in utero, the UK Government remains unmoved and its attitude continues to blight the life of every UK transsexual.

HOW THE LEGAL SITUATION CURRENTLY AFFECTS THE LIVES OF TRANSEXUALS.

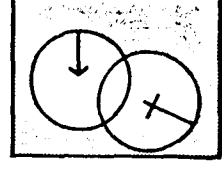
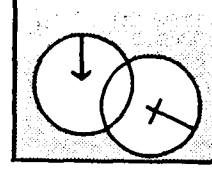
► **MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE:** Transsexuals can only marry members of the legal "opposite sex" ie. their present same sex. Socially, psychologically and after reassignment surgery; physically, this is impossible.

This bar to marriage makes it unlikely that transsexuals will be allowed to adopt children. Should the female partner of a female to male transsexual become pregnant by Artificial Insemination, her "husband" being legally female cannot be registered as the baby's father.

Not only are transsexuals denied the "right to found a family", but their families can suffer adversely - in a recent child access case a judge pronounced that by having a "sex change" an individual gave up all parental rights. Access was refused despite the transsexual's ex partner willingness for it to continue.

► **EMPLOYMENT:** Transsexuals have no employment rights or protection at all. They can be dismissed merely for being transsexual, whether pre- or post-operative. Even when they have been doing a job for many years in their new role transsexuals have been summarily dismissed from their posts.

► **PENSIONS:** Currently male-to-female transsexuals are obliged to retire at 65, yet female-to-male transsexuals - who are men to their workmates for all intents and purposes - will find their wages office receiving notification from the National Insurance office of their proposed retirement at the age of 60.



► **SOCIAL SECURITY:** When ever a transsexual applies for welfare benefits, or makes enquiries concerning pensions at their local benefits office - they (and anyone else in the office) may see on the computer screen details of their new name BUT their old gender. For example : Mark - single female, Janet - single male.

► **THE CRIMINAL LAW:** If a male-to-female transsexual is raped her assailant will only be charged with sexual assault - a lower tariff offence. However if she works as a prostitute she will be charged with the masculine offence of "importuning" - a higher tariff offence.

Pre-operative male-to-female transsexuals convicted of serious criminal offences nearly always will be sent to a male prison - where they will often serve their sentence on Rule 43 - that is amongst sex offenders - for their protection. Otherwise they face sexual assault and worse from other prison inmates.

Likewise a post-operative female-to-male transsexual will always be sent to a female prison.

► **LACK OF PRIVACY:** transsexuals have no protection from media attention of any sort.

Because the UK Government have not amended Birth Certificates for transsexuals since 1971, employers, college authorities, insurance companies, passport office etc. often get to know of a transsexual's change of status.

Even death certificates of transsexuals should have the "old sex" on them.

This is why we PRESS FOR CHANGE.



On the Hotel Marquee for all to see during the entire conference.



Listed with all the other hotel functions, just like regular folks.



ENTERTAINERS:

Wendy Parker as "Mister Sister"

Bren Piranio



Collen and Phyllis Hurd as "The Blues Sisters"



THE VOLUNTEER STAFF:
(left to right)

Cynthia Lee, Ass't Chief
Dee McKellar, The "First Sergeant"
Phyllis Frye, Conference Organizer
Vivian McKenzie, Ass't Chief



Dee and Phyllis, the weekend after the conference: well deserved!

**2ND ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON TRANSGENDER LAW
AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY**

This Conference is designed for both attorneys and non-attorneys. The standard of instruction is sufficiently high in order to obtain legal education credits; yet, the workshops revolve around the questioning and input by non-attorneys who actually experience the lack of legal and employment protection in their daily lives as transgendered persons.

from
9 AM, Thursday, 26 August 1993
through
1 PM, Sunday, 29 August 1993

at the
HILTON HOTEL -- SOUTHWEST
6780 Southwest Freeway (US Hwy 59)
Houston, Texas U.S.A.

Sponsored by:
the International Conference on Transgender Law
and Employment Policy, Inc. (I.C.T.L.E.P.)

