

## Transgenderests Independence Club (TGIC)

P.O. Box 13604 Albany, New York 12212-3604 (518) 436-4513

## WHAT ARE WE?

TGIC is a gender group interested in helping gender conflicted persons in the context of a social meeting.

Trangenderism is a word which covers a broad spectrum of ideas and ideals. We are attempting for the first time to show that all gender people have many points in common. We should share with each other our experiences so that we may grow as individuals and support each other.

We, as a group, welcome all gender conflicted people, we exclude no one who is truly gender conflicted. We do exclude alcoholics or drug addicts. We feel they have not yet accepted themselves. Until they deal with their gender conflict without the influence of excessive drugs or alcohol, we are unable to help them.

Trans means across or to crossover. Gender is the male or female identity in us all. The suffix ists makes the plural of Transgender. A transgenderist can be anybody from the transvestite who just wants to wear womans panties, to the transexual person who believes themselves to be of the opposite sex (other than the physical body dictates). Such a definition obviously includes a very broad range of people.

You have contacted us so you must feel you fit in that range, or you are curious or you are an interested professional. Let's answer a few of the most commonly asked questions:

- Q. I just like to wear panties under my work clothes, how can you help me?
- A. By showing you, through our existence as a group, that there are many people like yourself who have an attraction to womans clothes; also that you are not alone in having and fulfilling your desires.

- Q. I have hidden for years my yearning to wear clothes of the opposite sex, what should I do?
- A. Seek out others like yourself and/or professional help (we know doctors who have knowledge in these areas). You will get assistance in your quest for knowledge and will meet others like yourself.
- Q. My wife just found out that I crossdress, what should I do?
- A. There are a lot of ways that people try to handle this problem, but the best way is to tell the truth and let your wife or significant other handle things at their own pace. Don't force them into seeing you dressed or force the issue upon them. Try to get them involved in TGIC's Mate Support Group.
- Q. Since I was little I have dreamed that I would wake up a female, or that I would be a female someday. Am I a transexual?
- A. A lot of transgendered males have this dream, and will not or cannot say they are transexuals, nor do they think they are. This is a common occurence among transgenderists. Your best bet is to seek a gender counselor or others like yourself to see where you fit.
- Q. If I become a practicing transgenderist, will I progress to transexualism?
- A. Not necessarily, you may stay a gender person all your life, but no more than you are right now.
- Q. I love to crossdress and go out. I have read about others like me (books from adult book stores) and they all appear to be gay. Am I gay?
- A. In the gender world there are some bisexual people, some gays, but the majority of the gender people are heterosexual and prefer a mate of the opposite sex. You can, with counseling,

find an honest and satisfactory answer to this question.

Other questions will be answered on request. For now this will reassure you that others have asked the same questions you are concerned about.

For help or answers to your questions (we are not counselors) or to find out more about our group, write to:

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