

# Apologetics II

MTA July 2019

- Transgenderism
- Same Sex Attraction
- Folau Fiasco
- Is God sexist?
- When to share and when to shake?

- Happening incremental for 50 years
- Intertwined with Feminism and Homosexual revolution



June 2014

It all may seem to have come out of nowhere but its been steadily building for decades.

In sociology, a tipping point is a point in time when a group—or a large number of group members—rapidly and dramatically changes its behaviour by widely adopting a previously rare practice.

If being born a female and becoming a woman are two different things (feminist ideology), and if there is no necessary correlation between your biological sex and your sexual orientation (homosexual ideology), then why should there be any necessary correlation between your biological sex and your gender identity (queer ideology)?

# Sex & Gender

- Historically, the terms “sex” and “gender” have often been used interchangeably.
- Today, a distinction between them is often made.
- Gender: the social and cultural differences. As such, the term usually encompasses three aspects:
  - gender identity, gender expression and gender roles
- Sex: the biological distinctions between the sexes

However, it is important to note that distinguishing gender from sex is not the same as disconnecting gender from sex. This has been a more recent development

Redefining terms

# Transgender Ideology



- Transgenderism is an umbrella term for the state or condition of identifying or expressing a gender identity that does not match a person's physical/genetic sex.
- Many within the LGBTQIA+ community considers gender to be a trait that exists along a continuum.

- Lesbian
- Gay
- Bisexual
- Transgender
- Queer/  
Questioning
- Intersex
- Asexual

Transgender is independent of sexual orientation, and those who self-identify as transgender may consider themselves to be heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, pansexual, polysexual, or asexual.

How many genders now available on Facebook? 58?  
Tumblr 114 different gender options

I: intersex, very rare, biologically & physically based.  
Q: queer or questioning, rejects binary notions of sex  
A: without gender or Allies

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/9-things-you-should-know-about-transgenderism/>

# Trans Ideology Progression: Sex ≠ Gender

- Once gender is severed from sex, then not only does gender not have to correspond to sex, but there is no reason for gender to share the binary character of sex.
- What determines gender then?
  - by one's own choice (gender voluntarism)
  - by social forces (gender constructivism)
  - by independent neurological factors (gender determinism)
  - by some combination of factors

The slender but common thread that seeks to hold the 'T', 'Q' and 'A' letters in the ever-expanding acronym together is the idea that subjective feelings of identity override the objective facts of biology

Either way, there is no necessary connection between any person's biological sex and their gender identity. Consequently, more and more people are choosing to identify as transgender, pangender, bigender, trigender, multigender, omnigender, agender, gender fluid, gender diverse, gender queer, etc.

# Binary Nature of Sex

- Genesis 1:26-27 “Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness...So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”
- Matthew 19:4-5 “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”
- Genesis 2 and beyond: Nouns not just adjectives males (adjective) become men (noun)
- Mark 10 for this reason a man...woman

There is no 3rd Sex that God has created

sexual difference does not exist on a continuum where some men are more like women or vice versa.

Men and women are different at the deepest levels of their being. Our chromosomes are different. Our brains are different. Our voices are different. Our body shapes are different. Our body strengths are different. Our reproductive systems are different. The design for what our bodies are structured and destined for are different, and these designs bear witness to differences that reflect God’s creative will for humanity.

A person’s biological sex reveals and determines their actual gender and certain potential gender roles.

For example, only a male can truly be a son and truly become a father. Only a female can truly be a daughter and truly become a mother.

Furthermore, man and woman are not two poles at either end of a gender spectrum.

# 3rd Sex? Eunuchs

- Matthew 19:12-
  - 3 Types
    - From Birth: range of intersex conditions (DSD)
    - Made by Men: accident
    - Made by Self: choice for t

Not a 3rd Sex

In scripture always men. Male that can't reproduce

DSD: Disorders of Sexual Development (physiologically)

# Trapped in the Wrong Body?

- Wilful Gender Bending always prohibited:
  - Deut 22:5 Cross-Dressing
  - 1 Cor 6:9 Feminized men
  - 1 Cor 11 Gender ambiguity

Because men and women are different, it's philosophically impossible for a man to become a physical woman or a physical woman to become a man. Those who say otherwise are trafficking in fiction about human nature. In fact, there is no scientific proof to verify the claim that one is trapped inside the wrong body.

homosexual acts – whether actively or passively. His reference to the malokos (“soft man”), therefore, is not aimed at victims of exploitative relationships or homosexual rape (as some have suggested), but at any man who actively feminizes himself

# Gender Identity Disorder

## Gender Dysphoria

- One of many tragic effects of Fall
- Historically understood as a psychological Disorder
  - NOT a biological malfunction
  - NOT an ontological incongruence (mismatch body/soul)
- Confused Thinking

Bible and Current scientific understanding are in agreement on this conclusion

Modern science shows that our sexual organisation begins with our DNA and development in the womb, and that sex differences manifest themselves in many bodily systems and organs, all the way down to the molecular level.

In other words, our physical organisation for one of two functions in reproduction shapes us organically, from the beginning of life, at every level of our being.

Cosmetic surgery and cross-sex hormones can't change us into the opposite sex. They can affect appearances. They can stunt or damage some outward expressions of our reproductive organisation. But they can't transform it. They can't turn us from one sex into the other.

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2018/03/08/sex-reassignment-doesnt-work-evidence/>

# Transgenderism in Sport

“This is rushed and heedless decision to include biological men, born and built with testosterone, with their height, their strength and aerobic capacity of men, is beyond the sphere of tolerance...It represses embarrasses, humiliates and excludes women.”

*-Ana Paula Henkel, Brazilian Olympic Volleyball*

Even Martina Navratilova, on the board of the LGBT group, Athlete Ally, spoke out against the absurdity of biological men competing in women's sport...she was of course promptly kicked off the board for being transphobic.

