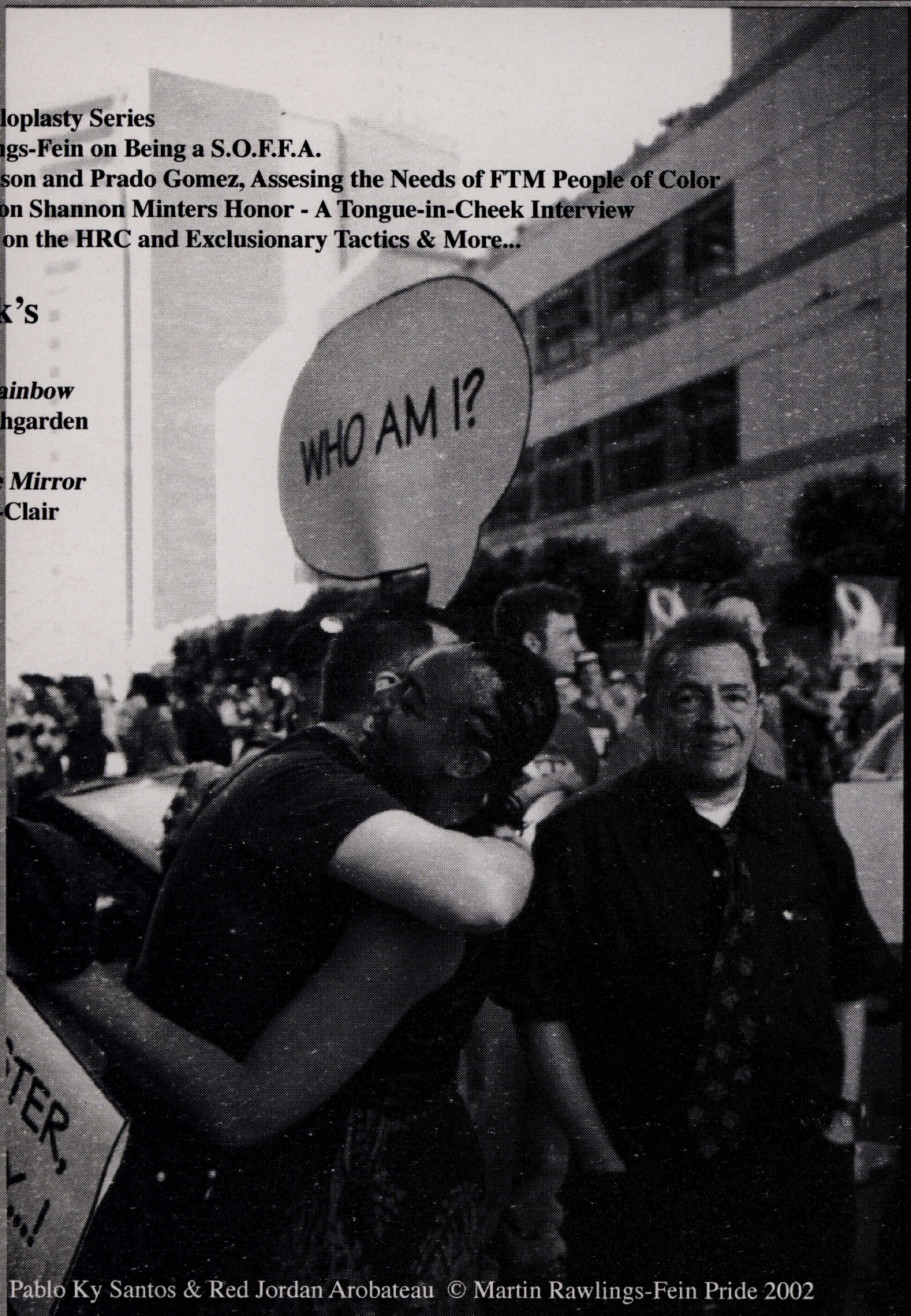


- ♦Part II: Phalloplasty Series
- ♦Shelli Rawlings-Fein on Being a S.O.F.F.A.
- ♦Willy Wilkinson and Prado Gomez, Assessing the Needs of FTM People of Color
- ♦Chris Daley on Shannon Minters Honor - A Tongue-in-Cheek Interview
- ♦Gwen Smith on the HRC and Exclusionary Tactics & More...

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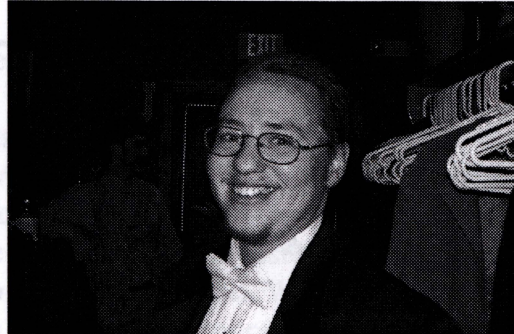
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Juan Alejandro-Lamas



Years go by...

By Marty Rawlings-Fein

Well, we have a lot to talk about in this is issue of the FTMI newsletter. The San Francisco Pride Celebration is coming up at the end of the month, the outgoing Board Members who will be sorely missed, the elections that will seal the deal for the next two years, Shannon Minters Honorary Degree from City University of New York, the HRC's exclusionary tactics with their Trans membership, and my wife's viewpoint on life as a S.O.F.F.A.

These have been an incredible two years for FTMI, while we have had our ups and downs we never forgot about our membership. The money that you helped us raise in the beginning of our term was used for things like rent, ASL interpreters, our POC Needs Assessment, phone bills, insurance and printing and mailing the newsletter. Your support is appreciated and your voice will be heard once again as your vote for Board Members is counted!

Take a good long look at the list this year, as we have a great turn out of dedicated volunteers. However only Juan and I will be returning as Board members, "IF" you vote for us. Gwen will continue to do web work for the Org, Tamhas will continue with his immense volunteer work, Jennifer will continue to find us excellent ASL interpreting, Dragonsani will be going to Law School at Hastings College, Pablo will continue to bring injustice to light for FTM's everywhere, Joel will continue to be a facilitator for our groups, and Tyler will continue as our Ad contact for the Newsletter!

I hope you like this edition! Make the newsletter yours by sending in an article, artwork, comics, or poetry. Or donate to the cause by sending a check of money order to FTM International at 160 14th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103! So that we may continue to help those in need throughout the world.

Marty Rawlings-Fein Co-Chair of FTMI

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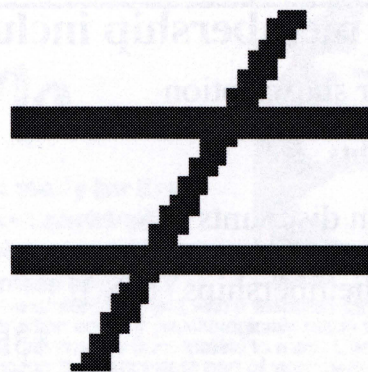
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Exclusionary Tactics

By Gwen [redacted] information

I recently had the pleasure to walk up Rhode Island Avenue in Washington, D.C., and stand in front of a large, glass-fronted building. In my hand was a sign which said, simply, "Ten Years of Exclusion." The building we were standing on front of had a large, furnished aluminum sign near the top -- in the shape of an "equals" sign.

