

PRES: William M. [redacted] Albany, New York

MEMBERSHIP

\$ 1 5 PER YEAR

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Helen and

Wilma [redacted]

PHONE: [redacted]

\*\*\*\*\*
Hi Girls, Sisters, and G.G.'s :

The weather was beautiful, which made nice traveling for all the girls who made the first gathering after the summer vacations. The girls looking well after the summer heat, some with new hair-do's, fancy dresses, a good beginning of the new season. Of course the Wives of the T.V.'s also looked good. I will take this time to say thanks to all the girls who were up on the Island during the summer, and were so good to give us a hand in putting up our new addition to the House. It makes one feel good to know that there are a lot of good friends that we have made during our long run of this club. I know that I have met a lot of nice wives who come here and am glad to say they are my dear friends. We welcome any wife of a T.V. to come with them to our club gatherings and see first hand what really goes on here and I'm sure she will go home with a different attitude towards her man being a T.V. As time goes on I can see from the T.V.'s faces that they are more content and relaxed when their wives are with them. The girls who made it here this month were: Michelle Ann & Dennie from Somerville, Mass., Paula and Kathy from Lanesboro, Mass., Dee Dee and Vi from Hartford, Conn., Cynthia and Sonya from Norwalk, Conn., Pat and Debbie from East Hartford, Conn., Leslie and Isabelle from Wilton, Conn., Joe and Barbara from Cheshire, Conn., Patsy M from West Hartford Conn., Phyllis F. from West Hartford, Conn., Jean and Sally from Binghamton, N.Y., Stephanie and Samantha from Memphis, Tenn., Frances from Henrietta, N.Y. Elanda, from Rome, N.Y., Lee from Niagara Falls, N.Y., Crystal from Menands, N.Y., Jean from Peru, N.Y., Joan from Colonie, N.Y., Muriel from Geneseo, N.Y., Winnie from Schen., N.Y., Ellen from Endicott, N.Y., Veronica from Indicott, N.Y., Ruth from Canada., Wilma and I. All these girls add up to thirty three. I would say this was a real house full, it makes it hard to get around to all the girls, but Stephenie found that if she took a turn at serving behind the bar she would meet the girls as they came for their drinks. She wasn't bashful she introduced herself to them as they came to the bar.

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The meal for these lovely people was : Meat loaf, mashed potatoes, corn wax bean casserole, toss salad, tomatoes, gravy, tomatoe creole for the meat loaf, fresh hot rolls, cake and coffee. The cake was an anniversary cake for Wilma and I for our 32nd.

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Our many thanks to the girls who brought the cake, which was a surprise as Michelle Ann and Dennie had called me to tell me that they would bring apple pies for dessert. Of course they knew about the cake and to throw me off about the cake they made the pies. Thanks again girls.

\*\*\*\*\*
My many heart felt thanks to Dennie and Jean, and the rest of the gals who helped get the meal out and then clean up for me, as I had developed a sick head ache in the afternoon and really felt bad. I am so grateful for these wonderful people who were there and ready to take over. Oh yes and thank you Sally I can't forget you as you too helped.

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Here are a few ditties from the pen of Dee Dee our gal from Conn.
A T.V. named Mimi O'Graff
One day ran a mile and a haff,
In four minutes flat
And in high heels, at that!
Asked why, she replied, " For a laff"
\*\*\*\*\*
A T.V. who's name we'll not mention
Attracted a lot of attention,
When she did a strip tease
In Church, if you please.
Which explains why she's now in detent
\*\*\*\*\*
A gorgeous T.V. name of Mabel
Who being financially able,
Had " The operation "
While on her vacation,
And got married while still on the table!
\*\*\*\*\*
A T.V. a most beautiful lass,
Decided to step up in class.
Applied for employment
In a "house" of enjoyment,
Where they threw her right out on
Her \*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*
Well, we come to the end of the night and it seemed they all had a good time, especially some of the new girls who were here for the first time, I'm just sorry I couldn't talk with them, but I sure will when they come again. God Bless this lovely group and may we be here for awhile to entertain them.
Good Night and Peace.
Love
Helen.

## W I L M A ' S V I E W S

A discussion of the relationship between homosexuality and transvestism has been in the works for a long time. This is a matter that troubles many of our readers, so lets think about it a bit.

Let's be aware of a psychological phenomenon that psychologists term "homosexual protest". This refers to persons who deny that they are not homosexuals and in fact enter that denial when no accusation has been made and no denial is necessary. Such persons are usually suspected of latent homosexuality simply because they take such pains to deny it. Because this pattern is common enough to acquire a name in psychological terminology does not mean that everyone who denies homosexuality is therefore guilty of it. We must remember that transvestism of any type was considered a manifestation of homosexuality. Drawing together married, heterosexual men who are fathers and who have discovered the joy of crossdressing are arriving at the point wher greater awareness of the true nature of ~~the~~ transvestism is being forced on psychology.

