



# *TRANSGENDERISM*

Resources to Educate and Equip Clergy, Ministry Staff,  
Educators, and Parents to Provide Pastoral Care and  
Accompaniment of our Youth, Adolescents, and Young Adults  
in their Identity as Beloved Sons and Daughters of God

# CHURCH DOCUMENTS & STATEMENTS

## **“MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM”**

*Congregation for Catholic Education Towards a Path of Dialogue on the Question of Gender Theory in Education*

- [http://www.educatio.va/content/dam/cec/Documenti/19\\_0997\\_INGLESE.pdf](http://www.educatio.va/content/dam/cec/Documenti/19_0997_INGLESE.pdf)

The Congregation for Catholic Education offers this text to all who have a special interest in education, and to those whose work is touched by the question of gender theory. It is intended for the educational community involved in Catholic schools, and for all who, animated by the Christian vision of life, work in other types of school. The document is offered for use by parents, students, school leaders and personnel, bishops, priests, religious, ecclesial movements, associations of the lay faithful, and other relevant bodies.

## **“Gender theory”/ “Gender ideology” – Select Teaching Resources**

- [Gender-Ideology-Select-Teaching-Resources\\_0.pdf \(usccb.org\)](#)

USCCB compilation of teaching resources from Church documents and papal statements on gender theory and gender ideology.

## **A Catechesis on the Human Person and Gender Ideology**

*Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington*

- [A Catechesis on the Human Person and Gender Ideology \(arlingtondiocese.org\)](#)

This document presents the teaching of the Catholic Church on sexual identity and

the transgender issue and offers some pastoral observations. It is not intended to anticipate or address every situation. Rather, it provides the principles of Catholic teaching to encourage the faithful and to guide them in responding to an increasingly difficult cultural situation.

## **Compassion and Challenge: Reflections on Gender Ideology**

*Most Rev. Robert J. Carlson, Archbishop of Saint Louis*

- [Compassion and Challenge | Archdiocese of St Louis \(archstl.org\)](#)

This document addresses transgender theory and gender ideology and provides basic guidelines in examining the issues through the lens of faith. Gender ideology maintains that sex can be separated from gender, but this is contradictory to Catholic teaching.

## **Brief Statement on Transgenderism**

*The National Catholic Bioethics Center*

- [Brief Statement on Transgenderism — The National Catholic Bioethics Center \(ncbcenter.org\)](#)

A person's sex is manifested by the body in accordance with how the person has been created, and so it cannot be in conflict with any truer or deeper sexual identity contrary to that bodily sex. This is a foundational anthropological point that no medical association or political ideology can overturn.

## **Summary: Catholic Pastoral and Canonical Responses to Transgenderism**

*The National Catholic Bioethics Center*

- [Summary: Catholic Pastoral and Canonical Responses to Transgenderism — The National Catholic Bioethics Center \(ncbcenter.org\)](#)

Government mandates and legal challenges concerning obligations to persons with gender dysphoria are creating challenges to Catholic ministries, from pastoral care, health care, education, and social services to employment policies.

## **“Speaking the truth in love”: Pastoral Guidelines for Educators Concerning Students Experiencing Gender Incongruence**

*Office of the Liaison for Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Toronto – 2019*

- [FINAL DRAFT-Speaking the Truth in Love.PDF](#)

This resource consists of two parts: the first part offers some guiding principles for responding to students in a pastoral way while the second part provides suggestions to assist with the school’s responsibility of providing clarity on the topic of sexual identity to all students. It is important that we get both of these aspects right.

## **PASTORAL GUIDE Regarding Policy §650 Gender Identity Diocese of Springfield in Illinois**

- [Pastoral Guide and 650 Gender Identity Policy.pdf](#)

This guide is intended as a commentary to help foster a proper understanding of the diocesan policy regarding gender identity, in recognition of the pastoral sensitivities regarding this matter.

# PASTORAL WEBINAR TRAININGS

## **Medical Understanding and Pastoral Care for Persons Experiencing Gender Dysphoria**

*Dr. Paul Hruz, MD, PhD. and Fr. Philip Bochanski, Executive Director of Courage International*

- Webinar Training: Understanding and Pastoral Care for Persons Experiencing Gender Dysphoria

This webinar training provides clergy and church ministers with a concise biopsychological understanding of gender dysphoria and effective pastoral strategies for providing care to persons struggling with discordance in their sexual identity. The Q & A portion answers many of the medical and pastoral questions pertaining to ministry with persons experiencing transgenderism.

## **Archbishop's Virtual Catechetical Day | Theology of the Body: Living as Beloved Sons and Daughters of God**

*Archdiocese of Detroit Catholic Schools*

- Theology of the Body: Living as Beloved Sons and Daughters of God

In this webinar training, Damon Owens, international evangelist and speaker on sexuality and *Theology of the Body*, presented to Catholic teachers a foundational understanding of our Catholic understanding of the human person and sexuality, the many counterfeit presentations of sexuality and gender by the culture at large, and how to dialogue and accompany students toward an authentic understanding and embrace of their dignity and identity as beloved sons and daughters of God.