Yes, the building is the office of the Human Rights Campaign.

I was proud to stand outside that building, attracting the attention of those behind the glass windows as well as many passers by. If anything, this was nothing more than yet another skirmish in a battle that has been brewing for a very long time -- and a struggle that is heating up yet again.

It will be of no surprise to many that there has been a long history of bad blood between the Human Rights Campaign and transgender activists. For the last decade -- as transgendered people have fought to be included in the Employment Non-Discrimination Act -- HRC has stood firm to the belief that adding transgender" to this bill would weaken its chances of passage.

The argument is that it is better to stick with political expediency than wait for a future time when an all-inclusive bill would be accepted. After all, one could simply attempt to include transgendered people later, or craft a future bill to cover gender identity or expression.

Similar arguments have been made in regards to the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, otherwise known as the Federal Hate Crimes Bill. While "gender" is included within, it is unclear of this will apply to transgender people or not. Some have said that it is best to just assume that it will rather

than worry about adding specific language that may make the bill harder to pass. Never mind that neither the LLEEA and ENDA are going anywhere fast in a republican-dominated Congress.

Over the last decade many things have changed. The transgender community has gone from a blip on the radar screen of a relatively small number of queer rights groups to being an accepted -- if often under-served and misunderstood -- part of the larger community. The term "transgender" itself has gone from obscurity to the mass media and, yes, the floors of Congress.

Indeed, gender identity or expression has been included in most rights bills passed on the last handful of years, right alongside sexual orientation.

Yet while rights victories across the country have become vastly more inclusive of transgender and gender variant inclusive language, transgender activists have been told that a transgender inclusive ENDA is still as risky a proposition as it was in 1994.

Now, information has come to me that shows why this remains the case within the beltway, even while transgender-inclusive change has happened across the country. The answer is as simple as it is disturbing: the Human Rights Campaign itself has been the roadblock.

A day before I stood in front of HRC's swank offices, a sibling Activist visited a congressperson's office.

They were supportive of transgender inclusion, but wondered out loud why HRC was no "on board" with this. Over the course of the next day, more heard similar questions from Congressional aides.

It isn't Congress that is so much resistant to trans-inclusive bills -- it is those we entrust to push for our rights in Washington, D.C. The tail has been wagging the dog all along, as HRC keeps transgender-inclusive language out of the offices of our legislators, rather than assisting in the education of these same individuals on the need for such language.

In the week that followed this protest, even more damning reports began to surface, including allegations that HRC had attempted to influence a trans-supportive organization to change their stance towards trans inclusion. I also heard stories that reached far beyond simply the needs of transgendered people, including members of the leather community who were turned away from HRC functions due to their -- conservative by most standards -- formal

leather wear.

The day of this protest in D.C., a Human Rights Campaign representative came out to meet our protesters, and ask us inside and away from the public eye. It was myself and the principle organizer of the protest who went inside while the rest of our group continued outside. We also took a camera crew -- who had been filming transgender lobbying efforts earlier that day -- inside to film a closed door meeting with a small group of HRC officials.

Amist the platitudes and promises, it was mentioned that HRC was intending to discuss whether they should support only transgender-inclusive bills in the future at their August board meeting.

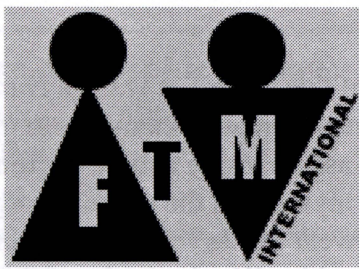
Now is where you come in. You know where I stand on this, and you know that I'm not afraid to stand out in front of the HRC offices in Washington, D.C. to show my frustration with an organization that claims to include me, yet seems to work against me when I'm not watching.

If this behavior doesn't set well with you, then make your own stand. When you are asked at pride to contribute, decline. If you are a member, do not renew. Exclude yourself -- and your money -- from an Organization that chooses to exclude other members of your community. Let HRC know that if we are indeed one community, then we only need one fully-inclusive bill to cover us all.

Finally, to those reading who may well be voting in August during HRC's board meeting, please consider a vote for change. If you are truly for human rights, know that these should be given to all: one should never pick and choose who deserves legal protections based on supposed political expediency.

Gwen Smith thanks those few anonymous sources who have contributed immeasurably to the above piece. You can find her on the World Wide Web at www.gwensmith.com &

Wallace [redacted] had a re-naming ritual to honor the transition in his life and the lives of his friends, family, and church. The service honoring Wally's chosen name was held at 11:00 am Sunday June 13 at the Northminster Presbyterian Church 545 Ashbury Ave, El Cerrito CA 94530 where the Oakland East Bay Gay Men's Chorus sang following the service!



A Monstrey Phalloplasty: My 2003 Experience

By Daniel

Continued from issue #53...

Hospital Discharge

Once you are able to urinate, your discharge from the hospital is imminent. They generally like you to stay in the country for some follow-up appointments over the next 1 to 1-1/2 weeks. The appointments are generally with Monstrey in the plastic surgery clinic on the first floor of K12. It is nice to stay in Gent to spend some time slowly gathering your energy while sightseeing. After 2 to 2-1/2 weeks in the hospital you will tire easily.

The nurses suggest dressing your penis up for another month, however Professor Monstrey seemed to indicate wearing your penis in any direction, up, down or to the side is all OK. While you are generally sensitive in the general groin area, you are surprisingly not sore or irritated. It can be challenging to determine what kind of underwear to use at this point and it is really an individual preference.

Various Complications

It seemed in my stay and seeing approximately 10 FTM phalloplasty patients that each of us had various kinds of minor complications. These are considered normal and most require either no or minimal intervention. The various complications include hematomas, low blood sugar, painful bowels, fistulas, and various wound site healing issues on the arm and leg.

There were however, two major complications. One patient had part of his bowel nicked during surgery leading to a very lengthy stay and several operations to correct the situation. On the positive side, there were excellent specialists available in the UZ. This situation is still pending a final correction. It is also worth noting that he had some very unusual anesthetic and/or surgical issues that in fact prevented

the Montreal team from finding him to be a viable candidate for surgery.

And in my case, I had partial necrosis of the left glans of my penis. This area needed to be debrided (cut away) and will require another flap from my right arm to correct. My complication is also pending the final correction later this year.

Both of these more serious complications were unique and each person contemplating such invasive surgery should be aware of the myriad of serious complications that may occur.

HOSPITAL PATIENTS AND STAFF

Other Patients

During my stay in the UZ, there were approximately 10 other phalloplasty patients on the ward. They ranged in age from the early 20s to the mid 40s. Two were from France, three were from Belgium, one from the Netherlands, one was from Canada and three were from the US (including Travis and myself). As I have indicated we tended to gravitate towards each other and discuss our recuperation. I also met a phalloplasty patient of Daverio's who was seeking to have Monstrey add a glans ridge on his phalloplasty. I also met several other patients further along in their recuperation in the Clinic. All in all everyone was very happy with their results.