Because crossdressers have for years been thought of as being homosexual we often tend to take too antagonistic an attitude toward it. This does two things it makes us suspect as protesting too much, and it deprives us of our objectivity about the whole matter. What should our attitude be? It should be somewhere between the "I don't want any part of the gay world" attitude and complete fraternization. The former tends to deny that gay people are also human beings, that they can be friendly, intelligent, interesting and pleasant to be with. This is not to say that there are not some very obnoxious types in the gay world. In other words any minority has its screwball, far out characters, and this goes for the transvestite too. The best should not be judged by the worst. Complete fraternization tends to blur the lines between the two forms of behaviour and to make it increasingly difficult to seggregate the two in the public eye. To the extent that society does not understand either group and condemns both, we have the common problem of promoting understanding, but to the extent that the motivations and satisfactions are different we must keep the twp separate in order to build up the identity of the crossdresser as a unique pattern.

A primary distinction is in order at this point. But first it is necessary to distinguish between sex and gender. In common parlance they are lumped together and this makes for a great deal of confusion and misunderstanding. Sex. Is a matter of anatomy and physiology and gender is a matter of psychology and sociology. The key sex words are male and female and the key gender words are masculine and feminine. Sex is an aspect of animal life and of the animal side of human life. Gender is not animal in origin and is almost exclusively a human manifestation. Sex is from the belt down, gender from the belt up.

Since homosexuality by definition has to do with preferential sexual orientation and satisfaction, it is properly called a sexual deviation. Transvestism, however, does not involve any variation in the biologically normal heterosexual orientation. It cannot properly be called a sex deviation. If it must have a catagory at all it should be termed a gender deviation.

Homosexuals primarily identify with the sexual activities of females. They wish to receive the male as a female does. In short it is what a woman is that they imitate. The heterosexual transvestite on the other hand is interested in what a woman represents. He does not wish to copy her in bed, he wishes to copy her in her social behaviour, appearance, clothing and prerogatives, in short, her gender, her femininity. Even most of those homosexuals who effect femm-eattire do so for the purpose of attracting a male who is willing to have male to male relations, but whose conscience and cultural training make it difficult to enjoy without the shame and rationalization of the feminine element being present. Again there is, of course, the special class of inverts, not just homosexuals, but persons who feel themselves as essentially feminine in all respects and who are therefore rightfully entitled to the attentions of a man. The fact that the genital apparatus is out of harmony with the psychological orientation is unfotunate and leads society to class the invert with regular male-male type of homosexual. This type of person is now more properly considered a "transsexual".

With these factors cleared up what should the relationship be? Since both the homosexual and the transvestite are missunderstood and not accepted by society, both groups have a common focus of action. Whatever the more highly organized homosexual community does to improve their lot tends to improve our and vice versa. Anything that removes some of the bigotry and sexual infantilism from our society benefits everyone. The homosexual group is much better organized, larger, and has been at it far longer than we have. Thus where we can assist any general programs they have for breaking down perjudice and legal restriction, we should do so. Where we can take advantage of any organizations or procedures which they have set up which can be of help to us individually or collectively, we should do so. We should establish and maintain contact with the organizational centers that are maintained by the homosexual community, getting from them and giving to them such information and assistance as may be mutually helpful. All this is on the impersonal level, now what of more personal relationship?

I am a Democrat, but I fraternize with Republicans. I am a Protestant, but I have a lot of Catholic and Jewish friends. I am not a nudist but I have some

( continued on page 3 )

( continued from page 2 )

friends who are. I am also not a homosexual either in performance or desire, but I have a number of very fine friends who are. ~~Humanity~~ Humanity and its good qualities should be appreciated and enjoyed when they are manifested in an individual not just when he conforms to our own particular set of beliefs or ~~patterns of behavior~~ patterns of behavior. Individuals have values other than these which they can contribute to our total experience. As a Democrat I do not automatically admire and make friends with all Democrats nor hate all Republicans. As a Protestant I do not find all fellow believers to be upstanding, worthy persons nor all Catholics and Jews to be undesirable. My point is let us judge the individual whom we meet and find to be a homosexual on the basis of his other human qualities on whether his sex orientation is the same as ours. Isn't this what we are asking of others about ourselves? Don't we say in effect "What difference does my love of the feminine and its manifestation through clothing make to my other worthwhile human qualities?" Does it help to say in effect, "They are sex deviates?" As indicated above in the eyes of society we are "gender deviates." Shall the pot call the kettle black?

