

Illinois Gender Advocates



Advocacy for the Transgender and Gender Variant Community

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First Public LGBT High School to Open in NYC

From the Associated Press

NEW YORK, July 29, 2003 – New York City is creating the nation’s first public high school for gays, bisexuals and transgender students.

The Harvey Milk High School will enroll about 100 students and open in a newly renovated building in the fall. It is named after San Francisco’s first openly gay city supervisor, who was assassinated in 1978.

“I think everybody feels that it’s a good idea because some of the kids who are gays and lesbians have been constantly harassed and beaten in other schools,” Mayor Michael Bloomberg said Monday. “It lets them get an education without having to worry.”

The school is an expansion of a two-classroom public school program that began in 1984. A gay-rights youth advocacy group, the Hetrick-Martin Institute, has managed and financed the program since its inception.

The new school’s principal, William Salzman, said the school will be academically challenging and will follow mandatory English and math programs. It also will specialize in computer technology, arts and culinary arts.

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**The Next Meeting of
Illinois Gender Advocates
Will Take Place at 7:30 p.m. on
Thursday, August 7, 2003
And Will Be Held at
New Spirit MC Church
542 S. Scoville Avenue
In Oak Park**

Whatever

And the Train Keeps Rolling

By Beth Plotner

Here we are in the middle of summer. Entering the dog days when things seem to slow down.

“Seem” seems to be the key word. Yesterday another city was added to the list of jurisdictions that ban discrimination based on gender identity. So we know welcome San Diego into the fold. If my count is correct we know have 49 cities, 9 counties and 3 states for a total of 62 jurisdictions.

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First Public LGBT High School to Open in NYC

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State Conservative Party Chairman Mike Long criticized the creation of the school.

“Is there a different way to teach homosexuals? Is there gay math? This is wrong,” Long said. “There’s no reason these children should be treated separately.”

The Hetrick-Martin Institute’s Web site says the school will give its students “an opportunity to obtain a secondary education in a safe and supportive environment... We believe that success requires the ability to respect and value the diverse human community.”

How to contact us...

Illinois Gender Advocates

47 W. Division St., #391
Chicago, IL 60610

Telephone Hotline:

312-409-5489

Please leave a message. We will get back to you as quickly as possible.

TYRA Youth Hotline:

312-217-1120

E-Mail:

IGA@genderadvocates.org

Web Site Address:

<http://www.genderadvocates.org>

Whatever

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But wait there is even more good news. In Pennsylvania, Governor Ed Rendell signed an executive order banning discrimination in state agencies based on gender identify. Thank you Governor Rendell.

I know many of you are not happy with what is happening in D.C. We have a bunch of crazies running around worrying about the LGBT community. We have the introduction of a constitutional amendment barring same sex marriages in the House. The Senate majority leader Bill Frist endorses the idea. The right-wingers are worried that with the Supreme Court’s ruling in Lawrence v. Texas, that we might achieve

full equality. Yet, at the local and state levels we keep moving on.

In our quest for equality we are making changes from coast to coast. Not in just some crazy state where they recall the Governor. Right here in Illinois, the heartland of the country, the Midwest, the place of sensibilities, where 8 of those 62 jurisdictions are located. And the State of Illinois is still here. We haven’t fallen of the face of the earth. Wow isn’t that remarkable that when we ban discrimination life goes on. It goes on in the other parts of the country, too: New Mexico, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Dallas, New York City, Iowa City, Seattle, etc.

The number of local and state jurisdictions is not going to stop at 62. I’m sure that by the end of the year the number will be even larger. This train keeps rolling so let’s keep adding cars. Right now we’re at 62. I know sometimes the progress seems slow. Like being stuck at a crossing waiting for the train to pass. In our society that’s the way change occurs slowly. Yes it hurts. People are hurting and they need the protection of being able to enforce their rights and have the same rights as everyone else.

We are becoming like a mile long freight train. Slow yes, but almost impossible to stop.

