

## Beyond Pink and Blue

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#### **About Us**

Answer is a national organization dedicated to providing and promoting comprehensive sexuality education to teens and the adults who teach them.





## **Two Primary Programs:**

Sex, Etc.
 Magazine & Website



2) Sexuality Education Training Initiative







Sex ed in your pocket.

Visit m.sexetc.org on your mobile browser.





**TOPICS** 

LGBTQ

SEX

GIRLS' HEALTH

GUYS' HEALTH

JOIN SEX, ETC FORGOT YOUR PASSWORD?

LOVE & RELATIONSHIPS

DECIDING ABOUT SEX

BIRTH CONTROL & SAFER

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED

TEEN PREGNANCY AND

PARENTING

ABORTION

ADOPTION

BODY IMAGE

PREGNANCY...AM I/IS SHE?

TAKE ACTION

**GET TESTED** 

**FAQs** 

VIDEOS

**COMIX & QUIZZES** 

**SEX TERMS** 

**FORUMS** 

**SEX IN THE STATES** 

JOIN OUR STAFF

BLOG

IN A CRISIS?



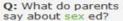
#### BLOG

#### My Experience at **AIDS Walk New** York

I highly suggest that you think about fundraising and participating in AIDS Walk New York next year. It was an unforgettable and enlightening experience.



READ MORE



A: National surveys show that most parents want schools to teach sexuality education to their children. In most communities, polls 10 parents want their



LEARN MORE





Texting, chatting and social networking has its ups and downs.



WATCH VIDEO



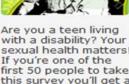
Have you ever hooked up with someone you didn't like?

- A More than once.
- B One time.
- C Never.
- D Why would I do that?









Survey

with a disability? Your sexual health matters! show that nine out of If you're one of the first 50 people to take children to have good this survey you'll get a sexuality education. \$20 Amazon.com gift card.

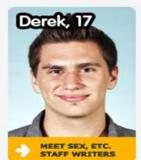


SPEAK OUT



5	м	т	w	т	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30.	21	22	S C	-24	25	26

Got a question about sexuality? You're not the only one. Go to the Forums and join







EMOTIONAL HEALTH

ABUSE & VIOLENCE













# GROUP ASSUMPTIONS



Everyone here is invested in working with young people more effectively.





2. We will not always agree, and that's okay!

DISAGREE DISAGREE



3. Everyone here is equal and welcome.





4. Any question/comment is relevant.





5. This will be an interactive learning environment.





## Transgender Issues in the News

#### **Pregnant Man Thomas Beatie Introduces Three Children, Considers** Hysterectomy

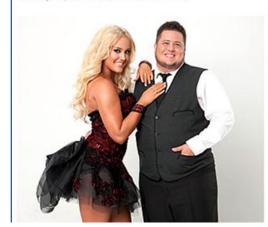


First Posted: 10/31/11 12:59 PM ET [Updated: 10/31/11 01:34 PM ET

DANCING WITH THE STARS

#### Chaz Bono's Dancing with the Stars Portrait Revealed

Tuesday September 06, 2011 09:40 AM EDT



He's already one of the most talked-about contestants on season 13 of Dancing with the Stars. And with the competition a little less than two weeks away, Chaz Bono's official DWTS portrait has been released.

In the photo, a smiling Bono, 42, is suited up in black pants, black

#### Girl Scouts of Colorado Officially **Welcomes Transgender Girls**

Posted Wednesday, November 2, 2011 by Shay O'Reilly



4. Occupy Wall Street Celebrates Halloween-By Occupying a Parade

2. Cartoon: #OccupyTemple 3. Top For-Profit CEO Resigns After Investigation Reveals Job Placement

American Autumn: A Look Inside Occupy

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Popular | Quick Hits | Recent Posts 1. Girl Scouts of Colorado Officially Welcomes Transgender Girls

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#### **Recent Stories**



House Member Likens Undocumented Immigrants to Vagrants.