What I am trying to say to those of you, who are worried about this relationship is this: One on an organizational level let the groups cooperate in any way possible for the advantage of both in the fight for social recognition and acceptance. On the individual level, let us judge people on other grounds and leave their private lives to them even as we wish ours to be our own business. Some TVs worry about what they think of as guilt by association. If they go to a predominately homosexual drag ball people will see them and think they are gay. Well, I answer, so what? It's what you know about yourself that is important not what other people think. Anyone who would see you at such an affair would have to have some interest of his own that was a little off the beaten path to be there himself. If you can have an evening's freedom of social expression at such an affair why not? Is everyone that goes to an impersonator club to see the floor show suspected? I think it all comes down to what I have said before. Use Wisdom. Moderation and Perspective in making your judgements and decisions and all will be well

PARTIES: OCTOBER 20th and NOVEMBER 17th

NEW MEMBERS: I am pleased to announce the enrollment of 5 new members

DORTHY S. UNION, N.J.	SUSAN R. ALEXANDER VA.
ELLEN M. ITHACA, N.Y.	KATHLEEN P. NEW ORLEANS, LA
MICHELL W. WASHINGTON D.C.	

BAPPY BIRTHDAY GIRLS:

These are the Birthdays for October.

OCT. 2	Barbara H. [REDACTED]	OCT. 21	Samantha T. [REDACTED]
OCT. 3	HENRY H. [REDACTED]	OCT. 27	Milton E. [REDACTED]
OCT. 16	Paul R. [REDACTED]	OCT. 28	Eben E. [REDACTED]
		OCT. 28	William Thordsen

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

OCT. 8 MR. & MRS. DOUGLAS W. [REDACTED]

SPECIAL DEPARTMENT OF THANKS:

A special thankd to Rosemarie E., Kathy G., Dee Dee W., Bobie W. and Gloria M. for the extra dollars sent in for first class postage. Anyone else out there who is receiving there TVIC journal by third class mail and would like to receive it first class mail instead just send in the extra 2 dollar

Special thanks to Patricia G., Lois W. and Ruthann M. for the extra pictures sent in for the club album.

Special Thanks to Joan H. and Ruthann M. for the news clippings sent in for the TVIC journal.

NEW ADDRESS:

Please note that DEE DEE W. [REDACTED] HAS CHANGED HER ADDRESS TO  
P.O.B. 10361 Elmwood Sta., W. Hartford, Conn. 06110

Correspondence Wanted For The TVIC Journal on ~~WHY~~ ( WHY CROSS DRESS?)  
Just what role does crossdressing play in your life? This is an area in which I hope you will send in for others to read.

Dear Wilma and Helen,

Next to Fantasia Fair and Dream, Shangri-La is fast becoming a highly popular Spring gathering of TV's. Now in it's fourth year, Shangri-La started with a handful of southern girls at Gulfport, MS and believe it or not this past 18-22 April nearly 50 came from 20 different states. Well this kid, who is a glutton for TV gatherings, just had to see what this Shangri-La was all about. Primed by Alice and Connie, the original sponsors, and several others, I had planned to drive down with Sheila from Pittsburgh. This plan fell flat when Sheila had to cancel out (poor thing). Well here we had reservations but transportation was another question. Flying down was considered and dropped quickly when I found out what it would cost. To make a long story short, after a call from Alice and Connie to get my tits, etc. together and get my Rabbit moving, I did just that and arrived happy and full of expectations in Gulfport on Wednesday, April 18. Between then and the 20th there was a steady coming and going at the motel which was practically taken over by the TV's. Located right on the Gulf Coast, we had full run of all facilities including pools, restaurants and shops--why the town was ~~our~~ for the takin'. Too bad the Miss USA contest just happened to be in town too, so nobody paid too much attention to us (even we could have made them look sick). Well you cannot win them all. But the rumor was going around that there were over 40 men in Gulfport dressed as women. A remark was overheard: "It must have something to do with equal rights!" We certainly were a bunch of happy girls all in our femme glory. Even the wives and girlfriends--and there were nine of them. It seems like this affair has just about grown to the limit it can comfortably handle. Big enough to be exciting yet small enough to be cozy, as Nancy Watson, our most gracious hostess from California, has put it. No wonder tears flowed on some of the girls' checks when goodbye time came. Undeniably one of the greatest plusses about these gatherings is the new friendships formed which were evident in abundance. Hope to see some others of our TVIC Albany group at Shangri-La next year, the week after Easter, April 9 through April 13th. For details on reservations, write: Nancy Watson, P.O.Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713. If you attend, you will never regret it!

Love, ELANDA

T . V . I . D . C A R D :

T V I C now has a transvestite identification card. This card could be very uaeful if you are out in public and need to identify yourself. This card is available at \$1.00 each plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope by writing to T V I C. I have printed a sample of both sides of the card below.

