

Gender dysphoria is a psychological disorder: the World Health Organisation says so, the American Psychiatric Association says so, prominent psychiatrists and medical experts say so. Where there is a mismatch between the body and mind, it's the mind that needs fixing, not the body. For the 0.01% of the people who experience gender dysphoria, they deserve compassion, understanding and medical treatment, and we should do what we can to help them reconcile with their bodies through counselling and psychotherapy instead of giving them hormones and surgery so that their bodies conform to their chosen gender identity. Lopping off healthy body parts is complete madness and medically inappropriate. Changing genders is short term gain with long term pain. Its consequences include early mortality, regret, mental illness and suicide. But many misguided doctors do it nonetheless under the auspices of equality and civil right. Being politically correct is also important and it keeps them in business.

Studies also show that as high as 71% of people suffering from gender dysphoria are prone to suffer from other mental health conditions like depression, schizophrenia, substance abuse, suicidal thoughts, personality disorder and autism. These problems do not resolve with gender reassignment. In fact, hormones and surgery deal only very superficially with what is often a very deep psychosocial problem that doesn't lend itself to quick technological fixes. Sex reassignment is therefore not the solution for gender dysphoria.

There is however enormous pressure on the HKSAR Government to introduce gender recognition legislation to enable anyone to choose his own gender. But doing so would be promoting a mental disorder to create confusion in our society, to allow feelings to trump a clear and undeniable fact that one's sex is determined at birth and even more absurd to punish those who refuse to participate in the untruth that 'sex change is possible'. Those suffering from gender dysphoria can call themselves whatever they want, but they can't force us to pretend that men can ever be women, let alone teach our kids that gender is fluid and mental illness is a civil right. Our society would descend into complete chaos if a person is whatever he thinks himself to be. Accordingly, we oppose the introduction of a new gender recognition scheme and/or legislation and call upon the HKSAR Government to immediately scrap the existing arrangement for sex reassignment for those with gender dysphoria or other mental illnesses.

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