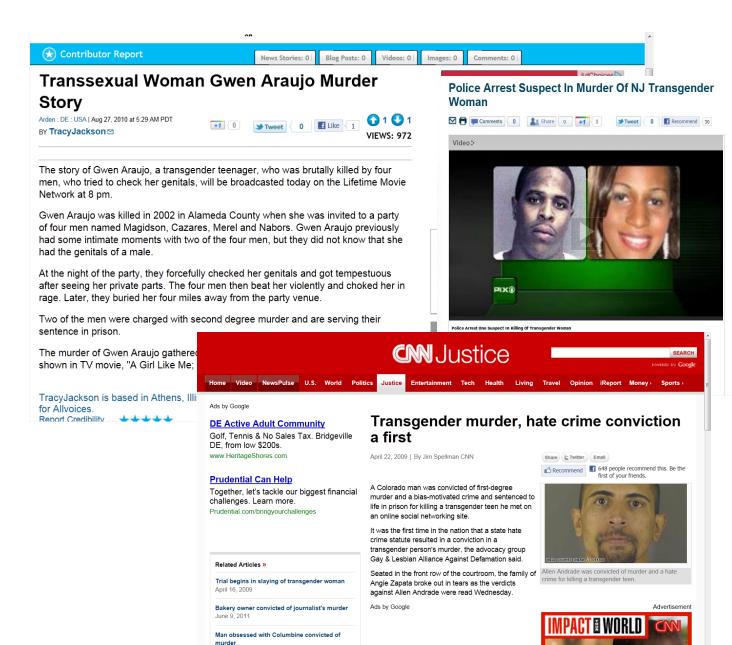


Montoya, a transgender girl who has expressed a strong female identification since age 2, was initially denied

When Bobby Montoya expressed her interest in joining a Denver Girl Scouts troop last week, the troop leader told her mother that the 7-year-old would not be allowed to join because she had "boy

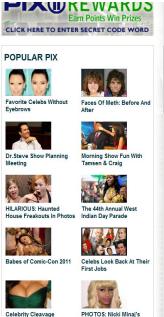
devastated. Her mother went to the media, alleging that the troop leader had also referred to

Montoya, a transgender girl who has expressed a strong female identification since age 2, was



August 21 2009

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## Biological Sex vs. Gender Identity

#### **Biological Sex:**

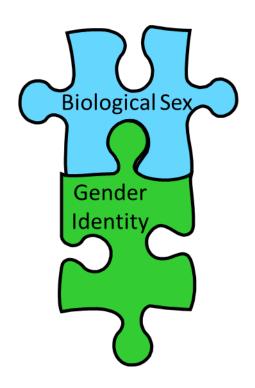
The chromosomes and anatomy someone is born with that determine if a person is boy or a girl.

#### **Gender Identity:**

The feeling that I am male, female or somewhere in between.

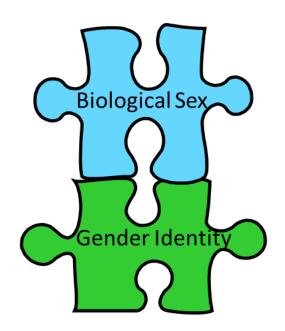


# For most people, our biological sex and gender identity will match.





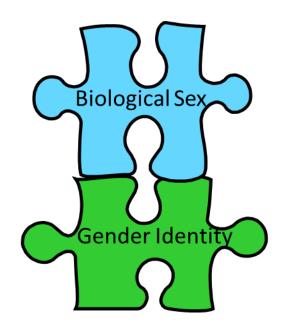
# But for some, it does not. A person who feels that their biological sex does not align with their gender identity often identifies as Transgender.





## Transgender:

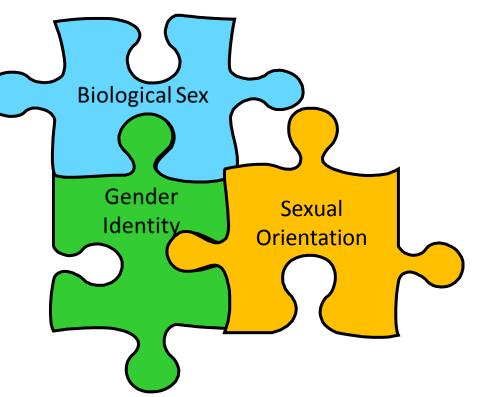
A person who feels that their biological sex and gender identity do not match up.





#### So...

We understand biological sex and gender identity, and now we add in sexual orientation.





## When is gender identity formed?



## Written by the parents of a 7 year old:

"Over this past year, Andrew constantly expressed a wish for a magic wand, and when pressed, shared that the wand would turn him into a girl. We saw him go through depressive phases where he stated he hated his name and wished to be "nobody" or "to be dead". He would often emphatically state "I am not a boy (or a son, or a brother)" when others referred to him as such."



"This past spring, Andrew took on a "Violet" or "Miss Violet" persona when playing school or store with his sister, and sometimes when we called his name, he would insist on being called Violet. This summer, during a family therapy session, Andrew requested to be called Violet and referred to as "she" all the time. She reports she has thought about the name change since Pre-K!!!"



#### Clip from Our America with Lisa Ling



## Ways people deal with gender nonconformity

• Forcing children to conform, which is out of concern, again, for child's safety and wellbeing, but can end up doing more damage emotionally and psychologically.











## Ways people deal with gender nonconformity

 Hiding "behaviors" at home, which is an attempt to normalize within the safety of home, but adds message of shame

 Putting the child in therapy to "change" their gender identity, which is both impossible and

harmful





## And the most supportive way...

Being where the child is, meaning, letting the child dress the way she or he wants to, using the new name she or he has selected, and basically treating her/him as the gender she or he IDENTIFIES as.