San Diego City Council Gives Final Approval for Transgender Protection

By Amanda Watson

July 28, 2003 -- Today in a historic vote, the San Diego City Council unanimously voted to amend the city’s Human Dignity Ordinance (HDO) to protect the civil rights of transgender people.

“We as a community have worked hard to achieve this goal,” said Amanda Watson, co-chair of the HDO Amendment Coalition, which formed early this year to press for passage of the measure. “It has been an honor working with such a diverse group. I am proud to be a part of this and to live in a city where I know I have rights too.”

The amendment adds “gender identity” to the current language (which protects against discrimination based on sexual orientation). Gender identity is defined as “having or being perceived as having a gender-related identity or expression whether or not stereotypically associated with a person’s actual or perceived sex.”

San Diego is the first city to use the word “stereotypically” in its language instead of the word “traditionally.” San Diego now joins 3 states, 9 counties and 49 other cities in specifically protecting transgender people. San Diego’s

current HDO, passed in 1990, covers employment, housing, city services, business establishments and educational institutions.

“Many people assume that laws protecting gays and lesbians also protect transgender individuals, but that’s not the case,” said Jess Durfee, also co-chair of the HDO Amendment Coalition. “There is no direct relationship between one’s gender identity or expression and one’s sexual orientation. We needed language specifically protecting the civil rights of transgender people.”

The HDO Amendment Coalition worked with Lisa Mottet, a legislative lawyer for the Transgender Civil Rights project at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. They asked Mayor Dick Murphy, through the LGBT Advisory Board, to amend the HDO, and Councilmember Toni Atkins submitted the recommendations to the City Attorney.

Members of the HDO Amendment Coalition include: the American Liberties Union, Balboa Park for All, BiForum, BiPol, Bienestar-San Diego, LGBT+SQ Communities E-Mail List, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Pride At Work, San Diego Democratic Club, San Diego State University LGBT Student Union, San Diego TransFamily, Inc., The Butterfly Group, Transgender people of San Diego, Inc., and Transpire.

Pennsylvania Governor Broadens Protection Against Gender-Identity Bias

He Signed an Executive Order to Shield Transgendered Employees Who Work in State Cabinet Agencies

By Carrie Budoff, Staff Writer for the Philadelphia Inquirer

July 29, 2003 – Pennsylvania joined a small group of states yesterday that guards transgendered people from employment discrimination in state government.

Gov. Rendell, in an executive order issued last night without much fanfare, opened the umbrella of protection wider than most every other state.

The order applies only to the 80,000 employees in the governor’s cabinet agencies and bans discrimination based on “gender identity or expression,” which means people whose sense of their sexual identity differs from their gender. It can include cross-dressers, people with sex-change operations, masculine women and effeminate men.

“I am proud today to emphasize my conviction that this state will treat people fairly and with personal respect as long as I serve as the chief executive,” Rendell said in a statement released with the order. He called it “an important step for the recognition of personal dignity and freedom.”

The order does not affect public institutions outside the governor’s direct control, such as colleges and school districts, Tom Hickey, a Rendell spokesman, said.

It was the second time in a year that the transgendered community claimed victory in Pennsylvania, a state known for its conservatism. In November, the legislature passed an amendment to the hate-crimes law that shielded not only gays, lesbians, and bisexuals, but also those who are transgendered.

Yesterday’s action made Pennsylvania the second state after Kentucky to ban gender-identity discrimination in the executive branch of state government through an executive order. Three other states – Minnesota, New Mexico and Rhode Island – have gone further, enacting laws that ban discrimination against the transgendered, as well as gays and lesbians.

Pennsylvania activists are still lobbying the legislature to add sexual orientation and gender identity to the state human relations act. But they viewed the executive order as a welcome step in that direction.

“It sends a signal from the highest level of government that all employees should be treated equally,” said Stacey L. Sobel, executive director of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights, based in Philadelphia.

