Gender Dysphoria: The Widespread "Social" Disease of the 21st Century

Aria Spencer
abskvn@umsystem.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://irl.umsl.edu/urs

Part of the Social History Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://irl.umsl.edu/urs/113
Gender Dysphoria: The Widespread “Social” Disease of the 21st Century

By: A.B. Spencer  Advisor: Dr. Rob Wilson, Ph.D

Introduction

- Gender dysphoria is discomfort with one’s birth gender.
- Transgenderism has been a prominent topic in media in the recent years.
- Some media presents it as a social disease that corrupts youth and encourages bodily mutilations.
- Transphobic groups have begun referring to it as “Rapid Onset Gender Dysphoria” or “ROGD”, which implies that gender dysphoria is something that spontaneously appears, instead of a condition that is present from birth.

Research and Statistics

- 41% of people with gender dysphoria will attempt suicide at least once in their lives.
- Lack of care can lead to anxiety, depression, and other mental disorders.
- Inaccessibility to healthcare has led to cases of self mutilation and death.
- Studies show that gender incongruencies appear at a young age and stay present throughout an individual’s entire life.
- Countless bills have been introduced to remove transgender people from sports, schools and bathrooms. Some bills work to criminalize getting transgender youth gender affirming care.
- As of 2018, 0.005% AMAB adults and 0.003% AFAB were diagnosed with gender dysphoria. This number may not reflect the entire trans population.
- This disorder cannot be caught or spread, nor can one choose to have it.

Conclusion

- Gender dysphoria cannot be the result of media influence, since trans individuals have been present in all of history.
- Refusing proper care to transgender individuals causes unnecessary suffering and the loss of human life.
- Creating laws against transgender people does not remove them from existence, but it causes suicide, pain, and fuels the stigma around gender dysphoria.
- Gender dysphoria is historically and scientifically backed as a legitimate disorder.

Research and Statistics

- The first case of gender dysphoria was recorded in 600 AD.
- 5 different genders were used by Native Americans, and these were recorded in history starting in the 1500s.
- Gender dysphoria is an accepted and acknowledged disorder in medicine.