The Doctors

As I already mentioned, Professors Monstrey and Hoebeke are extremely professional, friendly and have a great bedside manner. However, they are also extremely busy and your time with them can be very limited. The plastic surgical residents make the daily rounds, often with other staff and students. The residents were generally pretty good, all of them relatively friendly some with great bedside manners and others perhaps lacking by our standards. You will see a cadre of residents. Travis and I had to slow them down, ask for introductions and often request they speak English. The residents' English is all excellent however, they do revert to Dutch with instructions to the nursing staff and in discussions with each other. This is to be expecting seeking surgery in another country. But it can be very disconcerting, as you have no idea what they are discussing. There would often be a lengthy Dutch discussion only to be translated to "it's all OK" to us.

Plastic Surgery Ward Nurses

There are three shifts for the nursing staff. You will have the most contact with the morning staff for dressing changes, baths and linen changes. They are often assigned to the same rooms for their workweek so you get in a groove with them and they with your requirements. In general the nursing staff is very helpful, friendly, and professional. There will of course be personal likes and dislikes. I also imagine that as American patients we have a certain image as being demanding and aggressive perhaps. Most of the nursing staff speaks English, however there are some that have no English skills. Both Travis and I had our best experience with a non-English speaking nurse, we nicknamed "mom" because her care was so comforting. She was our nurse early on when we were feeling the most pain and general weakness and she made all the difference. The afternoon and evening shift will do evening dressing changes. And the late night shift will be all but invisible to you unless you

need attention in the night. Overall, the staff was great and we got to know several of the nurses rather well.

The Clinic

On the first floor of K12, there is a plastic surgery clinic that you will use to have any of your appointments after you are discharged from the UZ. Expect for some lengthy waiting time for any appointments.

Harry Saelens

Harry works out of the Plastic Surgery Clinic and supplies the elastic and silicone sleeves for your arm. Travis was not informed of this practice and returned to the states in search of the proper bandages. Harry does not directly work for the UZ and only accepts cash for the products. There is a wait for fabrication as each sleeve is custom made so inquire early for Harry to visit you perhaps before you are discharged. He suggests getting 2 elastic sleeves; these are worn almost all the time. You have two to alternate and wash one. He also suggests getting an elastic glove to wear at night to help alleviate hand swelling. And finally you will get a silicone sleeve to be worn under the elastic sleeve to facilitate healing and prevent hypertrophic scarring. He also sells a lotion to be used with the silicone sleeve and a cleansing solution for the elastic products. All in all I think I spent 400 E on this necessity.

Barbara F. Anderson PhD.

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FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT IN THE HOSPITAL

Food

The hospital food at first is rather fun, experiencing a different culture's cuisine. They serve 4 slices of bread with various spreads for breakfast and again at dinner. The midday meal is generally a hot meat dish with vegetables and desert. Several days into the bread and we were extremely tired of it. As it turns out, you can request to speak to a dietician and develop custom menus to suit your taste. I was able to request cereal for breakfast, extra meat at lunch and pasta for dinner. It can take a day or two for the food change to take place so ask to speak to a dietician early on.

TV

The hospital television has CNN, MTV, the BBC, the cartoon network and some miscellaneous American programming during the day. They also have a

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good American movie channel in the evening and one or two channels that have current American programming. You will become familiar with all the American programming in short order while confined to your hospital bed.

Computer

Travis and I both brought our laptop computers and were able to watch our collection of DVD movies. It wasn't until about day 8 that we even felt like trying to concentrate on a movie, preferring before that to zone out on the TV.

Mental Stimulation, Books, Games, Hands on & Toys

You will find yourself wanting for some kind of stimulation for your mind while confined to your bed. Think about various games, crossword puzzles, books and such to keep your mind occupied. Even some hands on art would help with the use of your fingers and dexterity of your left hand.

OVERALL RECOVERY

Arm

The arm heals over the course of a year. I find the skin has changed from bluish to reddish to pink and fleshy at 4 months. The silicone sleeve helps with hypertrophic scarring and is to be worn up to 18 hours a day the first year. An elastic sleeve is worn over the silicone and looks rather benign so not many eyes are drawn to it and questions have been at a minimum. I still have some significant swelling of my left hand and that is considered normal. I have full functioning, the back of the hand just remains swollen while the lymph system rebuilds itself to allow for drainage. I have been able to return to lifting weights at 3 months and occasionally ice my hand to reduce the swelling. There was never any pain of the arm during the recovery.

Leg

The leg skin graft site heals extremely well. In the first few weeks it can be both itchy and burny feeling. It also can turn beet red when you resume walking as the blood flow changes from being bedridden but over the course of a year the site should hardly be discernable. You must protect the area from sunlight the first year.

Scrotum

The scrotum will give you the most discomfort in the first weeks. It is a general discomfort and slight ache to the general area. While you are confined to your bed it is the worst. By day 10 when you start walking the pain level has generally subsided although the area can feel uncomfortable if you are on your feet too long at first. The scrotum is basically healed when you are discharged from the hospital. It remains sensitive for several weeks as you learn to adjust yourself to having a package between your legs. The process they use to pull the scrotum forward really creates a swinging package that is actually quite forward and not squeezed between your legs. I was able to ride my standard style motorcycle very comfortably at 3 months post op.

Penis/The Final Product

When you leave the UZ, your penis is in surprisingly good shape. The glans ridge softens with time and looks more and more natural. If you had heavy hair on your arm, you will need to occasionally shave. I find once a month is sufficient and that the hair grows in softer and lighter than it did on my

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arm. I had thought of having electrolysis prior to the nerves fully functioning in the penis shaft but do not see a need to at this time. I actually think the shaving and hair follicles adds some texture more like a natural penis, there does not appear to be any coarse stubble but that may vary with the type of hair on an individual.

Overall the penis is a very ample size generally between 5" and 6" in length and the girth varies based on one's inherit body composition and seems to be around 4" to 5" in circumference for the one's I have seen. The glans looks very realistic with a fireman's hat shape to the ridge, becoming less on the underside. The penis hangs and swings freely and does take some getting used to. It may also be that at first we are so overly aware of finally having a penis that we really focus on its presence. The penis also seems to take on some natural life and will hang to one side or the other which at first I wondered about as the surgery really seemed to make it all perhaps too perfect, but over time your penis takes on subtle characteristics of it's own.

General Health

Although we were somewhat weak when first discharged from the UZ, our overall strength returned quickly. I was able to walk around Gent during my extended stay for complication follow-ups and in fact went hiking in the Swiss Alps at about 8 weeks post op. When I finally returned to the states, I began working immediately. I have a very strenuous and physically demanding job that I was able to do although I was aware of staying well rested and not pushing myself too much. Each day I was stronger and stronger. It was simply a challenge to be back at work and to get back in the groove after so much time off. Compared to my research on other bottom surgeries, this recuperation was relatively easy. There was no soreness or other significant issues.

SEXUAL FUNCTION

Due to the construction of the penis shaft on top of the clitoris, sexual functioning returns soon after surgery. The nerves going along the shaft of the penis take approximately 1 year to fully heal and develop but the buried clitoris allows for sexual functioning as soon as you feel up to it. I was able to masturbate by jacking off, the movement stimulates the buried clitoris, at approximately 6 weeks post op, even with my complication and additional bandages.