Pennsylvania is following a movement in recent years to extend legal protections to those who are transgendered. The community has been “coming out in the same way that gay people have been for the last 20 or 30 years,” and winning rights along the way, said Kim Mills, education director of the Human Rights Campaign, a national advocacy group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender rights.

Michael Geer, president of the Pennsylvania Family Institute, a conservative education and advocacy organization that objected to the hate-crimes law, said he would need to review the order.

In Rendell, the community has an advocate who is likely to push for more protections, said Stephen A. Glassman, the first openly gay chairman to the state Human Relations Commission.

“He has really been out front on the issue,” Glassman said. “We are thrilled.”

Feedback...

Problems? Questions? Disagreements? Want to submit an article? Please write to us. We love to get mail.

Board Members of Illinois Gender Advocates:

Chair and Acting Legislative Director:

Beth Plotner
BethP@genderadvocates.org

Vice Chair, Newsletter Editor, Acting Volunteer Coordinator, and Scullery Maid:

Diana Williamson
DianaW@genderadvocates.org

Secretary:

Rebecca Davis
RebeccaD@genderadvocates.org

Treasurer:

Marsha Jackson
MarshaJ@genderadvocates.org

Development Director:

Jacob B. Mueller
JacobM@genderadvocates.org

Directors at Large:

Sara Fenwick
fenwick87@attbi.com

Toni Monzo
msanthonia@yahoo.com

Staff Personnel of Illinois Gender Advocates:

Youth Coordinator:

Miranda Stevens-Miller
MirandaM@genderadvocates.org

Thanks to Our Contributors:

A big thank you goes out to those who contributed articles to the newsletter this month. It is really appreciated from month to month. Thanks!

- Beth Plotner
- Amanda Watson
- Lisa Leff
- NTAC
- Associated Press
- Carrie Budoff
- GenderPAC News

California Senate Passes Bill Outlawing Bias Against Transgendered Residents

By Lisa Leff, Associated Press Writer

San Francisco, July 24, 2003 – In a sign of growing tolerance for transsexuals, the California Senate agreed Thursday to ban housing and job discrimination against residents whose “perceived gender characteristics are different from those traditionally associated with the individual’s sex at birth.”

The Senate voted 23 – 11 to add “gender identity or expression” to the dozen characteristics already protected under the state’s Fair Employment and Housing Act. If the governor signs the bill, California would become the fourth state to make it illegal to deny someone a job or place to live on that basis.

Although the law would also apply to heterosexual man and women whose appearances do not conform with masculine or feminine norms, its passage is widely viewed as a victory for the transgendered community.

“Having a law that specifically states who’s protected makes it clear to employers that the majority of people in California want transgender people to be able to work in a nondiscriminatory environment,” said Chris Daley, co-director of the Transgender Law Center in San Francisco. A 1999 study by the San Francisco Department of Public Health reported that the city’s transgendered population had a 70 percent unemployment rate.

A list of supporters ranging from the California Professional Firefighters to the California Teachers Association endorsed the measure, AB 196, which is similar to laws already enacted in New Mexico, Rhode Island and Minnesota.

The Assembly approved it in April by a vote of 41 to 34, the minimum needed to pass.

Sponsored by Assemblyman Mark Leno, D-San Francisco, the legislation still allows employers to require their workers to

Be Sure to Attend Our Next Meeting

Our next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, August 7, 2003, at 7:30 p.m. at the New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church, located at 542 S. Scoville Avenue in Oak Park. Please enter by the side door on Adams Street, then go up the stairs and turn right to the meeting room. Ample free parking is available on the street.

follow “reasonable workplace appearance and standards” as long as those rules don’t prevent employees from dressing “consistently with their gender identity.”

Several employer groups, including the California Chamber of Commerce and the California Manufacturers and Technology Association, opposed it. They argued that it opens up struggling businesses to more lawsuits and “would make almost any comment, look or action between workers a potential prohibited act.”

