

**Addressing
the Information Needs of
Female-to-Male Transsexuals**

John Otto, MLIS

**As a librarian, why should
you care about transpeople?**

THE TERRORISTS NEXT DOOR • THE POPE'S 'JESUS'

Newsweek

May 21, 2007 • \$4.95

newsweek.msnbc.com

The Mystery of **GENDER**

ASIDE FROM THE
OBVIOUS, WHAT MAKES
US MALE OR FEMALE?

THE NEW VISIBILITY
OF TRANSGENDER
AMERICA IS SHEDDING
LIGHT ON THE ANCIENT
RIDDLE OF IDENTITY.



#BXBCMDG *****CAR-RT LOT**C-013
#NWM0256377177/7#70 16JUL07 N17R 438064
SHAD REINSTEIN ACUPUNCTU 698 066 169
152 NW 65TH ST
SEATTLE WA 98117-4859

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NEWSWEEK





“The Testosterone Files” (2006)

- Max Wolf Valerio

Who are FTM transsexuals?

born into a female body

desires or has already changed to a male body

desires a male gender role

an internal sense of male

Who are FTM transsexuals?

transgenderism versus transsexualism

- 1) umbrella term
- 2) original meaning

Who are FTM transsexuals?

language – not standardized

FTM

F2M

transman

man

male pronouns

Who are FTM transsexuals?

any stage of transition

steps completely individual

Who are FTM transsexuals?

sexual orientation

gay

straight

bisexual

pre- and post-transition status

LGBT community?

Outness

different issue for transpeople...

LGB – declaration of who you are

trans – can undermine transition

LGBT means....

In practice...LG?

LGB **T?**

Primary info needs of FTMs



Medical

Legal & political

Emotional/support issues

Respect/confidentiality

Primary info needs of FTMs

Medical

hormones

surgery

locating care providers

Standards of Care

World Professional Association of Transgender Health

www.wpath.org

(former Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association)

Primary info needs of FTMs

Legal

name change – court order

identity documents and records

driver's license, Social Security, passports, birth certificates, school records, bank accounts, contracts, child custody, etc.

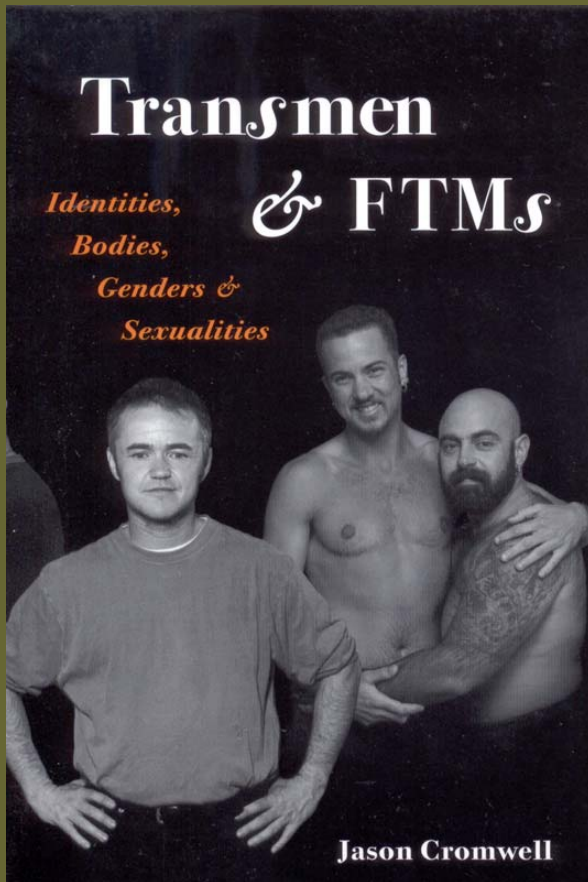
selective service

discrimination

workplace, bathroom issues, marriage

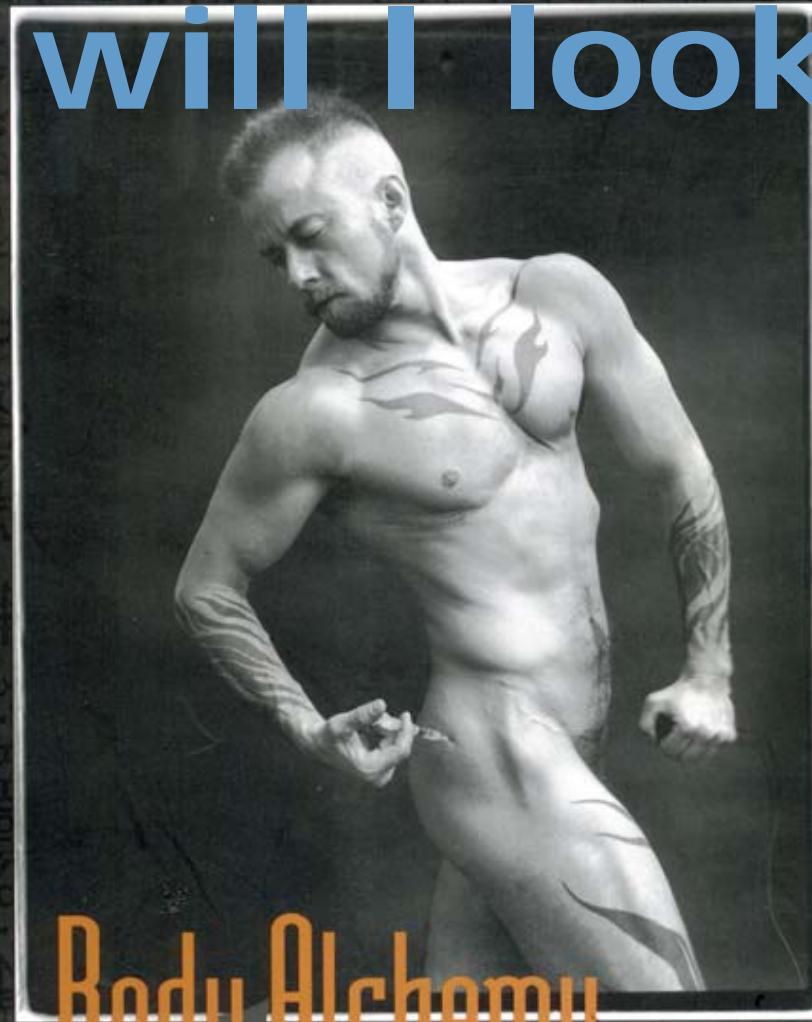
Primary info needs of FTMs

Emotional Support



- finding support groups
- relationship issues
- info sharing – docs, therapists
- “passing” tips

What will I look like?



Body Alchemy

TRANSSEXUAL PORTRAITS

PHOTOGRAPHS BY LOREN CAMERON

“Body Alchemy: Transsexual Portraits” (1996) – Loren Cameron

Primary info needs of FTMs

Respect

Confidentiality

Locating resources

Google

search terms:

FTM health

FTM legal

FTM support

FTM personal

Yahoo groups – groups.yahoo.com

search term:

“FTM”

Locating resources

information literacy

netiquette

Locating resources

Obstacles

- shortage of materials
- MTF focus in general trans resources
 see GLBTRT trans bibliography
- LC subject headings

- problems using “transgender” search term → LGBT

www.jotto.info

- FTM Resources – pathfinder
- booklist
- “Information Instruction for Female-to-Male Transsexuals” (paper)
- The Task Force podcasts on aging

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