In affiliation with:
Gulf Coast Transgender Community an outreach organization
Bar Association for Human Rights of Greater Houston, Inc.
Boulton and Park Society of San Antonio
Winslow Street Endowment Fund of International Foundation for Gender Education

Executive Director: Phyllis Randolph Frye, Attorney
Employment Law Director: Laura Elizabeth Skaer, Attorney
Health Law Director: Martine Aliana Rothblatt, Attorney
Military Law Director: Sharon Ann Stuart, Attorney
Secretary Director: Jackie Thorne, C.P.A.

12.0 Minimum Continuing Legal Education Credits (MCLE)
Hours available (including 1.0 of Ethics Credit)

2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSGENDER LAW & EMPLOYMENT POLICY

TRANSGENDER LAW AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY ARE

the law and employment policy at all levels that are applied to the transgendered community. They include but are not limited to:

- Employment Law and Policy
- Health Law
- Military Law
- Imprisonment Law
- Family Law
- Int'l Transgender Bill of Rights
- Personal Identification Law
- Insurance Law
- Education-in-TG-issues Law and Intervention Law.

TRANSGENDERED PERSONS INCLUDE crossdressers, pre-op and non-op transsexuals and post-op transsexuals of male-to-female or female-to-male of any sexual orientation, and of all races, creeds, religions, ethnicities, nationalities, ages and degrees of physical impediment.

KNOWLEDGE OF LAW AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY FOR TRANSGENDERED PERSONS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE DISADVANTAGE IN THE LAW AND LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT ARE THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS FACED BY THE TRANSGENDERED.

This is a very unforgiving society for those persons (and their loved ones) who were reared as one gender identity (socially defined by external genitalia), yet who have a definitely opposite but true gender identity.

This true gender identity must express itself: it does somewhere in a continuum ranging from crossdressing (in varying degrees) through fulltime pre-op or non-op transsexualism to post-operative transsexualism.

The continuum is observed over a vastness and diversity in geography, race, education, religion, income, and career. Surely, to be so observed is evidence that to be transgendered is not a matter of mere choice.

Furthermore, rational people do not take upon themselves such unrelenting social pressure merely for a fling!

MINIMUM CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

The State Bar of Texas has awarded this event with 12.0 MCLE credit hours including 1.0 of ethics credit. Those attorneys outside Texas usually can, if they inquire of their jurisdiction prior to the conference and bring the required forms, gain similar credits.

ABOUT THE HOTEL

The conference will be at the Hilton Southwest, 6780 Southwest Freeway, Houston, Texas USA. This is the same location as the last conference. Last year's rate of \$48 plus tax per room per night is available if reservation is received not later than Monday, 02 August 1993. Thereafter, the room rate is \$55 plus tax.

TO GET THESE RATES, CALL THIS HOTEL DIRECTLY AT 1-800 / 545-0064 AND ASK FOR "TRANSGENDER LAW CONFERENCE". Do not call the nationwide Hilton number as they will not give you these rates.

LEGAL PROJECT WORKSHOP MODERATORS

Employment: Laura E. Skaer, Atty
Health: Martine A. Rothblatt, Atty
Military: Sharon A. Stuart, Atty
Imprisonment: Raymond Hill, winner of Houston y Hill, 107 S.Ct. 2502
Family: Connie Moore, Atty
Int'l Transgender Bill of Rights: Sharon A. Stuart, Atty
Personal Identification: Sr. Mary Elizabeth, SSE, author of Legal Aspects of Transsexualism
Insurance: Jim Kuhn, Atty
Education-in-TG-issues: Gordene MacKenzie, author of Transgender Nation: The Gender Revolution
Intervention: Keith Stewart, Atty (tentative at this printing)

OUTREACH EFFORTS

Note that this is only our second conference. We encourage input, legal speakers and attendance from the international transgender community. We now have fall, winter and spring regional mini-conferences (hopefully one such outside of USA by 1994-95).