MALE SIG-----			
MALE PHOTO	THE PERSON DESCRIBED ON THIS CARD IS WHAT IS MEDICALLY RECOGNIZED AS A TRANSVESTITE AND IS NOT CROSS-DRESSED FOR FRAUDULENT PURPOSES. DRESSING AS THE OPPOSITE SEX IS DONE FOR SELF-EXPRESSION AND PERSONAL HAPPINESS	FEM PHOTO	
HEIGHT-----	WEIGHT-----	EYES-----	HAIR-----
FEM SIG-----			

TRANSVESTITE & TRANSEXUAL IDENTIFICATION CARD

MALE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FEM NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

IF THERE ARE ANY PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE BEARER OF THIS CARD AUTHORITIES ARE REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING:

MY ATTORNEY \_\_\_\_\_

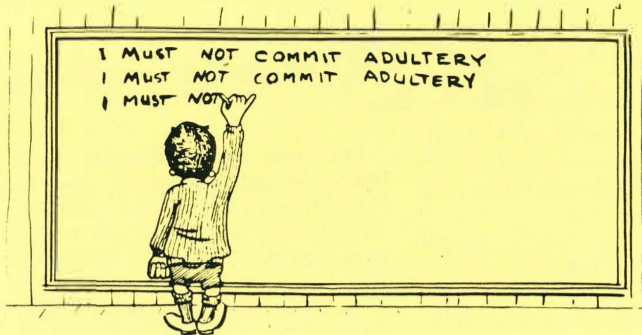
MY PHYSICIAN \_\_\_\_\_ (NAME ADDRESS)

F . A . C . T ., the foundation for the advancement of Canadian Transsexuals, publishes GENDER REVIEW, a quarterly journal with information and help for the transsexual. For a subscription or information, write to Janice Anderson, F.A.C.T., P.O.B. 1497, Sta. C, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, N2G - 4p2.

C O N T R I B U T I O N S : for the TVIC journal are welcome at any time. Any topic is acceptable reference to Tvism or transexualism or anthing that you think our readers would like to read. Also news items clipped from your local news paper.

F A M I L Y C I R C L E M A G A Z I N: If you can pick up a back copy of this magazine you will find an interesting, sympathetic portzayal of a 55-year Diane johnson, who underwent male-tofemale surgery in 1969 (May 15 1970)

N6E6W66E606R6K C I T Y: A popular hangout for N.Y.C. tranasvestites is "G.G. Knickerbocker's Barnum room at 128 west 45th St.



Ms. Micheline [redacted] of  
P.O. Box 9155  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada K1G 3T9

79-06-03

Dear Wilma,

Thanks for publishing my letter about make-up techniques in the April TVIC Journal. I was a bit embarrassed about the "fashionable colours" bit under Eye Shadow, since of course these are no longer the fashionable colours, fashions in make-up colours and styles changing I would say on average about once every 6 months. The letter was dated November 1976, so you will see that it is no wonder it is now outdated. I have not been studying the make-up pages of the women's magazines lately, so I am not up to date myself, so I hesitate to suggest what is fashionable today. However, hopefully there are a few points in the letter which will be of general help to your readership.

I was quite surprised to see the letter in the journal, since I had long since given up hope of seeing it there. I had assumed that when I originally sent it in to you, you had considered it not to be of sufficient interest to publish, either because you get too many letters of that type, or that most TVs have their own ideas on how to do their own make-up.

I am enjoying the summer weather, now it has come at last. I have been doing a moderate amount of cross-dressing lately, but not as much as I used to. My clothes collection continues to increase, it now fills my second bedroom, which has two boutique type clothes display racks in it to hang the dresses etc. on.

I am getting behind in my sewing. I like to buy pretty second-hand clothes, and alter them to fit me, or to change a dress into a skirt etc. The latest style in Canada (May-June 1979) is the tight calf length skirt with a slit up the side or front to show a sexy bit of leg when you walk. This is an easy change to effect. I toured the local second hand stores for old straight skirts (50¢ to \$1), took them home and got to work with the seam ripper. The only part which took any time was the blind hem stitching up either side of the slit. In a short while I had 3 fashionable slit-type skirts in different colours, at low cost. They produce lots of whistles on the streets, and compliments from my friends I meet at a dance !

I have not been doing much long distance travelling lately, partly because my finances are not up to it (cost of gas. food, and accomodation), and partly because I am begining to feel my real age, and am therefore slowing down a bit, not having the energy I had a few years ago. Hence you have not seen me at Albany for quite a while. I also find I can have plenty of fun as a TV here in Ottawa .

Regards  
Micheline.

\*

Dear Helen & Wilma:

Every once in a while I feel I should let you both know how much you have and do mean to me. It was with your help and kindness, I was able to reach several of the best friends I will ever have. I count you both in this group.

I spend so much time traveling of late I cannot get to one of your parties or see any of the girls but do think of you all often. Your home has been like a home away from home to me the few times I have visited. The girls are like my family as only people that can understand. I have passed the stage of getting a thrill from dressing and now sit somewhere between two worlds. I want so much to wear something pretty and move freely in the real world but cannot really ever make the grade. The few times I have gone in public noone has bothered me but I feel like a freak on parade and that everyone is staring at me. Of late I am afraid of people and very seldom even try. I travel with a double wardrobe but seldom really use ~~i~~ the many dresses, etc, I love so much to buy. It does require a really large amount of baggage to dress for two.  
A SISTER ALWAYS. LEE S., NIGARA FALLS, NEW YORK.