Other critics included religious groups.

“This crazy agenda makes average Californians very angry,” said Randy Thomasson, executive director of Campaign for California Families.

Shannon Minter, legal director for the National Center for Lesbian Rights and a transsexual, said that even though the courts in California have already extended anti-discrimination laws based on sex to transgender residents, Leno’s bill helped plug an important loophole.

“Most employers and landlords don’t know transgender people are protected under state law,” Minter said. “Even worse, most transgender people don’t know they are protected, so it’s important to clarify that.”

Alessa Adamo, a transsexual who says she was fired from her job as office manager for a Fairfield real estate firm three years ago when she told her employer she was planning sex-change surgery, said her situation might have been prevented if the gender identity law had been in place.

“Everybody was very accommodating until the point where I said I intended to make the transition,” Adamo said. “As long as they didn’t have to see me as anything other than what they knew me as, it didn’t really affect their personal space. But as soon as they got wind that they would also have to deal with it, it became an issue.”

Leno’s legislation was part of a package of bills promoted this year by the California Legislature’s five-member Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Caucus. A bill that would grant domestic partners most of the same financial benefits as married couples was approved by the Assembly in June and is expected to be taken up by the Senate next month.

“California has always been a leader in social justice, and the passage of AB 196 is consistent with that role,” Leno said Thursday.

Geoffrey Kors, executive director of Equality California, said that while some religious groups have been pressuring Gov. Gray Davis not to sign any gay rights legislation, he expects the embattled governor to come through for gay and lesbian voters.

“If anything, the recall effort should make it clearer to the governor that he needs to continue to support equality as the vast majority of Californians do,” Kors said.

Important Dates!

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend as many of these events as possible.

August 7, 2003 (Thursday) – Regular monthly meeting of Illinois Gender Advocates, at the New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church, 542 S. Scoville Ave. in Oak Park, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

August 9 & 10, 2003 (Saturday and Sunday) – Northalsted Market Days, Chicago.

August 15, 2003 (Friday) – Illinois Gender Advocates Television, part of the LGBT consortium on Hotline 21, Channel 21 Cable Access TV, Chicago, starting at 6:30 p.m. Guest: Rev. Bradley E. Mickelson, Pastor of the New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church.

September 4, 2003 (Thursday) – Regular monthly meeting of Illinois Gender Advocates, at the New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church, 542 S. Scoville Ave. in Oak Park, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

September 12, 2003 (Friday) – Illinois Gender Advocates Television, part of the LGBT consortium on Hotline 21, Channel 21 Cable Access TV, Chicago, starting at 6:30 p.m. Guest to be announced.

October 2, 2003 (Thursday) – Regular monthly meeting of Illinois Gender Advocates, at the New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church, 542 S. Scoville Ave. in Oak Park, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

GenderPAC Congratulates “Fair and Inclusive” Fortune 500 Companies

From GenderPAC News

Washington, DC, July 17, 2003 – The Gender Public Advocacy Coalition congratulated three Fortune 500 companies today for adding new gender protections to their Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policies.

Lehman Brothers, Prudential, and Hewlett Packard recently added gender expression and/or identity to the list of characteristics protected in their employment non-discrimination policies.

“These companies have joined a growing number of major companies committed to a fair and inclusive workplace, where all employees are valued and respected,” said GenderPAC Executive Director Riki Wilchins. “We congratulate and thank them.”

The total number of Fortune 500 companies now known to include gender expression and/or identity in their non-discrimination policies is 21.

The Gender Public Advocacy Coalition works to end discrimination and violence caused by gender stereotypes by changing public attitudes, educating elected officials, and expanding legal rights.

Controversy Erupts Over Gay and Transsexual Book

NTAC Urges NAS Review, Independent Research

From The National Transgender Advocacy Coalition (NTAC)

[Editor’s Note: Although this article was originally released at the end of June, it was too lengthy for inclusion in the July newsletter. We normally attempt to avoid publishing “old news,” but believe that the subject of this particular article is of such significance as to warrant publication at this time.]