1. EMPLOYMENT LAW -- goal: a one-hour, Conference report on Saturday 28 August with suggested desirable future employment law as it would apply to each of the six community permutations of cross-dress-only and pre-and-non-op and post-op of both m-f and f-m as they would apply during job application and during on-the-job transition; this will be very much oriented towards what should be and aimed at the human resources profession as something they will simply take and incorporate in their company's S.O.P. - Laura Elizabeth Skaer, Attorney, is now the Employment Law Director.

2. HEALTH LAW -- goal: a one-hour, Conference report on Saturday 28 August with suggested desirable future health law as it would apply to each of the six community permutations of cross-dress-only and pre-and-non-op and post-op of both m-f and f-m; this will be prefaced with a section on the definition of sex and gender and a section further attacking DSM inclusion of the transgendered. - Martine Aliana Rothblatt, Attorney, is now the Health Law Director.

3. MILITARY LAW -- goal : a forty-five minute, Conference report on Saturday 28 August with suggested desirable future UCMJ revisions and military policy as it would apply to each of the six community permutations of cross-dress-only and pre-and-non-op and post-op of both m-f and f-m as they would apply during recruitment and during active duty and during retirement; this will also include a report on cases in progress, a review of the questionnaire and policy recommendations. - Sharon Stuart, Attorney, is now the Military Law Director.

4. INTERNATIONAL GENDER BILL OF RIGHTS -- goal: a forty-five minute, Conference report on Saturday 28 August to include a one page bill with a supporting report that can be easily adopted, when they choose, by governing bodies such as United Nations) - Sharon Stuart, Attorney, is the Bill of Rights Moderator and shall work closely with Jo Ann Roberts of King of Prussia, PA.

5. FAMILY LAW -- goal: a forty-five minute, Conference report on Saturday 28 August with suggested desirable future family law as it would apply to each of the six community permutations of cross-dress-only and pre-and-non-op and post-op of both m-f and f-m as they would apply during divorce/property division and during child custody/visitation and as they would vary with time of "outing" of transgendered identification. - Connie Moore, Attorney, will be the Family Law Moderator

6. IMPRISONMENT LAW -- goal: a forty-five minute, Conference report on Saturday 28 August which addresses the standards of care as they would apply to each of the six community permutations of cross-dress-only and pre-and-non-op and post-op of both m-f and f-m as they would apply during initial arrest, initial detention, jail term, prison term, probation or parole 1/2 way house; this will be very much oriented towards what should be and aimed at both the public and private jail and prison agencies and corporations as something they will simply take and incorporate in their S.O.P. - Raymond Wayne Hill is the Imprisonment Law Project Moderator.

7. INSURANCE LAW, Social Security and the Welfare Safety Net -- goal: a half-hour, Conference report on Saturday 28 August which is a review of what has happened since Clinton's election, what is anticipated in the near future and progressive strategies to address the transgender community needs and inequities still not being addressed. - Jim Kuhn, Attorney, is the Insurance Law Project Moderator.

8. INTERVENTION LAW -- goal: a half-hour, Conference report on Saturday 28 August of the legalities and illegalities of various techniques and strategies for citizen (layperson) intervention to support the transgender community, those techniques and strategies include but are not limited to a range from informally letter writing through lobbying through candidate screening through outing through in-your-face to active civil disobedience. - Keith Stewart, Attorney, has tentatively agreed to head this, although Karen Kerin has stated the she and an Ass't Attorney General from Vermont want a very active roll in the leadership and direction.

9. Education-in-Transgender-Issues Law -- goal: a half-hour, Conference report on Saturday 28 August with various techniques and strategies, and their legalities and illegalities (such as how to protest equal access on TV and Radio, 1st Amendment vs. libel of the community and class-action lawsuit ideas) off teaching tolerance as it applies to all persons including the transgender community plus examination of other groups which should be included in "suspect classifications". - Gordene MacKenzie has tentatively agreed to be the Moderator.