TOOOOO DEE DEE: Did you know that Guitar players always attract the girls, but the truth is that the Banjo~~s~~ players always get their pick.

# LETTERS

## Transvestite philosophizes

I was terribly pleased to see and read Priscilla Kucik's column, "Confessions of a Female Voyeur Or Why Men Should Wear Skirts," which appeared in the Nov. 15 Cardinal. Your point of view, your sympathetic portrayal of Bill Cushing and others like him, will help to break down the prison of gender that has forced most people in our society to give up a full half of their souls, the masculine (if you're female) or feminine (if you're male) side and potential of your personality.

Though I fear that your headline may be interpreted as a rigid imperative by men who have no such desire, I am intensely interested in the question of what to do about men who are in touch with a desire or need to wear women's clothing. Such men are generally hit with the label "transvestite" (TV) or "cross-dresser" (as if cross-dressing is the only thing they do with their lives). Most are classified by "helping" professionals as "psychologically disturbed," and tend to be ridiculed by a society—by people—who don't know any better.

As you may have guessed, my intense interest comes from actually being one of these people. That is, a TV (though I accept the label reluctantly, for lack of anything better). Those who have heard about us or had any professional contact with us, professionals included, are terribly misinformed about the whole phenomenon. They fall prey to the stereotype that all TV's are homosexual, that they are trying to mock women, that they are trying to get attention by being deliberately outrageous. This impression usually comes from some kind of contact with "drag queens" or professional female

impressionists like Craig Russell. The most extreme examples of the cross-dressing phenomenon are taken to be the norm.

In fact, in virtually every way—demographic and otherwise—TV's are just like their non-cross-dressing counterparts. Overwhelmingly heterosexual. Family men in actuality or aspiration. All races, religions, national origins, ages, income groups. You name it.

Most TV's, however, are terribly afraid of being "discovered" by unsympathetic people and subjected to ridicule and harassment. (In some areas, the mere act of cross-dressing in public is illegal!) Many are afraid to tell their wives, families, friends. And so most TV's relegate their cross-dressing to the "closet," whether it be the privacy of their own bedroom or a motel room rented for just this purpose. So unlike the drag queen or impressionist, we're not apt to be seen on the street or in the bar.

Little is really known about what "causes" men to want to cross-dress (though most "experts" agree that it has little to do with sex and sexuality and everything to do with gender, i.e., with masculine-feminine rather than male-female or gay-straight). Many shrink to "cure" them. Perhaps anticipating or knowing this, most TV's have rarely if ever been to a shrink. In fact, many TV's aren't particularly disturbed by their cross-dressing desires. What does disturb us, depress us, make us paranoid, is the social environment in which we do what we do. The fear of rejection and punishment from an unsympathetic and threatened society. (As with gay people, only the most unhappy ones do much therapy around their dressing, and yet professionals generalize about us on that basis.)

My view, and that of increasing numbers of others, is that cross-dressing is somehow bound up with the universal personal drive toward androgyny. I sense that in a truly androgynous culture—i.e. a genderless but not sexless one—there wouldn't be any such thing as cross-dressing, or indeed could there be. It would have no meaning.

\*\*\*  
It's the innerspring mattress, not Colorado, that's the Nation's Playground.

\*\*\*  
My girl friend calls me FIRECRACKER... because I'm completely blown after the Fourth.  
\*\*\*

Falsie salesman, the Fuller bust man.

For me, cross-dressing has been—in retrospect—a wedge. Not a deliberately-chosen one, by any means. But an effective one nonetheless. A way into becoming a more whole healthy male person. (I do not want to be a woman, and those male cross-dressers who do are usually on the transsexual path, not the TV one.) Over the past year, as I've given my femme-self more freedom, I've been able to integrate more and more of my feminine qualities (especially of dress and movement) into my day-to-day life. Whether dressed as a man or woman.

My desire to express my idea of beauty through my appearance, to be graceful, to be stroked by the smooth feel of those fabrics, to sometimes be passive and receptive, to get attention, and so on, are all bound up with my cross-dressing. With those women's clothes on, there's a relaxation that I feel as these parts of my soul come oozing out.

I don't mean to say that cross-dressing is or should be the decisive wedge for all men. I encourage all men—as I hope all feminists, and non-feminists for that matter—to find their own personal wedge. For some it may be dance. For others, child-rearing. As far as I can tell now, cross-dressing will probably not be the decisive wedge for most men (though my experience in men's consciousness-raising groups has shown me that many men—far more than I ever imagined—have at least some continuing cross-dressing desires).