Due to my complication, I still wear a bandage around my penis and am now using a self-adhesive Ace bandage wrapped around twice. This keeps my penis straight and stiff and I am simply able to roll on a condom and have fantastic penetrative sex. I understand many of the other patients I met there have been equally creative to facilitate penetrative sex before they have the erection device installed. The mental connection to actually be inside someone vs. various prosthetics or dildos is unbelievable. Various other options like oral sex and hand jobs are also possible and very satisfying.

COSTS

My phalloplasty was estimated to be 20,000 E and included my hysterectomy. I understand the price is actually determined based on the detailed hospital bill but the estimate is generally fairly accurate. This payment is to be made 30 days before surgery by wire transfer. All the details for the wire transfer will be sent to you once a surgery date is set. To avoid high exchange rates, I contacted their bank, KBC, at the New York branch for the wire transfer and managed to avoid any additional fees above the going bank exchange rate. Some banks can charge as much as 20%.

In addition to the surgery, you will need to pay cash for the elastic and silicone bandages for your arm. This was about 400E for 2 elastic bandages, one glove, one silicone sleeve, lotions and cleaning solutions.

The erection implant procedure is generally not performed until one-year post op from the phalloplasty. This procedure is using a new French device that is a 2-part system vs. the previous 3-part system. The testicles are fluid filled and are pumped to inflate two rods along the shaft of the penis. A backflow valve keeps the fluid in the penis and when done the valve is pressed and the penis deflates. The previous system used a more invasive procedure with a reservoir located in the abdomen. Professor Hoebeke has reported great success with this new product. The cost estimate for the implant is 8-10,000 E and includes 5 days in the UZ.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Even with my rather serious complication, I am extremely satisfied with my phalloplasty. I have no issues with my arm scarring; it has simply become part of me. In hindsight, it was an easy procedure. In

fact compared to top surgery with Dr. Brownstein as an outpatient, the recuperation was relatively easy. I finally feel like my body matches my mind and it is great to have a significant package between my legs. I am finding my constant turmoil the last many years over bottom surgery is over and life is settling into a nice even keel. I firmly recommend the Gent gender team and believe they have an excellent product.

FURTHER INFORMATION

I will be posting 40-50 photographs of the hospital, the B&B, some staff members and of course a collection of phalloplasty results to the FTMSurgeryInfo Yahoo Group. To join the group go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ftmsurgeryinfo>. For further information, I may be contacted at danielsgroup_s2004@yahoo.com but would prefer most questions go through the groups avenue so all can benefit from the dialogue. 8

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160 14th Street, S
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Meeting Descriptions:

We alternate meeting type each month.

Informational meetings are "open" to FTMs and other interested parties, these meetings are usually centered around a topic to focus discussion. Often we will have visiting professionals from the communities which serve transsexuals, topical films, or transsexual speakers who have completed the change. These meetings also provide time for networking and informal discussion.

Support meetings are "closed" or limited to self-identified FTM transgenders and transsexuals at any stage of the process, and women who are exploring those identities. There is a simultaneous meeting for partners at the same location. Please don't bring friends or significant others or therapists or journalists to support meetings.

Call FTM Voicemail (415-553-5987) for more information.

Schedules for 2004:

July 11th (open), August 8th (closed),
September 12th (open), October 10th (closed),
November 14th (open), December 12th (closed)

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Questions?

E-Mail Jennifer jennifer@transally.info

New Questioning Men's Group meets on the 4th Monday of the month in the same space as the S.O.F.F.A. group at 7:30 P.M. Please stop by and support the newbies!

Thank you all for making this community Sparkle...



A little TLC...

Interview with Shannon minter
By Chris Daley

Shannon Minter, Legal Director at the National Center for Lesbian Rights, was recently awarded an Honorary Degree from the City University of New York School of Law. The degree was awarded in recognition of his years of service to human rights. Shannon, who leads national litigation on issues like family, youth, employment, elder, immigration and asylum law, took a minute to have an only sometimes serious conversation with Legal Translations about his honorary degree and his work.

CD: What was your honorary degree in?
Extraterrestrial Anthro-Sociology?

SM: Inexplicably, my qualifications for a degree in Extraterrestrial Anthro-Sociology were overlooked in favor of an honorary Doctorate of Law.

CD: Rumor has it that you were on the same stage

with Sister Helen Prejean whose work was chronicled in the film "Dead Man Walking." Two questions: did you get to meet Susan Sarandon (who portrayed Prejean in the film)? Who would you pick to portray you in the upcoming film based on your work (which I'm guessing will be called Stinky Man Lawyering)?

SM: Sister Prejean also received an honorary degree and gave a rousing commencement address. Sadly, I did not get to meet Susan Sarandon, although I did ask Sister Prejean if there was any chance she might be able to hook us up in the future. She promised she would get back to me on that -- NOT!

As for whom I would pick to portray me in Stinky Man Lawyering -- that's easy. It would have to be Ben Kingsley, in a reprise of his role of a stinky, and yet incredibly virile, short balding guy in *Sexy Beast*.

CD: Looking back on the eleven or so years that you've been doing LGBT legal work, what are some of the most significant changes you've seen?

SM: Thanks to the hard work of so many

Continued on page 12...

THE PHALLUS FEMALE TO MALE PALACE: TRANS BY DEAN KOTULA SEXUALS

Deeply personal essays accompanied by more than 100 photos capture female-to-male transsexualism in a candid and informative context that provides readers with a groundbreaking psychological, historical, biological, and cultural understanding of the journey from female to male.



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Soffa Space

By Shell:llifying information red

After Marty and I got engaged last year, we decided we needed to “come out” to my mom about Marty’s being FTM. So, like any good daughter and future son-in-law, we searched bookstores and the Internet for advice on how to tell her.

What did we find? Nothing. Zip. See, Marty has always been “Marty” to me. Marty had been living full time as Marty for quite a few years prior to my meeting him. All of the literature we found gave plentiful information and advice about coming out to family members pre- and mid-transition, but virtually none of it dealt with coming out post-transition.

In fact, as I looked for resources to help me continue to be supportive of Marty and understand transgender issues better, I found this lack of post-transition information and support to be true in other arenas as well. So much of the resources available are primarily aimed at SOFFAS (Significant Others, Family, Friends, and Allies) of pre or mid-transitioning transmen. However, I have found that SOFFAS of “transitioned” men need continued support as well.


Now that we are past telling Mom (it went great – thanks Mom for your open-mindedness and unconditional love!) and are now married, there are further concerns that are to a greater or lesser extent impacted by trans issues. Finding an apartment in a safe neighborhood (trans folk who get robbed in bad neighborhoods don’t just come out of it traumatized like non-trans folk, they too-often get killed), having children (not as simple or as complicated as one might think), and planning for our financial future are all significant examples of issues we face.

Dealing with all of this can be overwhelming for the both of us. Marty teaches me a lot about what it is like to be a transgender individual, and, it is also up to me to do my homework as well. We are both grateful for the open and closed support meetings at FTMi

that we are geographically privileged to be able to attend. It has also greatly helped me to be a member of an S.O. list-serve on Yahoo Groups (ftmsos@yahooogroups.com); although even this list tends to primarily deal with pre- and mid-transition material.

