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San Francisco CA 94110
August 24, 1987

Ray Blanchard, PhD
Gender Identity Clinic
Clarke Institute of Psychiatry
250 College Street
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5T 1R8

Dear Dr. Blanchard:

I am writing in regards to your recent article "Heterosexual and Homosexual Gender Dysphoria" in the Archives of Sexual Behavior, Vol. 16, No. 2, 1987.

First, I want to thank you for mentioning the existence of a female-to-male who identifies as a gay man. Long have I searched the transsexual literature for a mention of someone like myself and have found only 3-4 such references.

I was born female and, from my first sexual fantasies, have been attracted to homosexual men. I began identifying as a gay man at age 22 and have not waivered in my sexual orientation towards men throughout my female-to-male transition. I began testosterone at age 28 (in 1979) and have lived full-time as a gay man since. Just this past year I completed genital surgery and, unfortunately this past New Year's Eve was diagnosed with pneumocystis AIDS.

I felt a need to write to you to protest the exclusion of the one female-to-male gay man from your study/statistics, because, as you argued, such cases are "very unusual." Rupert Raj, editor of Metamorphosis in Toronto, claims to know of seven such cases. I have recently spoken with Paul Walker (who knows me well) and Eli Coleman of Minnesota regarding the Harry Benjamin Symposium in Amsterdam and the long overdue recognition of the female-to-male gay man.

Before I die, I would very much like to be documented, so that in the future others like myself will not search the transsexual literature for a mention of someone like themselves in vain (as I did), and/or, worse, experience discrimination from the gender identity clinics (as I did) because they do not fit the stereotypical mold of the female-to-male.

Again, thank you for mentioning the one case, and I hope in the future you will see fit to include us all!

Sincerely,

Louis G. Sullivan