Meanwhile, back to the question of what to do about men who feel the urge of need to cross-dress. First to those men, you are not alone!! There are many others like you! We are organizing ourselves and invite you to meet with us. There are two nationwide support groups that you can join to meet and/or correspond with others like yourself, to find acceptance and dignity and friendship. One is the Society for the Second Self (256 South Fobertson, Beverly Hills, California 90211). The other is the International Alliance (P.O. Box 623, Laurel, Maryland 20810). There are also some good, sympathetic books on the subject. I recommend Deborah H. Feinbloom's *Transvestites and Transsexuals* (available in paperback at the University Bookstore) and Virginia Prince's *Understanding Crossdressing* (available for \$7.15

from Chevalier Publications, P.O. Box 194, Tulare, California 93274). Also a good publications list is available from the Outreach Foundation, 102 Charles Street, Suite 433, Boston, Massachusetts 02114.

Second, to the rest of Madison and the world. Please try to see us and treat us as individual people. Try to understand what we're doing. Maybe even pick up one or both of the books. Please try to treat us as you would any other person who has not hurt you and is not trying to hurt you. As you would any other person who is trying to be true to him- or herself.

Third, to you Priscilla, thanks for helping to hasten the day when this sort of acceptance of, and respect for, cross-gender behavior will be commonplace.

Ruthann S. Moskowitz

P.S. Also if you have any lingering questions, or would like to chat, you can write to me at P.O. Box 813, Madison, Wisconsin 53701. Ruthann Moskowitz is a name that I use partly for security reasons and partly to affirm the validity of my femme-self.

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- To all tv-ts Clubs
  - If you send me
  - your meeting dates
  - 60 days in advance
  - I will publish
  - them in our monthl
  - Journal.
- 
- Shagri La:
  - A social & educa-
  - tional experience
  - for members and
  - friends of the
  - crossdressing
  - community held
  - annually in
  - Beelport, Miss.
  - the date April
  - 9-13, 1980.
  - Interested persons
  - should contact;
  - NANCY WATSON
  - P.O.B. 18202
  - IRVINE, CALIF.
  - 92713.
- 

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Home cooking is where the husband thinks his wife is when she's out sizzling.

Tuesday, November 21, 1978—the daily cardinal—page 4

### CROSS\*DRESSING IS STILL ILLEGAL:

There is no statue but we do have a city ordinance which prohibits crossdressing. In the case I refer To Document 49229, City vs Wilson, The person involved was under treatment for treatment for transexualism, which part consisted of wearing womans clothing. The lower court as well as the Appellate court, both sustained a \$100 fine and the Supreme court upheld the constitutionality of the ordinance. Please understand that the ordinance is valid and there is still a prohibition against cross-dressing in Chicago. (sent in by member in Ill.)

\*\*\*  
The French soldier kissed both his wife's cheeks before he went up front.

He waited so long for his dreamboat to come that his pier collapsed.

\*\*\*  
Said the fly as he walked on the mirror, "That's a new way to look at it."

Dear Wilma & Helen.

I do not dress anymore, I have given it up. My fantasy world had been ruling my mind and I wasn't facing reality, I nearly lost my wife and family because of it. Gloria and the kids are worth more to me than some pieces of cloth. I'd like to still be considered a friend at least. I know that you do not like people at your parties dressed as a male, but if I were to be invited, that's how I would be dressed, as Dean. (Deanne is no more). I still consider myself as a friend to TVs and will correspond, I understand what they are going through. I'm not sure if I'll make it, but I must try. I'll continue to support TVIC in whichever way I can. We are returning to the Berkshires in October. I'd like to come to your monthly meeting in October, but as I said, it will be as DEAN. It's not because I want too, it's because I feel I must, to save my marriage.  
DEAN B., SAUGUS, MASS.

Dear Wilma:

At age 5 (quite by accident) I discovered the thrill of soft pink panties. Naturally as I enjoyed this feeling I went back time and time again. This progressed over the years into a desire for a complete wardrobe and at this writing I will say I am well outfitted. Although a complete dresser my love for panties has remained and therefore I have quite an extensive collection of panties and other items of lingerie. Far more than I need. At present I am on active duty with the Military and assigned, to of all places, recruiting duty! Like so many others I've read about I thought sure a tour in service would cure me of my aberration. Not so, but rather it tends to strengthen it. One to many good assignments I've faced few times when I could not dress to some extent. At least to the wearing of feminine lingerie under my male attire. Naturally I try to be extremely discrete and secretive about my HOBBY due to the service but I've still been able to meet and correspond with others like myself. This has led me toward your organization with the hope that I may explore into this double life style.  
REBA JEAN, MARLOW, OKLAHOMA.

Dear Wilma.

