

The Definitions

In late 2015, on ABC's 20/20, former Olympian Bruce Jenner announced that he is a woman. Explaining that he'd always been confused about his gender identity, he believes that - while God had given him the body of a man - He had also given him the soul of a woman.

Sympathetic commentators said Jenner was "brave" to "transition" from a man to a woman. He was honored for his "bravery" by the Arthur Ashe Foundation, and incredibly named "Woman of the Year" by *Glamour Magazine*.

And the transgender community is delighted and clearly making progress of being fully accepted in our culture. For example:

December 2012, the American Psychiatric Association announced the latest version of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-V)* would no longer include the term "gender identity disorder." The revised manual replaced "gender identity disorder" with the more neutral term "gender dysphoria."

On May 30, 2014, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services review board ruled that Medicare *can* pay for the "reassignment" surgery sought by the transgendered.

Several states including California, New Jersey and Massachusetts, have passed laws barring psychiatrists, even with parental permission, from striving to restore natural gender feelings to a transgender minor (Reparative Therapy).

New York's Governor, Andrew Cuomo, gave an Executive Order that interpreted New York's "Sexual Orientation Non-Discrimination Act" to include transsexuals.

The **Human Rights Campaign** claims that there are at least 70,000 transsexuals in the United States (.3% of the total population), but admits that this number is based on limited studies/surveys.¹

The Human Rights Campaign gives the following definitions:²

Transgender – or "trans" – is an umbrella term for people whose gender identity or expression is different from those typically associated with the sex assigned to them at birth (e.g., the sex listed on their birth certificate).

Sex refers to the designation of a person at birth as either "male" or "female" based on their anatomy (e.g. reproductive organs) and/or their biology (e.g. hormones).

Gender refers to the traditional or stereotypical roles, behaviors, activities and attributes that a given society consider appropriate for men and women.

Gender identity refers to a person's innate, deeply-felt psychological identification as a man, woman or some other gender.

Gender expression refers to the external manifestation of a person's gender identity, which may or may not conform to socially-defined behaviors and characteristics typically associated with being either masculine or feminine.

The Deception

Theologian R. Albert Mohler, Jr. observes:

"As the definition by the Human Rights Campaign makes clear, the transgendered revolution required something that the gay liberation movement, at least in its earlier stages did not – the arrival of postmodernism as an intellectual movement. One of the central tenets of postmodernism is that "reality" itself is socially constructed. In other words, reality is not an objective fact or a comprehensive truth, but a set of socially constructed ideas and social systems used by people in power to restrain and oppress the less fortunate. A driving concern of postmodernism is to liberate those who suffered from oppression

caused by patriarchy, capitalism or Christian civilization."³

So objective truth is rejected, in favor of an illusion. "*Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools...* (Romans 1:22) by exchanging the truth of God for a lie (Romans 1:25).

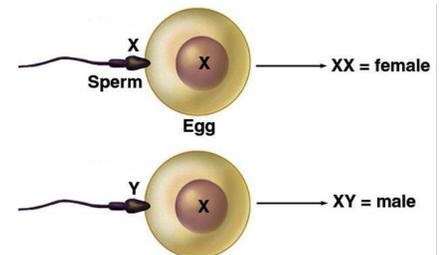
If there is no such thing as Truth, if right and wrong are up to the individual, then of course personal choice becomes the highest good. Even if the choice threatens our spiritual, physical, and moral well-being. In the case of transgenderism, the consequences are a life of misery and heart ache.

But there is objective truth about transgenderism. your mother was an "X," but the one from your father was either "X" or "Y." If you received a "X" you are a female, and

Dr. McHugh, former psychiatrist in chief at Johns Hopkins Hospital (the hospital that preformed the first "sex-change" operation) explains why they stopped preforming this operation:

"'Sex change' is biologically impossible... People who undergo sex-reassignment surgery do not change from men to women or vice versa. Rather, they become feminized men or masculinized women. Claiming that this is civil-rights matter and encouraging surgical intervention is in reality to collaborate with and promote a mental disorder." ⁴

The reason for this is not difficult to grasp. When you were conceived in your mother's womb, you received one chromosome from your mother, and one from your father. The chromosome from if it was a "Y" then you are male.



And there is nothing you can do about it!

You can change your dress, change your appearance, take hormones, and even have surgery – but you cannot change your chromosomes. As Dr. McHugh acknowledged: **Sex change is biologically impossible.**

The Deliverance

The Word of God says in Genesis 1:27, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”

The terms *male* and *female* are not social roles foisted upon mankind, but a part of the goodness of God’s creative order.

Kevin DeYoung notes: “The biblical understanding of male and female is more than just an assumption writ large on the pages of Scripture. We know from Genesis 1 and 2 that the categories of male and female are a part of God’s design for humanity. Indeed, when God created the first human pair in his image, he created them male and female (Gen. 1:27) He made the woman to be a complement and help to the man (Gen. 2:18-22).. Far from being a mere cultural construct, God depicts the existence of a man and a woman as essential to his creational plan. The two are neither identical nor interchangeable. But when the woman, who was taken out of man, joins again with the man in sexual union, the two become one flesh (Gen. 1:23-24)(the human race into two genders, male and female—one or the other, not both, and not one then the other—is not the invention of Victorian pruders or patriarchal oafs. It was God’s idea.”⁵

God has written His law on our hearts. We know instinctively that our sex is part of our God-given, biological design. And we should realize that when we try to deny or suppress or alter that essential part of our being, it’s not good for us -- and especially not good for our children.

So what is the solution to transgenderism and the challenges it presents?

Jesus put it simply in John 8:32, “*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*”

We must embrace the truth, and express it in love to those who are trapped by a lie.

The transgendered must accept the truth – God did not make a mistake, you did. God is ready and willing to forgive you and give you a new life. All you have to do is repent of your sin and trust Jesus Christ as your Savior.

Endnotes:

¹www.hrc.org

²www.hrc.org

³Mohler: We Cannot Be Silent, page 71

⁴www.wsj.com

⁵<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/bible-study/what-does-the-bible-say-about-transgenderism.html>

REMINDER FOR CHRISTIANS: It is right and proper to hate ALL sin, including “transgenderism”, but is never right to hate the sinner! We should not mock, harass, or misuse anyone. We should show compassion instead.

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.” —Galatians 6:1

“Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.” —Matthew 7:12

THE TRUTH ABOUT TRANSGENDERISM



And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,” -- Matthew 19:4

By Tom Stiles