The gloves have come off, and a scientific brouhaha has developed over J. Michael Bailey’s book, *The Man Who Would Be Queen*, published by Joseph Henry Press, imprint for the National Academies, including the National Academy of Science. Respected members of the medical and scientific world as well as transgender activists have decried as worse than junk science a publication that is long in intuition and devoid of original research data.

Such well known and respected transsexual women as Professor Lynn Conway, University of Michigan; Professor Joan Roughgarden, Stanford University Biology Department; Dr. Becky Allison, M.D.; and Christine Burns, Vice President of Britain’s Press for Change organization, decry the simplistic Blanchard theory posited as truth by Bailey based largely on his observations of transsexual prostitutes and others who frequent gay bars in Chicago. They have expressed concern over the treatment transsexuals could expect if the Blanchard-Bailey position were taught as fact. Conway, Roughgarden and Burns have called on the National Academy of Science to investigate Bailey’s work and to

remove the book from under the imprimatur of the National Academies.

The National Transgender Advocacy Coalition (NTAC) supports this action and calls for independent research into other potential transsexual taxonomies. Many educated, intelligent, and successful transsexuals disagree that ‘two sizes fit all.’ The categories of homosexual and autogynephile do not capture these individuals’ experience and ignore their self-description and understanding. Bailey’s limited definitions turn all other opinions into ‘self-deception,’ which strains credulity.

Even Anjelica Kieltyka, portrayed as ‘Cher,’ a major character in Bailey’s chapters on autogynephilia has disavowed Bailey and Blanchard’s all-inclusive categorizations. She has been quoted as writing, “It is most unfortunate that he [Bailey] used me and my case history as the ‘poster child for autogynephilia’ ... using all of my case study (under the pseudonym of “Cher”) to support his chapters on ‘autogynephiliacs.’ Unfortunate because here as an opportunity to break away from, rather than [sic] give further support to a dead ‘Freudian’ mixture of onanism, narcissism and paraphilic transvestite fetishism. I refused to join this bandwagon of Bailey, Blanchard and Lawrence, to which I would also add Zucker and Bradley of the Clarke Institute.”

In a May 3, 2003 letter to the presidents of the National Academy of Science and the National Institute of Medicine, Dr. Joan Roughgarden, Stanford University Professor of Population Biology, states the following: “Many are claiming that the Academy has become complicit in publishing junk science... The situation is actually worse however. Junk science at least goes through the motions of science. Junk science books include references, footnotes, data tables, and statistics to create the semblance of science. Only by tracking down the references can junk science be refuted. Bailey, on the other hand, has written a thin book without references, a book that nonetheless makes exceptionally broad and dubious claims in the name of science, and draws legitimacy from appearing under the Academy’s imprint and on the Academy’s website. The situation is remarkable. There’s nothing in Bailey’s book to refute other than hot air – no data tables, no statistics, no knowledge of the principles of classification, no experiments, no controls, no out-groups, nothing.”

Three primary reasons for the opposition of successful transsexual scientists and educators to Bailey’s book include a near complete lack of research details or reference; the apparent omission of transsexuals from other than the gay bar, sex worker, and erotic sex scenes; and the insistence that those transsexuals who strongly disavow being homosexual or autogynephilic are simply in a state of self-deception or are lying. In placing all MTF transsexuals in one of two narrowly defined categories that don’t match the reported feelings of many transsexuals, Bailey is deemed guilty of faulty research, faulty conclusions, sensationalism, and perhaps, of promoting a homophobic and transphobic approach to treatment. Bailey, Blanchard and Lawrence contend that transsexuals coming

from a heterosexual life who deny eroticism as the primary reason for their transition are not being truthful. Since they consider the feelings of such transsexuals to be false by presumption, then all such transsexuals must be autogynephilic. QED. No need for further research.