Judging beauty contest was the basic factor that introduced me into the world of the transvestite. Pardon me if I sound a little catty, but how some of those dogs made it into a beauty contest was really beyond me. It was for that reason I casually mentioned to another judge sitting next to me how some of the entrants should have stayed home. I guess my comment rubbed him the wrong way, because he slowly turned in my direction and replied. "Well, if you think you can look any better than these young ladies on stage, I'd advise you to put on a dress yourself." Now, if there is one thing I can't stand, it's being put down! So, just to get even with that smartass, I snuck backstage & gussied myself all up. I borrowed a wig and bathing suit, put a little rough on, curled my hair and, don't you know, I got into the lineup just before they stopped allowing new entrants. While on stage, I could see the old coot that previously tried to embarrass me. He was really giving me the eye. Hell, he even threw me a sexy wink or two. After all twenty-five contestants finished parading around in front of those so called judges, wouldn't you know it, they picked me as the overall winner of the event. After receiving congratulatory kisses from everyone, Mr. Smartguy (previously sitting next to me), slipped me a written invitation for dinner after the event. Now was my chance to get even with the jerk! I informed him that I had to go straight home with my brother, the judge who sat next to him but somehow disappeared before the contest began. Boy, did his attitude change! Then, I ran backstage and climbed into my regular clothing again. Then, casually sauntering out into the crowd, I asked everyone how they liked the winner (referring to me, of course). Well, let me tell you, they all just loved her, but asked me where she was. And, the jerk judge that sat next to me during the beginning of the show was now patting me on the back and damned near inviting himself to my house, hoping to meet my siseter, the beauty queen. Like the saying goes, all the world loves a winner.  
ELLIE B., BROOKLYN, N.Y.

Dear Wilma:

It's so heartwarming to know that my wife thinks I'm the hottest looking girl in the world. You see just because a man dresses in female attire does not mean he is gay! It seems to be one of the big misconceptions about transvestites and I think it is time to straighten it all out. An appreciable number of married men simply desire to dress up like a woman at times; some not only get approval from their wives, they also receive their help in dressing, dutifully attending to improving tasks as zipping up dresses, straightening out nylons and generally checking their husbands attire for perfect fit. In reality, an understanding wife is not so hard to find when her husband is a man who likes to dress in feminine attire. Really, I'm sure there are much worse things for a married couple to do. My wife and I usually go shopping downtown for new fashions. Sometimes we even dress up in frilly clothing and go out on the town, arm in arm. Surprisingly, people mistake us for a couple of lesbians, We really get a bang out of their surface judgment and contentedly reflect on the fact that at least we are normal.  
CHARLOTTE B., NEW PALESTINE, IND.

# What science has learned about the in-between sex

By ROBERT ZINTL

**Y**OU MAY NOT be the sex you think you are. No matter how sexy and feminine you consider yourself, and no matter how macho, your sexual identity is much less certain than you suspect.

Scientists have discovered that, on a cellular level, men and women aren't always what they seem to be. Boys will occasionally be girls, and girls will sometimes turn out to be boys who never developed the way they were supposed to.

These are not Olympic athletes who pass themselves off as females; they are not hermaphrodites who show obvious signs of sexual mixup. They are ordinary men and women who never suspect anything is seriously wrong with them.

One 30-year-old woman, married for eight years, went to the Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore because she couldn't get pregnant. When the doctors examined her, they found two small testicles where her ovaries were supposed to be. When they analyzed her chromosomes—the material in the cells that carries genetic information—they found that her sex chromosomes were not XX, which is normal for a woman, but XY, which is normal for a man.

Another case involved a Mexican man who had been married twice and led "an apparently normal life," as his doctors put it, who also came into a hospital because he thought he was sterile. Although the man had normal-looking sex organs, a deep voice and a heavy beard and mustache, he turned out to have XX chromosomes. Under normal circumstances, without a Y chromosome, he should have been a woman.

Such people are unusual, but they are not as rare as scientists once thought. Johns Hopkins, one of the world's leading centers for studying this problem, has seen about 60 people with opposite sex chromosomes.

In New York, Dr. A. Louis Southern of the New York Medical College has treated about two dozen women with XY chromosomes—the so-called "testicular feminization syndrome." And although men with XX sex chromosomes

are much rarer, Southern treated one case this winter—another doctor.

The more scientists study genes and chromosomes the more complications they find. "We're all hung up on a way of thinking from the Middle Ages that classifies the human race as male and female, exclusively," said John Money, a Johns Hopkins medical psychologist. "But nature is full of in-betweens."

Money says that one in every 500 men is estimated to have Klinefelter's Syndrome—an XXY chromosome makeup, which usually makes them sterile. If the odds are that good for that one disease, Money said, then they're even better for the entire range of sexual abnormalities that scientists know about. This means the chances are pretty good that the average rush-hour crowd includes people with undiscovered sexual mutations.

Abnormalities are so common, Money said, that sometimes high school biology students stumble across them when they give themselves the chromosome test that is used on Olympic athletes.

The most startling of these abnormalities are the testicular feminization cases, the women with XY chromosomes and, in most cases, small testicles where their ovaries and uterus should be.

