



GIRL TALK

Powder Puffs of California — Serving the California Gender Community Since 1987

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RENT

The successful Broadway musical, *Rent*, has been banned from being performed in Charlotte, N. C. by the city commission because of its homosexual content. The play focuses on the community formed by tenants and former tenants of a deteriorating urban apartment building and the developing relationships between them. The cast included a transvestite, lesbians, a computer nerd, and an HIV-positive couple among others. The title refers to the earthly life's impermanent nature. *Rent* is playing at the Ahmanson Theater in Los Angeles.

Vendors Night October 4th !!!

The kids are back in school, the autumnal equinox has passed, and it's getting darker earlier. October is here and it is a busy month for Powder Puffs. REMEMBER, October's meeting will be Vendors Night at Powder Puffs on OCTOBER 4th!

Need some new make-up?
Would you like to try on a new wig?
Want to update an old dress with some new jewelry?
Then come to Powder Puffs Vendors Night this October 4th. Sue has signed up the following vendors for our meeting:

- ✓ Jeani Adams from Parklane Jewelry
- ✓ Renée & Tania from World of Wigs Salon
- ✓ Terri Davis from Mary Kay Cosmetics
- ✓ Katherine Robbins from Katherine Robbins Skin Care
- ✓ Willies Specialty Star (mastectomy products)
- ✓ Payless for Lingerie

Date: October 4, 1997
Place: Placentia Holiday Inn, 118 E. Orangethorpe, Placentia, CA just east off the 57 freeway (exit Orangethorpe).
Time: 8:00 pm.

Halloween Party

This year's Bash will take place at the Fullerton Holiday Inn — same as last year. No, not the Placentia Holiday Inn (that's where we hold our regular meeting. Rather, we will be at the FULLERTON Holiday Inn in — surprise! — Fullerton (222 W. Houston).

We are planning to have prizes for best overall costume, best halloween theme costume, and best couples costume. Also, included will be food, fine beverages, dancing, and raffles. Julie from Complete Music has generously volunteered to supply the dancing sounds. The Party will take place on Saturday October 25th at 7:30 pm. Ticket prices are \$25 in advance, \$28 at the door. Tickets may be obtained by writing to PPOC, PO Box 1088, Yorba Linda ,CA 92885.

All Hallow's Eve Special

Kathryn Robbins Skin Care in Yorba Linda is offering a special for our Halloween Party! Kathryn is offering a very special makeover for Halloween. Those who are interested are asked to call 714-692-2747 for your makeover appointment. Ask for an appointment with Wendy Olson who will be there on October 25th. Cost will be about \$60. The makeover should take about one hour.

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POISONOUS ENVY

by Melanie Yarborough

There are some women out there who are simply drop-dead gorgeous. Las Vegas showgirls, Parisian runway models, young actresses, sultry nightclub singers. To a transgendered male, there's always that twinge just below the surface: Envy of long hair, a smooth face, breasts, slim long legs, sensuous gestures, graceful walk....and so on.

It's a natural human thing to measure oneself against others. But some look to quick and easy solutions: I'll grow my hair, I'll do electrolysis, I'll take premarin, I'll go full time. Then I'll be just as much of a woman as she is. Unfortunately, this envy can become a corrosive poison, eating away at our hold on reality. One can lose oneself in the fantasy, and the Grand Obsession can swallow everything.

Nothing is as it appears. On the surface, many women seem to rejoice in their femininity. However, males don't really see the other 90% of what women go through. The knowledge that whatever their intelligence or achievements, they'll always be judged on how they look. Vulnerability to violence and rape, especially at night. Until recently, being relegated to the secretarial and clerical jobs of the world. John Lennon wrote "Woman is the n_gger of the world". Read some feminist writers: Betty Friedan, Germaine Greer, Gloria Steinem. You'll get the idea.

Would going all the way, living full time, having the operation make one truly happy? Would surgical alteration of one's body resolve issues of low self-esteem? Would living out a new female social role necessarily help one understand better the original problems of one's own male one?

Most of us are not going to be blonde, blue-eyed, big breasted and slim waisted femme fatales. But with effort one can become comfortable with oneself as a transgendered person, and present a credible female image.

It's okay for a guy to want to be a girl sometimes. But transgenderism is like alcohol. If imbibed too freely, it can addict and intoxicate. One of its side effects is poisonous envy. Yes, it can be a chance to expand one's gender consciousness, to learn things about women most men will never know, and even to realize one's fantasies. But it has to be taken in careful doses with a sense of responsibility.

From the Library

Schlatterer K; von Werder K; Stalla GK. Multistep treatment concept of transsexual patients. *Experimental and Clinical Endocrinology and Diabetes*, 1996, 104(6):413-9.

Abstract: Here we present a pragmatic multistep approach for the treatment of transsexual patients. The importance of an individually designed cross-gender hormone replacement therapy embedded in a multidisciplinary treatment concept, provided by psychiatrists, endocrinologists and surgeons, is demonstrated. Following this concept outcome of therapy has been improved in the last years. Over the last 5 years we have gained substantial experience in the cross-gender hormone treatment of transsexual patients. By continuous follow-up examinations and therapy adjustment the risk of side effects accompanying this therapy has been significantly minimized. This report is designed as a guideline to the clinical endocrinologist for the handling and treatment of transsexual patients.

Literature Cited

Cohen, Leo; de Ruiter, Corine; Ringelberg, Heleen; Cohen-Kettenis, Peggy T. Psychological functioning of adolescent transsexuals: Personality and psychopathology. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 1997 Feb, v53 (n2):187-196.