Bailey, an Associate Professor of Psychology at Northwestern University, contends that early onset MTFs – those who have known since childhood that they are ‘women trapped in a man’s body – are extremely feminine homosexual men. He identifies only one other classification of MTF transsexuals: autogynephilics. These, he contends, are men who are so erotically obsessed with the image of themselves as women that they live as women, undergoing sex reassignment surgery, if possible. Thus, Bailey reiterates the 20 year-old conclusions of Ray Blanchard at the Clarke Institute in Toronto, who first developed the model of autogynephilia to explain transsexuals who transition later in life, often following a long-term and successful male role. Blanchard’s theory on autogynephilia and his categorization of only two types of transsexual received little lasting notice until resurrected by several articles written by Dr. Anne Lawrence, M.D. and Ph.D., of Seattle a few years ago.

On page 146 of his book, Bailey writes, “The two types of transsexuals who begin life as males are called homosexual and autogynephilic. Once understood, these names are appropriate. Succinctly put, homosexual male-to-female transsexuals are extremely feminine gay men, and autogynephilic transsexuals are men erotically obsessed with the image of themselves as women.”

In a recent note to an autogynephilia discussion list, however, Bailey said, “I have never written that transsexuals who transition from men to women are still men. Nor has Ray Blanchard. Nor has Anne Lawrence. The phrase ‘men trapped in men’s bodies,’ which applies to autogynephilic transsexuals, means simply that they are not naturally feminine in the way that homosexual m-f transsexuals are. It doesn’t mean that they do not achieve femininity, and regardless of how feminine they are, once they decide to become women and enter that role (regardless of genital status), they are women, in my opinion”

Bailey posits that transsexuals who lived in the role of straight men suffer from sexual aberrations (paraphilias) rather than from the more commonly accepted mismatch between body and the brain’s gender identity. Bailey, Blanchard, and Lawrence seem to discount the role of gender in Gender Identity Disorder (GID), assigning the role instead to either homosexuality or sexual obsession. Bailey states (page 176), “With luck, the next revision of the DSM [Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders] will distinguish ‘homosexual’ from ‘autogynephilic’ transsexualism.” Outspoken critics hope not. A Pacific Northwest gender counselor and a post-operative medical doctor recently stated – in private – words to the effect that “this bad idea will die off as it deserves to do if we just don’t make a big deal of it.”

Dr. Den Barres, M.D., Ph.D., professor of Neurobiology and Developmental Biology at Stanford University and a female to male transsexual puts it this way: “Bailey truly doesn’t get the gender identity dissonance that transsexuals experience – it really is hard for people to understand what they haven’t experienced themselves. I have talked with many MtFs who have contacted me and have listened to the feelings they have gone through their whole lives and it is always an exact mirror of what I have experienced as an FtM. These MtFs have no reason to lie to me, as I have no power over what treatment they receive. For Bailey to say that most MtFs are primarily doing the gender change because of a fetish rather than a true gender identity issue just doesn’t ring true to me or to many other people that have worked in clinics taking care of many MtFs.”

The danger of teaching incomplete results as fact can be seen in Bailey’s own comments (page 206). “They [my undergraduate students] are especially hesitant to support [sex reassignment] surgery for nonhomosexual transsexuals, once they learn about autogynephilia... When I press them, they say something like the following: ‘But they don’t have the wrong body; they are mentally ill.’” Bailey notes that Paul McHugh, then Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins used a version of that argument to close the Johns Hopkins gender identity clinic many years ago.

Thus, Bailey seems to realize that – despite his avowed support of transsexuals and of gay men – he is developing a generation of potential gender counselors, legislators, and doctors who will see sex reassignment as a bad solution to a sexual aberration rather than as an effective ‘cure’ for matching body and the brain’s gender identity.