Regardless of trans-status, we all go through transitions in life because change is a universal truth. I have transitioned from one job to another and from being a child to an adult, for example. However, transgender people and their partners and families at times have special needs and concerns in regards to transitions and changes that non-trans people take for granted. Non-trans people in all areas of the US have the benefit from countless self-help books to tell them how to do everything from going to college to getting married. Trans people and their families deserve the same type of support. Not everyone lives in San Francisco and other areas with large numbers of trans people to learn from. Why should people living in these other areas have such a hard time getting such support?

I challenge all of us SOFFAS of post-transition transmen to sit down and write a 500-600 word article for the next FTMi newsletter and don’t worry, it does not have to be a literary masterpiece. We must create our own unique sources of support for the breadth of changes and needs we face – not just the “my girlfriend’s now my boyfriend” type. The books and articles need to be written. Submit your article to ftmi_newsletter@yahoo.com . It’s time to write our story – I look forward to reading your pieces. ✂



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Sex, Gender, and Sexuality: 21st Century Transformations

by Dr. Tracie O'Keefe DCH

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Web: www.tracieokeefe.com

Extraordinary People Press ISBN 0 952 94822 2

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Email: orders@turnaround-uk.com Web: www.extraordinarypeoplepress.com

with contributions from Stephen Whittle, Susan Stryker, Christie Egan-Cane & others.

hormones and how people come to differ from each other in all aspects of body and behavior. Roughgarden reconstructs primary science in light of feminist, gay, and transgender criticism and redefines our understanding of sex, gender, and sexuality. Witty, playful, and daring, this book will revolutionize our understanding of sexuality.

Roughgarden argues that principal elements of Darwinian sexual selection theory are false and suggests a new theory that emphasizes social inclusion and control of access to resources and mating opportunity. She disputes a range of scientific and medical concepts, including Wilson's genetic determinism of behavior, evolutionary psychology, the existence of a gay gene, the role of parenting in determining gender identity, and Dawkins's "selfish gene" as the driver of natural selection.

**"Witty, playful, and daring,
this book will revolutionize our
understanding of sexuality"**

She dares social science to respect the agency and rationality of diverse people; shows that many cultures across the world and throughout history accommodate people we label today as lesbian, gay, and transgendered; and calls on the Christian religion to acknowledge the Bible's many passages endorsing diversity in gender and sexuality. *Evolution's Rainbow* concludes with bold recommendations for improving education in biology, psychology, and medicine; for democratizing genetic engineering and medical practice; and for building a public monument to affirm diversity as one of our nation's defining principles.

474 pages, 6 x 9 inches

Clothbound: \$27.50 (0-520-24073-1)

Continued on page 14...

New Books on the Horizon!

Evolution's Rainbow: Diversity, Gender and Sexuality in Nature and People

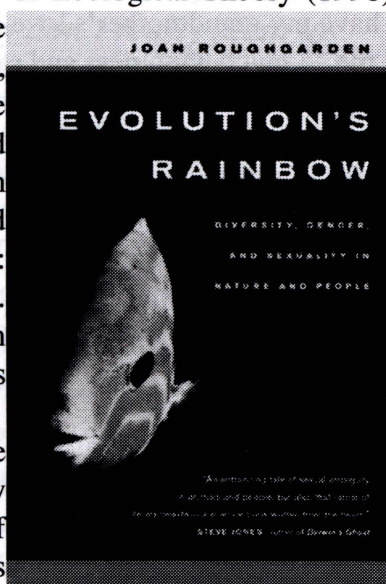
By Joan Roughgarden

About the Author: Joan Roughgarden is Professor of Biological Sciences at Stanford University. She is the author of *Primer of Ecological Theory* (1998), *Anolis Lizards of the Caribbean: Ecology, Evolution, and Plate Tectonics* (1995), and *Theory of Population Genetics and Evolutionary Ecology: An Introduction* (1979). Below is a description from the publisher's website...

In this innovative celebration of diversity and affirmation of individuality in animals and humans, Joan

Roughgarden challenges accepted wisdom about gender identity and sexual orientation. A distinguished evolutionary biologist, Roughgarden takes on the medical establishment, the Bible, social science--and even Darwin himself. She leads the reader through a fascinating discussion of diversity in gender and sexuality among fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals, including primates.

Evolution's Rainbow explains how this diversity develops from the action of genes and



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Obituary...

MATTHEW THOMAS DOUTRE, age 52, died suddenly and unexpectedly at his home in Florida, December 28, 2003. He is sorely missed by his loving wife and four children. Matthew was an active member of the gender community in Michigan and Ohio in the late 1980s to early 1990s, making FTM presentations at several conferences (Be-All You Can Be and IFGE conferences.) He attended Dr. Donald Brown's support group until Don's death in 1995. Following the breakup of that group, Matthew pretty much withdrew from public participation in the community to concentrate on his own career and family. Those of you who might remember Matt are invited to contact his wife at the following e-mail address

Identifying Information Redacted

Continued from page 9...

transgender activists and allies, we are finally starting to achieve some significant legal protections and legal resources for trans people. Following in the footsteps of superheroes like MTF attorney Phyllis Frye in Texas, we now have the Transgender Law Center in California, the Sylvia Rivera Law Project in New York, and national groups such as the Transgender Law & Policy Institute and the National Center for Transgender Equality. In the eleven years I have been working for the National Center for Lesbian Rights, I have also seen a dramatic change in the level of support for transgender issues among the national gay rights groups. Particularly thanks to NCLR and the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, who led the way on this issue for other groups, trans people have a much greater presence and voice in the mainstream LGBT movement than ever before.

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ACCOUNTANT

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CD: NCLR is definitely a national leader in the area of transgender law. Why do you think that is?

SM: Obviously, having a trans person on staff has made a big difference. Apart from that, though, we have an extremely courageous and compassionate Executive Director, Kate Kendell. Kate not only understands the connections between LGB and transgender issues, she has been willing to put her money where her mouth is and devote significant resources to support transgender people -- such as helping to get the Transgender Law Center off the ground.

CD: Other than convincing a beautiful, but gullible, woman to marry you, what have been the most significant moments of your personal life in the last five years?

SM: Coming out as an FTM to my 92 year old grandmother, and having her love and accept me without even a hint of reservation, was one of the most meaningful events in my life. Ever since, knowing that I still have my grandmother's love and support has given me so much happiness and strength and made me feel that I can meet any challenge that may come my way. I have also been very grateful to have the chance to be a father and to see my lovely eighteen year old daughter grow up and graduate from high school.

CD: Do you think that FTM communities have been undergoing a boom in the last decade? Any idea what's behind it?

SM: The 1990s were definitely a big decade for FTMs. After being unseen and underrepresented in the TG movement for so many decades, FTM have stepped forward to claim a much more active role. Rather than complaining about being excluded or marginalized, FTM leaders such as James Green, Loren Cameron, Yosenio Lewis, Spencer Bergstedt, and Aaron Devor have done amazing educational and artistic work that gave FTMs unprecedented visibility and respect.