Abstract: Adolescent transsexuals were compared with adolescent psychiatric outpatients and first-year university students to determine the extent to which other psychopathology is a necessary condition for the development of transsexualism. Three areas of psychological functioning associated with fundamental psychological disturbances--perceptual inaccuracy disorders of thought and negative self-image--were assessed by means of the Rorschach Comprehensive System. The group of adolescent transsexuals was found to be intermediate between adolescent psychiatric patients and nonpatients for extent of perceptual inaccuracy. They did not differ significantly from nonpatients with regard to thinking disturbances and negative self-image. The psychiatric patients included significantly more individuals characterized by negative self image than the other groups.

The results support the idea that major psychopathology is not required for the development of transsexualism.

☆ ☆ ☆

Cohen-Ketteinis, Peggy T.; van Goozen, Stephanie H. M. Sex reassignment of adolescent transsexuals: A follow-up study. *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, 1997 Feb, v36 (n2):263-271.

Abstract: Investigated postoperative functioning of the 1st 22 consecutive adolescent transsexual patients of a gender clinic who underwent sex reassignment surgery. Subjects were interviewed by an independent psychologist and filled out a test battery containing questionnaires on their psychological, social, and sexual functioning. All Subjects had undergone surgery no less than 1 yr before the study took place. 12 Subjects had started hormone treatment between 16 and 18 yrs of age. The posttreatment data of each patient were compared with his or her own pretreatment data. Postoperatively the group was no longer gender-dysphoric; they scored in the normal range with respect to a number of different psychological measures and they were socially functioning quite well. Not a single Subject expressed feelings of regret concerning the decision to undergo sex reassignment.

Zucker KJ; Bradley SJ; Sanikhani M. Sex differences in referral rates of children with gender identity disorder: some hypotheses. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, 1997 Jun, 25(3):217-27.

Abstract: From 1978 through 1995, a sex ratio of 6.6:1 of boys to girls (N=275) was observed for children referred to a specificity clinic for gender identity disorder. This article attempts to evaluate several hypotheses regarding the marked sex disparity in referral rates. The sexes did not differ on four demographic variables (age at referral, IQ, and parent's social class and marital status) and on five indices of general behavior problems on the Child Behavior Checklist; in addition, there was only equivocal evidence that boys with gender identity disorder had significantly poorer peer relations than girls with gender identity disorder. Although the percentage of boys and girls who met the complete DSM-III-R criteria for gender identity disorder was comparable, other measures of sex-typed behavior showed that the girls had more extreme cross-gender behavior than the boys. Coupled with external evidence that cross-gender behavior is less tolerated in boys than in girls by both peers and adults, it is concluded that social factors partly account for the sex difference in referral rates. Girls appear to require a higher threshold than boys for cross-gender behavior before they are referred for clinical assessment.

☆ ☆ ☆

Eldh J; Berg A; Gustafsson M.

Long-term follow up after sex reassignment surgery. *Scandinavian Journal of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Andhand Surgery*, 1997 Mar, 31(1):39-45.

Abstract: A long-term follow up of 136 patients operated on for sex reassignment was done to evaluate the surgical outcome. Social and psychological adjustments were also investigated by a questionnaire in 9 of these 136 patients. Optimal results of the operation are essential for a successful outcome. Personal and social instability before operation, unsuitable body build, and age over 30 years at operation correlated with unsatisfactory results. Adequate family and social support is important for postoperative functioning. Sex reassignment had no influence on the person's ability to work.



It's BACK...



The Powder Puff's
Annual Halloween Party
October 25, 1997 - 7:30 to ??
At the Fullerton Holiday Inn
222 W. Houston Avenue

Featuring a buffet meal, costumes, prizes and Live DJ



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De 'An Drew Designs, Stockings & Pantyhose, 8884 Warner Ave., Suite 172, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

Sizes Unlimited, specializing in sizes 14 and up, 5187 Lakewood Blvd. (next to Chucky Cheese) in Lakewood across from the Lakewood Mall, 310 634-2054. Ask for Rey between 9 to 3.

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Cookie Lee, Fine fashion jewelry — home & office shows, Genie Lalama, 818-246-2197 (by appointment).

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Shirely Lampert, M.A., MFC. Professor of Human Sexuality, Psychotherapist, ASSECT AND AMERICAN BOARD OF SEXOLOGY. Certified Sex Therapist. Specializing in working with the TS & TV community. (714) 833-7810, 1151 Dove St., Ste 105, Newport Beach, CA 92660

Brad Taylor, M.A., MFCC, 360 N. Bedford Drive, Suite 215, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, sliding scale. (310) 247-9955

Transgender Counseling & Research Center, 4545 Park Blvd., Ste. 207, San Diego, CA 92116, 619-929-2721, Jan Eder, Psy. D., Educator & Research Director.

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Dr. Richard F. Docter, Ph.D., 17162 Sunburst St, Northridge CA 91325, 818-349-9709

Regal Opticians, 2402 W. 6th Street, Los Angeles , CA 90057, 231-382-7606.

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Mary Kay, Terri Davis — Independent Professional Beauty Consultant, 4607 Ostrom Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713, 310-420-9933.

Make-up by Meier, Harry Meier, Makeup Artist, 1743 E. Wilson Av #6, Orange CA 714-774-2686

BeautiControl Cosmetics, 121 Timbre, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688, 714-459-1407, Rochelle Abate

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Classic Curves, "Get the Maximum Curvature with a minimum of Effort," foundations by Espy Lopez, 2620 Carson St., Ste 55, 310-549-8787.

Waist and Stays Cosetry, The Goddess Shoppe, "Serving the Needs of the Craft," Erin Rado and Paul Rado — Owners, Phone: (800) 777-1185 Office), (714) 579-7514 (FAX), P.O. Box 6399, Fullerton, CA 92634-6399, <http://www.primenet.com/~goddess>, e-mail goddess@goddess.com

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