Dr. Sarah Fox, who attended graduate school with Bailey at the University of Texas and was briefly a teaching assistant under one of Bailey’s most influential professors says that Bailey’s apparent lack of concern comes as little surprise to her. Says Fox, “[The professor under whom she and Bailey studied] was a noted authority on supposed intelligence differences between the races and sexes. Irrespective of whether such differences may exist, I was very uncomfortable with how his teachings might be used and/or abused by those with social and political agendas. I discussed my apprehensions with him on at least two occasions. He stood firm that a scientist’s job is to do the research and that it is up to others to sort out the ramifications. Bailey seems like a chip off the old block.”

In her opinion concerning Bailey’s book, Dr. Julie Maverick, NTAC Vice-Chair, said, “This book is supported chiefly through ‘proof by blatant assertion.’ The lack of scholarship and unwillingness to discuss opposing views strongly diminishes the scientific credibility of this book immediately. I rather doubt it would have passed rigorous peer review.” Dr. Maverick noted, for example, the lack of credence afforded by Prof. Bailey to valid, peer-reviewed papers published in the 1990s that showed gay men and male-to-female transsexuals to have different brain chemistries and structures from each

other (e.g., Zhou, et al., 1995, Nature). Those studies showed that the brain chemistry and structure of the transsexuals studied were much more like those of women than those of gay men.

Dr. Maverick also noted that studies of intersex biology and behavior clearly demonstrate a wide range of physiological and psychological conditions within a transgender framework that do not fit the Prof. Bailey's scheme.

Dr. Robyn Walters, NTAC Media Director notes that, following a half dozen or more email exchanges in recent weeks on an international autogynephilia news list that counts Anne Lawrence and Michael Bailey as members, she has yet to receive an answer to the question of why many supporters of Blanchard's theory and Bailey's book are adamantly opposed to even the possibility that there could be another theory. A more comprehensive theory might include gender identity as well as autogynephilia and homosexuality as special cases. This would be akin to the General Theory of Relativity including the Special Theory of Relativity. "Responses to this line of questioning have merely repeated the mantra that there are only two types of MTF transsexual and that those who consider other explanations are self-deceptive liars," Walters reported. "Relying solely on an

unproved presumption of massive self-deception does not appear to be good science."

NTAC considers the National Academies' imprimatur assigned this book to be misplaced and ultimately harmful. Reliance on Bailey's work will likely hurt our community in terms of health care and in terms of legal, medical, and societal acceptance. NTAC considers that questionable science – potentially incomplete science – cannot remain unchallenged and must not alone form the basis on which future generations of transsexuals will be judged and treated. Therefore, NTAC urges the National Academies to review the research credibility behind The Man Who Would Be Queen. In addition, NTAC urges the National Academies and such organizations as the Gill Foundation, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Rikki Swinn Institute, Human Rights Campaign, and others to join forces in organizing and funding an independent study to analyze and categorize transsexuals who disavow a history of homosexuality and who disavow eroticism as the reason for making their bodies anatomically congruent with their sense of gender identity. The results of such a study, coupled with the theory of Ray Blanchard and the anecdotes of Michael Bailey, could well lead to a 'Unified Theory of Transsexualism' and better represent and serve the diversity of our community.

Application for New or Renewal Membership

YES, I would like to join (_____) or renew (_____) my membership in Illinois Gender Advocates.

Name(s) _____
Name to Be Used on Mailing Label (if different from above) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP+4 _____
Home Telephone _____ Work Telephone _____
E-mail Address _____

Membership Level (check one):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Youth - \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Membership - \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Member - \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor - \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other - \$ _____ | |

How would you like to be involved with Illinois Gender Advocates? (Please check all that apply.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keep informed by newsletters | <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in monthly meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in actions | <input type="checkbox"/> Join a working group or committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liaison with other human rights groups. Please specify _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do you have any special skills that could help us out? (legal / legislative, artistic / design, technical / computer) Please specify: _____ | |

Please mail, along with your check or money order, to:
Illinois Gender Advocates, 47 W. Division St., #391, Chicago, IL 60610