If you don't know the difference between a hormone and a vitamin, you've never heard a vitamin.

These women can sometimes be very well-built and good looking; they usually have little or no body hair, although the hair on their head is often full and luxurious. Women who have been discovered with this syndrome have included a model, twin sisters who were working as airline stewardesses, and even a prostitute.

"You personally could be married to one and you would never know," Money said. "The only way you would know would be if she told you she didn't menstruate."

Many of these women first come to the attention of doctors because they don't menstruate, they can't get pregnant, or they have sexual difficulties.

Other times, they come in because they think they are developing hernias.

Whatever brings one of these cases to a doctor's attention—whether it's a woman with XY chromosomes or a man with XX chromosomes—the hard work starts when the doctor has to break them the news. If it's done wrong, the effect can be devastating.

"You take a case where the girl is seven years old," Money said. "They find lumps in her groin; the surgeon does what he thinks will be a hernia repair and gets the biggest surprise of his life."

"He comes out into the waiting room with his operating gown still on—which is a traumatic moment for the parents under any circumstances—and says, 'You don't have a little daughter, you've got a son.' It takes thousands of hours to repair the damage done by that one sentence."

**I**F YOU TELL a child, it might destroy them," Southern said. "When the parents are told, it raises a lot of guilt. You can see how these cases cause tremendous problems. You have to develop it with patients very slowly."

With his adult patients, Southern says he avoids an exact diagnosis. "Most of them don't know what's going on when they come in," he said. "I think it serves no purpose to tell them they have testicles. You tell them they've got defective gonads that has the possibility of developing into a tumor and should be removed."

Money is more informative with his patients, but he prepares them just as carefully. He shows them pictures of their chromosomes and points out that "one of them has its arm broken off." (A Y chromosome is much shorter than an X.)

"Medical people have got the bad habit of calling this a Y chromosome," he tells them, "but it's incapable of doing Y work."

Money gets vehement when you suggest that a woman with XY chromosomes is really male, or that a man with XX chromosomes is really female. An XY woman, he said, looks like a woman, thinks like a woman, and could not be turned into a man if she wanted to be—"So what would you call her?"

Such men and women are proof, he said, that scientists were wrong in insisting that chromosomes determine sex. What really determines sex, both physically and psychologically, is how you respond to male or female sex hormones.

The difference between men and women is much smaller than we assume. We all start life in the womb with the same neutral internal sex organs. Despite the myth about men being the first sex, the body's actual tendency is to develop as a female.

But if the Y chromosome is present—actually, the work is done by a small piece of the Y chromosome called the H-Y antigen—then between the third and fourth month in the womb, one of the neutral sex organs develops into a testicle. After that, the testicle secretes two types of substance—one to block female development, the other to develop male genitals, body build and even psychological outlook.

If something goes wrong, however, the fetus reverts to its original tendency to develop as a female; depending on how far along the fetus is, all kinds of combinations can occur.

In the case of X-Y females, although they usually develop testicles their bodies never respond to the male hormones, so none of the other male characteristics develop.

XX males are harder to figure out, but researchers think that although they have two female X chromosomes, they also inherited the H-Y antigen, which led them to develop testicles. Once that happened, the male hormones did the rest of the work.

What all this means is that your sexual identity is not as rigid as you might like to think—most of it, in fact, is culturally acquired.

No matter how tough or sweet you think you are, your genes could tell a different story. "It's 1978, but we're still not out of the Dark Ages," said Money. "The world of chromosomes is so much more fluid than anyone imagined. Literally anything is possible."

## WOULD YOU?

If, in this world there were but two,  
And everything was good and true  
And you were sure that no none knew,  
Would you?

If you were to dream of pajamas blue,  
And my arms embracing you,  
And you were sure that no one knew,  
Would you?

If all the world was good and right  
And I could sleep with you at night  
And if I turned out every light,  
Would you?

If we were just face to face,  
And nothing between us but thin lace,  
And you were sure that all was safe,  
Would you?

If all of this came true,  
And I could spend all night with you  
And still be sure that no one knew,  
You're damn right, I would  
WOULD YOU?

## Helping hands

Mother and Father were getting ready for a party, and their boy and girl watched attentively from the doorway.

First, Mom fastened Dad's cuff links, then Dad zipped up the back of Mom's dress. Mom then knotted his bow tie, and he fastened her pearls.

The daughter was quiet for a moment, then turned to her brother and said, "I wonder why they expect us to dress ourselves."

He had a secretary who was getting a little behind at work, and a wife who was getting a big one at home.

Proud Papa: "My new baby boy has a tremendous chest, muscles like Tarzan, and bawls like a bull."

She was really a smart girl. She could play post office all night without getting any mail in her box.

Grandpa is 94 and boasts he makes love to three women a day. Recently, though, he sadly admits, he's had to caution them not to cough.