GENDER

• Transgender stats (UCLA 2022)[[1]](#footnote-1)

1. Nearly half of 1.6 million transgender Americans are teenagers or young adults

2. Percentage of youth doubled since last estimate; adults remained same

3. Percentage of youth varies by state (NY=3%; WY=0.6%; WI=1.75%; average=1.43%)

 *- Educational policies & regional politics may be reason*

• Gender Identity Disorder (GID); now called “Gender Dysphoria”

1. Rare (Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders—DSM-5, May 2013)[[2]](#footnote-2)

 *- Males--.005 to .014% (5-14 cases for every 100,000 males)*

 *- Females--.002-.003% (2-3 cases for every 100,000 females)*

 *- Historically (100 years) boys ages 2-4[[3]](#footnote-3)*

2. 75% lose feelings on own (APA Handbook of Sexuality & Psychology)[[4]](#footnote-4)

 *- No certain physiological or genetic cause (DSM-5); not “born that way”*

*- 15% of youth will attempt suicide; 3% of all students will[[5]](#footnote-5)*

3. Counseling

 *- For underlying conditions: autism, trauma, anxiety, & stress*

 *- Banned in 20 states[[6]](#footnote-6)*

4. Chemical solution?

 *- Gender clinics giving puberty-blockers & cross-sex hormones (no FDA approval)*

 *- No research tracking satisfaction or regret[[7]](#footnote-7)*

*- Unknown long-term effects (no clinics 15 years ago)*

*- Short-term effects: lower bone density, high blood pressure, breast cancer, liver*

 *disease, cardiovascular disease, & infertility[[8]](#footnote-8)*

*- Sweden, Finland, England use “watchful waiting”—a transient phase[[9]](#footnote-9)*

 *- England’s MDs: don’t change name/pronouns[[10]](#footnote-10)*

5. Surgical solution?

 *- Johns Hopkins no longer does sex-reassignment surgery (first in 1960’s)*

 *- Patients no better psychologically or socially than those without surgery[[11]](#footnote-11)*

 *- Patients 19 times more likely to commit suicide than average[[12]](#footnote-12)*

 *- What about anorexia?*

6. Cost[[13]](#footnote-13)

*- Estrogen injections--$2400/per year*

*- Testosterone gels--$4200/per year*

*- 15 year-old will spend $100K+ on hormones and $100K+ on surgeries in lifetime*

7. After transition surgery regrets

 - *7000 in 2020 (Reddit group)*

*- 35,000 in 2022 (400% increase)*

• Rapid Onset Gender Dysphoria—Dr. Lisa Littman (Brown U.)

1. Usually teenage girls (not all women)

 *- England—4000% increase in girls seeking transition over decade*

2. Sudden requests for hormones or surgery

3. Nearly 70% of parents: child part of group where 1 or more transitioned

 *- Social contagion (like anorexia)*

 4. 60% of parents: transgenderism increased child’s popularity

5. Over 60% of parents: child was previously diagnosed with mental health disorder

*- Depression, anxiety, self-harm*

*- Struggling socially*

*- Unhappy with body*

• What to do

1. Speak the truth in love

2. Use name from parents; treat respectfully

3. Deal with underlying issues: eating disorders, depression & autism[[14]](#footnote-14)

• What about “Plurals”?

1. People who identify as other people, animals, or objects

2. Dissociative Identity Disorder or expression of true selves?

• What about…?

1. Rachel Dolezal 2. Emile Ratelband 3. Stefonknee Wolscht

• Bible & biological sex

1. God created male & female

 - *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and*

 *female he created them. (Ge 1:27)*

2. God institutes marriage of one man & woman

 - *Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and*

 *they shall become one flesh (Ge 2:24)*

3. Sexes & marriage display God’s image & order

 *- “A woman shall not wear a man’s garment, nor shall a man put on a woman’s cloak, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD your God.” (Dt 22:5)*

• Biblical care

 1. Christ (Law & Gospel)

  *- God’s perfect will & His love for all*

 2. Counseling to deal with confusion, shame, & despair

 *- Biology is not bigotry*

 3. Community for acceptance & care

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