## And the most important...

 Watching for teasing/bullying, as we would with any other child





## Making schools more inclusive

- Can you bring in books and newspaper articles about people who are transgender?
- Can you make sure curriculum includes transgender issues/people/history/events, etc.?





## Making schools more inclusive

- Can you have a unisex bathroom at your agency or school? Can there be one bathroom (that is not used very much, such as in the nurse's office) which is open to anyone?
- Do forms or surveys HAVE to have people mark either male or female? Can you leave a blank line and allow people to write it in?



## Making schools more inclusive

- Does your school have a GSA? Is it open to transgender students?
- Do particular activities have to be divided by "boys" and "girls"? If so, how do you make sure to protect everyone in the room?





"We have watched over the years as she has struggled when groups in camps or at school are broken down into boys and girls and she stands in the middle all alone and terrified, wondering "can I go where I truly want to be?" She is always aware of being different, and we felt our hearts break this year when she said "I am the only one like me in our whole school"...This is not "just a phase", nor is it a choice that Violet is making. Her gender identity is as innate as her being right-handed."



### Reflection



Write down at least one thing you can do in your work to be more inclusive and welcoming of transgender people.



#### Resources

- Gender and Sexuality Advocacy and Education Program: www.childrensnational.org/gendervariance
- Gender Spectrum: <u>www.genderspectrum.org</u>
- TransKids Purple Rainbow Foundation: www.transkidspurplerainbow.com
- TransYouth Family Allies: <u>www.imatyfa.org</u>
- Blog of a father of gender-variant son: <u>www.acceptingdad.com</u>



#### **Books for Children and Tweens:**

- All I Want To Be Is Me, available at www.alliwanttobeisme.com
- The Sissy Duckling, Harvey Fierstein and Henry Cole, 2002.
   New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, Ages 4-8
- It's Okay to Be Different, Todd Parr, 2001. New York, NY: Little, Brown and Company. Megan Tingley Books, Young children
- Horace and Morris but Mostly Dolores, James Howe and Amy Walrod, 2003. New York, NY: Aladdin Paperbacks, an imprint of Simon and Shuster Children's Division, Young children
- Girls Will Be Boys Will Be Girls, J. T. Bunnell and Irit
  Reinheimer, 2004. Brooklyn, NY: Soft Skull Press, Young
  children

"We know our decision to allow Violet to live as Violet means we may lose some friends and family (although thankfully our immediate families have been overwhelmingly supportive), that we will have to deal with awkwardness and discomfort (ours and others!), that educating others and advocating for Violet in school and other realms will become at least a part-time job, and that we will have moments of great doubt. These consequences, however, are inconsequential when we are talking about our child's life."





#### **Sexuality Education Training Initiative**

Answer has been helping educators and youth-serving professionals create meaningful classroom experiences about sexuality for more than twenty-five years through our Sexuality Education Training Initiative. Each year, this program provides more than 2,500 educators and youth-serving professionals with the tools they need to teach comprehensive sexuality education and effectively respond to students' questions.

Find us at: http://answer.rutgers.edu







#### **Discussion Guides**

To be used with the Sex, Etc. national magazine.

#### **Topics Include:**

Is Sexting OK?

Here's the Situation

What I Believe

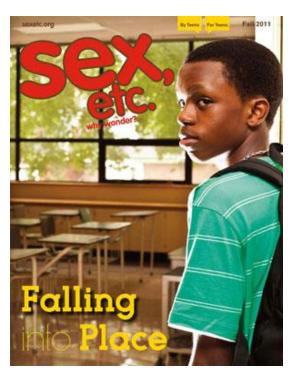
My Values, My Body

**Sexuality: More Than Inserting A Into B** 

**Should Schools Ban Books With Sexual Content?** 

What's Your Game Plan?

Is Adoption the Best Option for Pregnant Teens?









#### **TISHE**

#### The Training Institute in Sexual Health Education

Weeklong residential, skills-based training institute led by a team of expert sexuality educators.







#### **Online Professional Development**

#### **Online Workshops:**

Sexuality ABC's (Abstinence, Birth Control and Condoms)
STD Basics
LGBTQ Issues in Schools



#### **Webinar Series:**

Provide updates and valuable resources in an interactive, instructor-led format.

Participants receive one hour of professional development credit for each webinar.







## LGBTQ Issues in Schools



# Join Answer's Nationwide Newsletter!

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to 22828 to get started.



## Questions?







Please complete workshop feedback form by scanning the QR code or visiting this link:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QTFLD6Y

# Thank you! scarpull@rci.rutgers.edu