CD: Where does your work fit into the larger transgender civil rights work?

SM: At one time there were so few attorneys doing transgender work, I felt overwhelmed and isolated.

Assessing the Needs of Female-to-Male Transgendered People of Color and their Partners

By Willyng information r MPH and Prado informatio
May 2004

“I found out about Tom Waddell Clinic where I could get testosterone, blood panels, counseling, vitamins, on and on, all free. I found out through their resource. They told me how to access it, they told me what to say. They set all that up for me and I just went right to the pipeline, and that is a great blessing.”

“There’s an economic stratification going on with their meetings. When I go, I used to go a lot, and one of the big things is I’ve started T and I’m happy I have that progressing, but I don’t have the money to have top surgery. And what they don’t really seem to get through their heads is that that’s not what I’m focusing on. I’ve finally fallen into my body. Now that I’m in my body I can focus on actually living my life. And I don’t think they realize that some people don’t focus on what’s going on physically. It’s more about being emotionally aligned. It doesn’t matter what other people see because they’re gonna see what they see, as long as I can actually feel what I feel. And I think they really aren’t making that connection. That’s how they’re not reaching me. Yeah, I’m changing my gender, but a lot of what I’m really dealing with now is going from being a black woman to being a black man. It’s a big deal. It’s really different. I don’t have the same benefits. I don’t really get to walk in the same circles as I used to. And if they can’t even reflect

on that fact, then we can’t really have a conversation on how racism does come into play.”

Executive Summary

In April 2004, at the request of the organization Female-to-Male International (FTMI), a needs assessment was conducted of female-to-male transgendered people of color and their partners. Eight individuals of color who identified on the female-to-male (FTM) spectrum (including male, FTM, butch trans-masculine, and genderqueer) participated in a focus group that was facilitated by two members of the community. Participants were diverse in terms of race, culture, age, sexual orientation, and gender identity. As follow-up, in May 2004 three partners of FTMs of color were individually interviewed. These participants were racially and culturally diverse and primarily identified as femme.

In the analysis of focus group and interview data, it was clear that the community of FTMs of color and their partners are struggling with a myriad of issues, including psychological and economic survival, accessing appropriate health care, and obtaining assistance for legal concerns. Participants emphasized the need for community support, including dialogue and education between diverse communities, and support from FTMI as an organization. Participants felt that FTMI is failing their mission by overlooking the needs of FTMs of color and only serving certain members of the FTM community. There was also significant concern that FTMI as an organization needs to address its history of causing pain to communities of color before it can move forward and better serve FTMs of color and their partners.

Based on the data from this needs assessment, recommendations for better serving this community through FTMI include: be more transparent and welcoming as an organization; provide facilitator training; pursue funding for people of color-specific programming; conduct personable outreach specifically to people of color and their partners; develop community relationships; involve people of color and their partners in organizational development; and promote dialogue and education on FTM of color and class issues. ⌘

The entire report with the full list of recommendations can be downloaded at www.ftmi.org. (after June 30th)

Thankfully now there is a network of TG-friendly lawyers and legal groups, and a wonderful sense of teamwork and collaboration. There is also much more coordination between legal and political groups, such as the Transgender Civil Rights Project at NGLTF and the National Center for Transgender Equality. We are getting much more sophisticated and effective as a movement, and my work litigating and advocating on behalf of transgender clients is a piece in that puzzle.

CD: Alright, I know you have to go prepare for some Supreme Court hearing, finish a legal brief, or read a trashy paperback novel, so let's do some quick one word answers. Just give us the first word or two that comes to mind:

CD: Plaids with stripes:

SM: Elegant.

CD: Arm wrestling Kate Kendell:

SM: pain

CD: Lawn darts:

SM: Marcus Arana's favorite way to insult me!

CD: Okay, one last question. This one is a biggie. In a cage match between you and a well-fed chicken, which one is walking out alive?

SM: I can't beat Kate Kendell arm wrestling, but I can take a chicken! x

Editors note: Despite all appearances this was an actual interview with Shannon Minter, not just a hallucination of Chris Daley.

From New Books

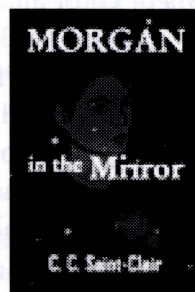
Continued from page 11...

Morgan in the Mirror

By C.C. Saint-Clair

About the Author: By day, C.C. Saint-Clair is a teacher in a large, inner city, Australian high school. By night, C.C. is a published author of 7 lesbian-themed novels. *Morgan in the Mirror* is C.C.'s latest paperback very FTM empowering.

Description of *Morgan in the Mirror* by the C.C. Saint-Clair:



Morgan is a character I have created in a bid to empower young transmen in the early months/years of their transition. I also wrote Morgan with my usual readership in mind, the international lesbian community in a bid to lead them towards a better understanding of the FtM station on the gender continuum. The thing is that I decided to go ahead and produce Morgan myself. That's how committed I am to doing my bit in support of the FtM/TS community as an Ally.

I was not willing to have the text languish in manuscript form, months on end, possibly years, waiting for a publishing groups to think that, perhaps, it might be worth their while.

So, you ask: Who is Morgan?

Well, he's a 23 year old, one year short of completing an Engineering degree at U of Queensland, in Brisbane, Australia – where I live. He works part-time on a construction site. He's a rock climber who has been known to tackle 5-pitch slabs unroped.

Morgan is not actually representative of every FTM out there, but again, what character, which individual can ever be representative of a whole community? I wanted Morgan to experience passing at an early age, so I chose to make her a bit taller than an average teenage girl and I chose to give her the androgenous edge.

Morgan has been packing for the last 3 years. He identifies as straight and now that the scars on his chest are healing, he is ready to try out his new body within a sexual context. An endeavour fraught with complications since the object of his desire is a 35 year old woman who, so far, has had no reason to suspect that the young male she has befriended and is attracted to is not quite the male she assumes he is.

A little anecdote about Morgan:

She grew up in the hills of Tullah, Tasmania. When she was fourteen and tearing through the family orchard on her bicycle, a low branch ripped open the top of her head. The doctor said that he'd have to shave off a fair area of hair to accommodate some 15 stitches. Morgan, he explained to the girl's mother, would leave the surgery looking somewhat mangy. A few minutes later however, much to her mother's dismay, Morgan left the surgery with her hair totally shaved off.

That happened a couple of weeks before young Morgan was due to start Grade 10 in a new school. From then on, unbeknownst to her parents,

Morgan introduced herself as a boy both to peers and to teachers.

“Girls don’t look like me, Mum says so herself. Boys do, and it won’t make a bit of difference to the teachers whether Morgan Maddock is a girl or a boy.

How supportive is the portrayal:

I constructed Morgan as a healthy, determined and courageous young person who has already mastered a convincing degree of alignment between her brain gender and her physical gender. And she is committed enough to that unity to have undergone ‘corrective’ chest reconstruction.