10. Personal Identification, Passports and Records Law -- goal: a half-hour, Conference report on Saturday 28 August with the legalities and strategies for statutory and administrative policy changes in the securing of ID, passports and other records as they apply to the cross-dress-only and pre-and-non-op and post-op; this will include step-by-step as to driver license, passport, credit card, checking accounts, etc. - Sister Mary Elizabeth is the Personal Identification Project Moderator.

1993-94 REGIONAL MEETINGS WILL BE as follows:

Fall 1993 -- Saturday, 06 November, Washington DC area, Martine.

Winter 94 -- Saturday during Texas T Party in February, Phyllis.

Spring 94 -- Saturday during IFGE Convention in April

We will attempt to have MCLE credits available for each.

We hope to have a regional meeting outside USA in 1994-95 cycle.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, 25 AUGUST 1993

12:00-8:00PM Registration Open

7:00-9:00PM Open Board Meeting

THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST 1993

8:00AM-6:00PM Registration Open

Legal Project Workshops

9:00AM(2.0hr)EmploymentLaw&Policy

9:00AM(1.0hr)Legal Interventions

10:00AM(1.0hr)Insurance Law

11:00AM(2.0hr)Health Law

11:00AM(1.0hr)Education in TG Law

12:00PM(1.0hr)Personal Ident Papers

Keynote Luncheon Speaker 1.0 MCLE

1:00PM Richard Aldeman, Law Prof

U of Houston Law Center

Houston's "Ralph Nader"

Legal Project Workshops

2:30PM(1.5hr)Family Law

2:30PM(1.5hr)TG Bill of Rights

4:00PM(1.5hr)Military Law

4:00PM(1.5hr)Imprisonment Law

Ethics Dinner Speaker 1.0 MCLE ETHICS

at the Courthouse Club, Downtown

and joint meeting with B.A.H.R.

6:00PM Cash Bar

7:30PM Marshall A. Shelsy, Atty

Staff Counsel for the fourteen

Harris County Crim Courts at Law

FRIDAY, 27 AUGUST 1993

8:00AM-6:00PM Registration Open

Legal Project Workshops

9:00AM(2.0hr)EmploymentLaw&Policy

9:00AM(1.0hr)Legal Interventions

10:00AM(1.0hr)Insurance Law

11:00AM(2.0hr)Health Law

11:00AM(1.0hr)Education in TG Law

12:00PM(1.0hr)Personal Ident Papers

Appellate Luncheon Speaker 1.0 MCLE

1:00PM Hon. Alice Oliver-Parrot

Chief Justice, 1st Ct. App., Texas

Legal Project Workshops

2:30PM(1.5hr)Family Law

2:30PM(1.5hr)TG Bill of Rights

4:00PM(1.5hr)Military Law

4:00PM(1.5hr)Imprisonment Law

Endowed Paper Dinner Speaker 1.0 MCLE

6:00PM Cash Bar

7:30PM Presentation by Winning

Student of Endowed Legal Writing

Competition in the area of

Transgender Law at U of Houston

Law Center

(continued next page)

SATURDAY, 28 AUGUST 1993

~~8:00AM-6:00PM~~ Registration Open

Reports from Legal Project Workshops

9:15AM 0.50 MCLE Personal Ident

9:45AM 0.50 MCLE Education TG Law

10:15AM 0.50 MCLE Intervention Law

10:45AM 0.50 MCLE Insurance Law

11:30AM 1.00 MCLE Health Law

Employment Law Luncheon Speaker

12:30PM 1.00 MCLE Employment Law

Reports from Legal Project Workshops

2:15PM 0.75 MCLE Military Law

3:00PM 0.75 MCLE Imprisonment Law

4:00PM 0.75 MCLE Family Law

4:45PM 0.75 MCLE TG Bill of Rights

Closing Remarks Dinner Speaker

6:00PM Cash Bar

7:30PM Ron Garet, Prof at U So Cal

Law School, "Self-Transformability"

S Cal Law Review (1991) 1.00 MCLE

SUNDAY, 29 AUGUST 1993

9:00AM brunch open until after noon

10:30AM Planning Meeting for 1994

Conference, finish by 1:00PM