*Talk 1 - Intro to Discourse on Identity*

*Talk 2 - Created in the Image & Likeness of God*

*Talk 3 - Law & the Heart*

*Talk 4 - Accompaniment*

These talks are appropriate for equipping educators, parish ministerial staff, and parents to teach and reach youth and adolescents with the truth about identity, sexuality, and gender as God intended. There is a PowerPoint and discussion questions included for individual or group discussions.

# WEBSITES

## Courage/EnCourage

### ➤ [Courage/EnCourage Apostolate](#)

Courage is a Roman Catholic apostolate for men and women who experience same-sex attractions and have chosen to live a chaste life. EnCourage is an apostolate which provides pastoral care for families and friends of people who experience same-sex attractions and/or gender dysphoria.

## Person and Identity Project

### ➤ [Home - Person and Identity Project](#)

The Person and Identity Project provides formation, resources, and pastoral guidance on issues of faith, “gender,” and sexual identity, in promoting the Catholic vision of the human person and responding to the challenges of gender ideology. It seeks to educate, engage, and equip Catholic clergy, teachers, ministry teams, and parents about the truth of the human person, the harmful impact of gender ideology, and ways to convey this information to others.

Note: Some of the material and the manner presented can come across as insensitive to certain audiences. It is important to know and be sensitive to your audience when presenting or passing along resources, as Pope Francis encouraged in *Joy of the Gospel*, “... teach us to be patient and compassionate with others, and to find the right way to gain their trust, their openness and their readiness to grow.” (*Personal accompaniment in processes of growth*, 169-173)

## Truth & Love

➤ [Home Page - Truth & Love](#)

Truth & Love is an initiative of Courage and EnCourage International. The website offers a wide array of resources, ranging from theological perspectives on human sexuality and chastity, to health and wellbeing, to providing authentic pastoral care for SSA individuals. Whether you are a priest, religious, a healthcare worker, a layperson, and whether you or a loved one experiences same-sex attractions, we believe you will find here a wealth of information to guide you.

## Eden Invitation

➤ [Eden Invitation | Catholic | LGBTQ+ Disciples | United States](#)

Eden Invitation is a relatively new ministry in the Catholic Church that seeks to provide community, accompaniment and resources for people who experience same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria and who want to unashamedly follow Christ and Catholic Church teaching.

# PARENT RESOURCES

## **EnCourage: A family of hope - My trans-identifying child**

- [EnCourage: A family of hope - My trans-identifying child - YouTube](#)

More and more parents are coming to Courage to seek guidance in supporting their son or daughter who experiences gender identity discordance, and who wishes to transition. Father Bochanski, executive director of Courage International, addresses some common concerns.

## **How To Approach Conversations About Gender Identity and Transgenderism with Kids and Teens**

The webpage [Transgender Archives - CanaVox](#) offers a series of brief videos that can be useful instructional videos for parish staff, school faculty, and parents on how to approach conversations about gender identity and transgenderism with both sensitivity and clarity. These may be used directly as resource for parents, or for help in training and preparing for conversations with others.

## **Commonsense Care: Parenting Gender Confused Kids with Truth and Love**

*Video Series from Partners for Ethical Care*

- [Commonsense Care Parenting Videos | Partners for Ethical Care](#)

Erin Brewer, PhD and Maria Keffler, parent and teacher, who are the co-founders of Partners for Ethical Care, in a series of videos discuss parenting gender-confused children using long-understood best practices from the fields of psychology, education, and child development.

## Help Not Harm Summit: Protecting Children and Talking About Sex and Gender

### ➤ [Help Not Harm Summit: Protecting Children & Talking About Sex & Gender](#)

Calling all parents and grandparents! (And, for that matter, any grown-ups who wonder how to talk to a child about sex and gender). This session is all for you! Come to a practical session, sponsored by Focus on the Family, where you'll learn the best ways to talk to the kids in your life about this critical issue of our day.

# PARENTAL ADVOCACY

## Parent Resource Guide: Educating and Equipping Parents on the Transgender Trend

### ➤ [Parent Resource Guide](#)

The Parent Resource Guide clarifies confusing terminology, describes the health consequences of the transgender trend, debunks popular myths, and offers a wealth of constructive ideas for parents who want to work with their schools to foster a genuinely inclusive climate based on truth and compassion.

### ➤ [The Transgender Threat](#)

What do the biology, philosophy, medicine, and psychology fields say about gender dysphoria? How does it affect our society? How are Catholics to understand and discuss trans ideology? Ryan Anderson from the Ethics and Public Policy Center explains.

# PODCASTS

## Audio: Chastity Project – Transgender

### ► Jason Evert: Gender - Why "Matter" Matters w/ Fr. Malachy Joseph Napier, C.F.R.

Fr. Malachy Joseph, CFR, and Jason Evert discuss the Church's response to transgenderism. Listen, as they examine:

- » What should a parent do if their child announces he or she is trans?
- » Should you use someone's preferred pronoun?
- » What does gender mean?
- » What is masculinity and femininity?
- » Is the Church insensitive toward people...?