Though for now Morgan leads his life in full stealth, he is out there and does whatever he has to do to get on with life as a male. And that means that he intends ‘getting’ the girl. However, besides the obvious, the fact that he is repulsed by his female genitalia makes the process a lot more ‘complicated’ than otherwise. None of this is easy but Morgan remains strong in his convictions. He doesn’t sell out. He is uncompromising.

At the end of it all, he has a new understanding of what it is to be a man. Being a man, he decides, has got nothing to do with having facial hair. It’s not about being tall and having muscle mass. It’s not even about having a penis.

Being a man, he decides, is a state of being.

What Morgan might do for young FtMs:

As I was progressing through the plot, I imagined a young FtM – one that might be down, confused and feeling alienated. Somehow, I imagined him, picking up a copy of Morgan in the Mirror. At the end of some 180 pages, that person jumps up, punches the air and shouts: Yes!! That’s me. I’m going to be out there and do it my way too. If Morgan can do it, so can I!!!

I will consider my mission accomplished the day I get this sort of reader feedback. But honestly, though I trust that in time, Morgan will connect with many, many TS people out there, he has another 2 tasks ahead of him.

- to securize my usual readership, the international lesbian community amongst which many know close to nothing about the FtM station on the gender continuum

- to comfort a few SOFFAs out there who might also be in need of a ‘visual’ pick-me-up sort of plot. It is, by the way, from the perspective of an Ally that I put Morgan together. Now that I’ve done my bit, all I have to do is let go and rely on a series of serendipitous occurrences that will take [my] boy where he needs to go. Sigh!

Toni **information** said:

“As a young man, as a young stud, Morgan is more than convincing, he is endearing, though a tad on the macho side. As an FTM, Morgan has guided me towards the edge of the unknown and that much closer to understanding.”

James Green gave it a “thumbs up” after reading the prepub galley!

209 pages, 5.5 X 8.5

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US Support

Alaska

Alaskan T-People, c/o Bobbie Wendy Tucey
P.O. Box 670349, Chugiak AK 99567-0349

Arizona

Evolvare Transgender Founda-tion
1830 E. Broadway #124-269 Tucson, AZ 85719
(520) 884-0541 Provides counseling, gender education, appearance, group support, and grants for SRS. The group is open to CDs, TVs, and TS (both MtF and FtM) and friends thereof.

California

Berkeley

Pacific Center for Human
Growth; United Genders of the Universe Sundays 7pm
TransMission (for folks on the FTM-spectrum), ages 25 and under Wednesday 8PM
Transgender Support Group Friday 8pm
2712 Telegraph Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94705

Los Angeles

Genderqueer Boyzzz L.A. area. Contact Jacob Hale
(323) 665-1130. Email: zeroboyjh@aol.com

San Diego

San Diego FTM Support group The Center, 3916
Normal St., San Diego. 3rd Saturday of every month
4-6pm Contact (619) 629-2077.

Santa Cruz

SCOUT (Santa Cruz Organizing & Uniting
Transmen). Supportive, non-judgemental environment.
Meetings are open to all - partners and questioning
people welcome! Meetings held at the Santa Cruz
LGBT center, 1328 Commerce Lane. Info: (831) 425-
5422. Every 4th Monday 7pm. Call (831) 429-5663
for information.

San Francisco

UCSF Transgender
Life Care Project (TLC) is now offering: FtM Support
Group Facilitated by Koen Baum Held at the Center
for AIDS Preven-tion Studies, UCSF 1145 Bush
Street, 2nd Floor (between Hyde and Leavenworth)
San Francisco, CA 94109 Every Tuesday starting
January 6, 2004 from 4:30 PM- 6:00 PM Food and
Refreshments provided
United Genders of the Universe Mondays 7pm
Room Q33, 3rd Floor, SF LGBT Center
1800 Market St., San Francisco, CA
For directions and more information email
unitedgenders@yahoo.com

Santa Monica

Androgyny, The Transgender Menace Southern
California; Transgender Menace Southern California
is a direct action group dedicated to using any means
necessary to make the world a safe, just place for all
transfolk and genderqueers. Santa Monica, California
Meetings: Tuesday nights from 8:00 p.m. until 9:30
p.m. For further information: Call: (323) 962-9175
Contact: Shirley Shirley@earthlink.net]
Call: (323) 665-1130 Contact: Jacob
[zeroboyjh@aol.com]

Sylmar

Under Construction P.O. Box 922342, Sylmar, CA
91392-2342. Contact: Jeff Shevlowitz (818) 837-1904.
Email: littleshevy@juno.com

Colorado

FTM Support Group for TS, TG men and questioning
females and their SO's. Every 3rd Sunday 5- 7pm,
at the Gender Identity Center, 1455 Ammons St.,
#100, Lake-wood, CO 80215. For info, contact
the GIC at 303-202-6466 or e-mail: Matt Kailey at
FtMatt@aol.com S.C.I.R.T.S. (Southern Colorado
IntraRegional Transgender Society) and T-GENTS
for FTMs meet Tues. nights at 8 pm, every 3rd Sat. at
8pm.

Indiana

FTM Indianapolis meets at Diversity Center,
Southeast Ave. Ph: Holling, 317 539-7342 or
virago18@hotmail.com SOs welcome!

Massachusetts

East Coast Female-to-Male Group P.O. Box 60585,
Florence Station, Northampton, MA 01061.
Ph: 413-584-7616, Bet Power. Every 3rd Sun.
3-6pm. All-inclusive support group for FTM
persons and their SOs. Support Group for straight
spouses meets monthly in Northampton. Call Jane
Harris: 43- 625-6033. Compass Female-to-Male
support, information and social group. Meets
1st Thursday of every month. Info: c/o IFGE at
781-899-2212 or PO Box 540229, Waltham MA
02454 Email: compassftm@usa.com Web: http://
www.geocities.com/ftmcompass

Ohio

Trans Pride for Transgendered people, allies, and
friends. 3rd Friday, 7 pm, or FTM (and freinds) every
4th Friday, Akron Pride Center, 71 N. Adams St. 330-
263-2220. Or e-mail Jake at Transactivist@aol.com

Oregon

Cocksure A primarily social group in Portland for

Pages

trans guys, anyone on the FTM spectrum, and their significant others. By trans guys we mean guys who were born and raised as female but who don't presently identify as female. All sexual proclivities welcome. Drop us a line or give a call if you think the shoe fits and we'll get in touch. Chris (FTM) and Hillary (SO): 503-471-1515, Cocksure@hevanet.com

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia TG Hotline 215-732-1207, Mon & Thurs, 6-10 pm. Info and peer counseling for transmen, transwomen, and those with gender-related questions and concerns. Transgender Health Action Coalition (T-HAC) Organizational meetings 2nd & 4th Thurs. 8-9:30 pm, 4th floor, Washington West Offices, 1201 Locust St., Philadelphia PA 19107. All Welcome. WeXist Philadelphia-based non-political FTM support group. Open to all assigned female at birth who have gender identity issues or questions, or need support for gender concerns. Every 2nd Sat. at William Way Community Center, 5:30-7pm. Info: 215-848-7674, box 6, or WeXist@aol.com

Tennessee

Knoxville Boys FTM support group open to all female-born, masculine-identified persons and their significant others, friends, family and allies. It's hard to find people, professionals, and resources here. Now it's time we all work together. Pool resources, build resources, and build friendships. Meetings held every Mon. and Fri. at 7:30pm in a private home. Call 423-932-7398 for address and directions. Meeting times may change as agreed upon by the group.

Virginia

TG Support Group 142 W. York St. #815, Norfolk VA 23510. Maggie Chubb. LCSW: 757-625-2992. Open MTF/FTM support group with Horton & Horton Gender Reassignment Team.

Wisconsin

FORGE = For Ourselves:

Reworking Gender Expression A monthly social support and newsletter for FTM TSs and TGs; butches; drag kings, gender queers, radicals, and outlaws; people assigned female at birth and our SOs, friends and family. Michael Munson, PO Box 1272, Milwaukee, WI 53201; 414-278-6031; email dmmunson@execpc.com

Gemini Gender Group PO Box 44211 Milwaukee, WI 53214. Voice mail # 414-297-9328. The local "professional" TG program is Pathways. Offers a connection to endocrinologists, surgeons, etc. Separate FTM, MTF groups: 414-774-4111.

International

Australia

Boys Will Be Boys

BWBB, PO Box 5393, West End, Brisbane, Australia 4101. Network for FTM persons, newsletter.

The Gender Centre offers a wide range of services to people with gender issues, their partners, families and friends; education, support and referral to other organizations, service providers and community services; counseling; social and support groups; bi-monthly magazine Polare. 75 Morgan Street, Petersham, NSW 2049. Ph: (02) 9569 2366. email: gender@rainbow.net.au

Belgium

Kortrijk, Genderstichting (Belgian Gender Foundation), Pluimstraat 48, Belgium B-8500

Canada

British Columbia: BC FTM Network Box 10, 1895 Commercial Dr., Vancouver, BC V5N 4A6. Ph: 604-254-7292; bcftmnet@hotmail.com Advocacy; public education; outreach; info and peer support contacts for family, partners, allies of FTMs; contact info for FTM resources worldwide; and a monthly peer-run discussion/support group, FTM Etc. Info: lukasw@direct.ca

France

CARITIG B.P. 756, 75827 Paris Cedex 17
France Phone/fax: +33 01.53.17.05.27. Email: caritig@caritig.org Extensive bilingual website: <http://www.caritig.org/>

Germany

TS-gruppe d., Sontagsclube. U., Rhinower Str. 8, Berlin 10437 DGTI (Deutsch Gesellschaft für Transidentität und Intersexualität) dgti e. V., c/o Helma Katrin Alter, Godorfer Hauptstr. 60, 50997 Köln. Tel/Fax: 02236-839018

Japan

FTM Nippon Contact Masae Torai, Adachi-ku, Adachi-Nishi-post office-dome, Tokyo 123

The Netherlands

Mannengroep Humanitas
Amsterdam Postbox 71, 1000 AB Amsterdam; tel. 020 5231100 or 0346 353495 fax 020-6227367; mannen@wgtrans.nl

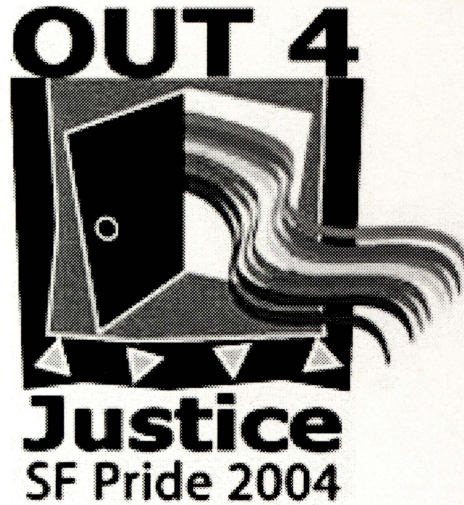
United Kingdom

London-FTM Network
BM Network, London WC1N 3xx, England tel: 0161 432 1915 (Wednesdays 8 pm-10:30 pm GMT or BST). Support group for female-to-male persons.

San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade!

10:30 AM, Sunday June 27th, 2004

2004 Pride Celebration Theme:



“Out 4 Justice -- Pride 2004” will be the theme for next year’s 34th anniversary San Francisco Pride Parade and Celebration. Chosen at the Annual General Meeting from 35 proposals from our community, “Out 4 Justice -- Pride 2004” will keep the political and legal struggles of our civil rights movement at the forefront of our attention throughout the year.

The Parade will start at 10:30 and we have to be in place by 11:00 AM. We are contingent number 141 and our meeting place will be Beale between Folsom and Bryant. Our position in the lineup could change so be on the look out for the familiar bubble signs! We hope to see you there with friends and family!

Drop by the booth and have more fun than a barrel of monkey’s, enjoy food and drink as you collect donations, meet and greet! The booth is our first contact with new men or questioning individuals. Sometimes people cruise the booth to see if they can find info about FTMi’s services, or just find out where we meet. So, it is a crucial part of the work we do at PRIDE!

ALSO... DON'T FORGET

The Tranny March!

Friday June 25th, the Friday before Pride, 7 P.M.

Dolores Park, Dolores and 19th Street

Calling all trannies, friends, allies and admirers. We are calling for this march to demonstrate that we are a significant and growing portion of the GLBTQI community; to increase our visibility and presence in the TQILGB community and the overall community at large; to encourage more trans people to come out; to build connections among ftm, mtf, bayot, crossdressers, sadhin, hijra, transvestites, bantut, drag queens, drag kings, mahu, transsexuals, bakla, travesti, genderqueers, kathoey, two spirit, intersex and those with other labels for themselves and no labels for themselves, those who see gender as having more than two options, and those who live between the existing options; and to be fabulous and powerful in the company of others that are fabulous and powerful.

Dress up, show up, bring signs, and be what happens! Please enhance, translate and pass this on to any groups, lists, or individuals who might be interested.



Please join us in Seattle September 3 - 6, 2004 for a National Conference

101 Presentations • Panel Workshops
Community Discussions • Vendor Fair
Cabaret • Dance • Play Party • Art Exhibit

www.transconference.org

FTM 2004: A Gender Odyssey is a national conference for FTMs, genderqueer/trans folk, and those with whom we build lives and relationships. The conference offers opportunities to explore the joys, complexities, and challenges we experience.

We will feature a variety of presentations and workshops addressing the logistical and practical aspects of living trans lives. In addition, we are excited to present a series of peer-facilitated, topical discussions about the complex challenges we face in building and sustaining community. We hope that these conversations will offer opportunities for us to challenge ourselves as we recognize and negotiate the impacts of gender, age, class, race, etc. on our communities and lives.

IS IT FOR ME? FTM 2004: A Gender Odyssey is open to everyone. Whether you are new to masculine identity, well established in your chosen gender, part of an FTM/trans/genderqueer community because of the people you love, or simply questioning the role of gender in your life, this conference is for you.

Complete conference information is available on our web site,
www.transconference.org. You may also contact us by mail at:

FTM 2004
PMB #796 • 1122 E Pike ST
Seattle WA 98122

where have you been? where are you going? what do you think? how do you feel?