### ► Jason Evert: Gender Theory vs Fact

Are there really 58 genders? Isn't gender just a social construct? There's no shortage of questions when it comes to the topic of masculinity and femininity. In this video, Jason Evert tackles these questions, plus:

- » What if my friend wants me to use "their" preferred pronoun?
- » What does the Church have to say about Caitlyn Jenner?
- » Is gender binary, or does it exist on a spectrum?
- » What's God's plan for people who experience gender dysphoria?
- » Aren't transphobic people contributing to the suicide rate of trans individuals by not supporting them?
- » What about intersex individuals or women with the Y chromosome?
- » And more . . .

### ► Jason Evert: Homosexuality, Gender, and Hope with Hudson Byblow

Jason Evert interviews Hudson Byblow on same-sex attractions, transgenderism, gay pride parades, conversion therapy, the removal of Catholic school teachers, and more.

### ► Hudson Byblow: Sexuality, Gender, & Discovering Catholicism

In Hudson Byblow's story, we hear about how those who have homosexual or LGBT

attractions are still sons and daughters of God first. While not shying away from the reality of his feelings, Hudson shares how he has found his true identity in Christ, Catholicism, and chastity.

➤ **Hudson Byblow: Transformations - Hudson's Story**

Hudson Byblow shares his growing up experience of story the trauma of bullying and abuse, the experience of same-sex attractions, and questions about his own sexuality, identity, and faith. In his mid-twenties he began to learn all he could about his faith – and about his identity, and his journey back home to the Catholic Church.

# BOOKS & ARTICLES

## When Harry Became Sally: Responding to the Transgender Moment

### ➤ [When Harry Became Sally: Responding to the Transgender Moment](#)

The book *When Harry Became Sally* provides thoughtful answers to questions arising from our transgender moment. Drawing on the best insights from biology, psychology, and philosophy, Ryan Anderson offers a nuanced view of human embodiment, a balanced approach to public policy on gender identity, and a sober assessment of the human costs of getting human nature wrong.

## The Philosophical Contradictions of the Transgender Worldview

### ➤ [The Philosophical Contradictions of the Transgender Worldview](#)

Article by Ryan T. Anderson is Founding Editor of Public Discourse, President of the Ethics and Public Policy Center, and the author of *When Harry Became Sally: Responding to the Transgender Moment*. The thinking of transgender activists is inherently confused and filled with internal contradictions. Activists never acknowledge those contradictions. Instead, they opportunistically rely on whichever claim is useful at any given moment.

## Journey through same-sex attractions leads to joyful embrace of God's call to holiness

### ➤ [Journey through same-sex attractions leads to joyful embrace of God's call to holiness](#) - Grandin Media

Hudson Byblow has been on that journey back home to the Catholic Church since his mid-20s after starting to drift away when he was a child. It's been a long and difficult road, through the trauma of bullying and abuse, the experience of same-sex attractions, and questions about his own sexuality, identity, and faith.

# BLOGS

## Chastity Project blog

- ▶ [Let's Talk about Gender Confusion - Chastity blog](#)
- ▶ [Gender Theory and Loving Yourself - Chastity blog](#)
- ▶ [What has the Church said about "Gender Theory"? - Chastity blog](#)
- ▶ [I Wished I Had Been Born a Boy - Chastity blog](#)
- ▶ [G, L, B, T, Q, S... What's your identity? - Chastity blog](#)

# SCIENCE

## MEDICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, SOCIAL

## Gender Confusion and Transgender Identity

- ▶ [Gender Confusion and Transgender Identity | American College of Pediatricians](#)

A list of resources compiled by the American College of Pediatricians to clarify the debate among physicians, therapists, and academics regarding the new treatment standard of Gender Confusion or Gender Dysphoria (GD) of childhood, which describes a psychological condition in which children experience a marked incongruence between their experienced gender and the gender associated with their biological sex.

## Sexuality and Gender: Findings from the Biological, Psychological, and Social Sciences

- ▶ [Executive Summary - Sexuality and Gender | The New Atlantis](#)

This report presents a careful summary and an up-to-date explanation of research — from the biological, psychological, and social sciences — related to sexual orientation

and gender identity. We have sought in this report to present a complex body of research in a way that will be intelligible to a wide audience of both experts and lay readers alike. Everyone — scientists and physicians, parents and teachers, lawmakers and activists — deserves access to accurate information about sexual orientation and gender identity. [Part Three](#) examines issues with respect to gender identity.

### **Rapid Onset Gender Dysphoria: A Primer | with Lisa Littman and Sasha Ayad**

► [Rapid Onset Gender Dysphoria: A Primer | with Lisa Littman and Sasha Ayad](#)

Informative video podcast interview by New Zealand TV host Benjamin Boyce with Sasha Ayad, M. Ed., Licensed Professional Counselor and Lisa Littman, MD, OBGYN, on understanding how and why people start to feel gender dysphoric, how feelings of gender dysphoria may change over time, the different kinds of outcomes people may have after experiencing gender dysphoria, and concerns over the practice of medical transition for children and teenagers.

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*Note of suggestion: When sharing this resource consider your audience and selectively share relevant resources and sections.*