# Accept Me and I'll be Better

- “Persons with transsexualism, after sex reassignment, have considerably higher risks for mortality, suicidal behaviour, and psychiatric morbidity than the general population.”
- The most thorough follow-up of sex-reassigned people—extending over 30 years and conducted in Sweden, where the culture is strongly supportive of the transgendered

the most popular media narratives say plays this line...

The study documented their lifelong mental unrest. Ten to 15 years after surgical reassignment, the suicide rate of those who had undergone sex-reassignment surgery rose to 20 times that of comparable peers.

These results are tragic. And they directly contradict the most popular media narratives, as well as many of the snapshot studies that do not track people over time.

So when the media tout studies that only track outcomes for a few years, and claim that reassignment is a stunning success, there are good grounds for skepticism.

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0016885>

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2018/03/08/sex-reassignment-doesnt-work-evidence/>

# Basic Biology vs. Subjective Reality



- Psychology (feelings) cannot change your ontology (being).



Dolezal is a person of European ancestry who has no known African ancestry.[70] She identifies as black.[71]

According to her brother, Ezra, Dolezal began changing her appearance as early as 2009, when she began using hair products that she had seen Ezra's biological sister use. She began darkening her skin and perming her hair sometime around 2011.

In a February 2017 interview with The Guardian, Dolezal said that she sees race as a social construct.

Gender studies scholar Samantha Allen said, "Rachel Dolezal seems determined to appropriate not just blackness but the rhetoric of transgender identity as well" and called the analogy "spurious".

Race is one example.

Ben Shapiro uses age

Age another. How old are you? Why aren't you 60? Why can't you identify as 60?

Age is less important to gender

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/the-christian-response-to-gender-dysphoria/>

# SSA

- 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 & Romans 1:26-27
  - Listed right alongside standard sin list
  - v. 11 "...that is what some of you were."
  - Identity Defined by Desires?
  - Born this way?
  - Media Forces the Question: Are gays going to hell?

Psychologists: Genetics loads the gun, personality and psychology aim it, and experiences pull the trigger.

"...there is currently little conclusive evidence that sexuality is genetically or hormonally induced."

-The Evolutionary Puzzle of Homosexuality

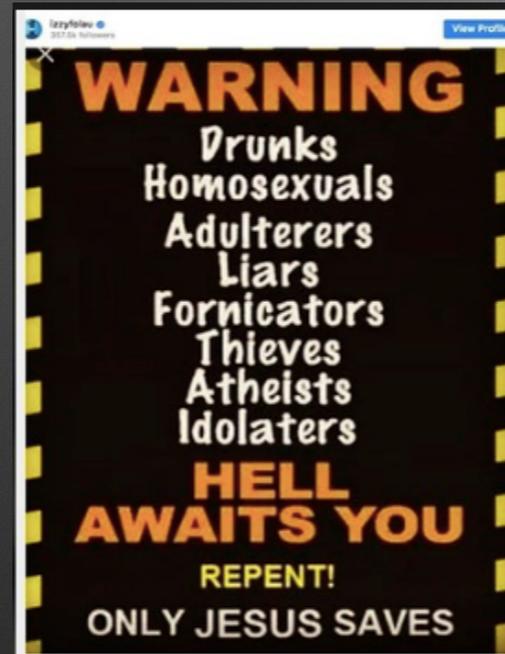
It is of course an evolutionary puzzle.

It's the wrong question. Is gay activity a sin? Yes. Is stealing a sin? Yes. Is drunkenness a sin? Yes....

Approaching God like your shopping on amazon?

Christianity avoids discrimination because it doesn't discriminate. Everyone sins. Everyone falls short.

# Folau Fiasco



- 1 Corinthians 6:9-10
- 1 Cor 5:12-13
- Matthew 7:1-6

# Is God Sexist?

- Luke-Acts: Women (Will Thorne's)
- Creation Account (Genesis 2:18-20)
- Biblical View: Complementary

Genesis 2:18-20

“ The Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

19 Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found.”

The Garden of Eden + beasts & bird + Trees that were pleasing to the eye & good for food + The Tree of Life + Unhindered fellowship with God.

YET something was missing. v. 18 “It is not good for the man to be alone.”

This is the first time we hear “not good” in the creation account. Everything up this point, land & sea, plants & trees, light & night, creatures of the sea & birds of the air; animals on the ground and man--ALL are followed with: “God saw that it was good.”

When God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone” (Gen. 2:18), he did not just create a clone of Adam. He created a complement. God’s solution to Adam’s “not good” problem was not two of the same flesh, as if company was all Adam needed. It was a one-flesh union, two distinct halves together making a whole.

As much as contemporary Western culture tries to suggest otherwise, the difference of male and female exists and matters. And it is not just random difference, but complementary difference—a difference that indicates the two were made for each other. Woman and man are sort of like a lock and key. A lock and a key are meaninglessly different unless they are made to go together. But when together, their difference opens something up, unlocking something fuller and deeper about the human experience.

The male and female in Genesis 1–2 point to a creational design for humans that is not just relational in a general sense, but relational in a complementary sense. As Todd Wilson contends in *Mere Sexuality*, the male and female sexes “don’t simply fit side by side, like peanut butter and jelly; they fit together in an interlocking pattern like puzzle pieces. They have been created for each other, to complete each other in the most profound sorts of ways.” This is a relational dynamic that includes marriage but extends beyond it, Wilson argues:

We need opposite-sex relationships not only to complement and strengthen the other sex but to learn more about our own sex. . . . Karl Barth put it brilliantly: ‘It is always in relation to their opposite that man and woman are what they are in themselves.’

Eve, the first woman and the first wife, was the missing piece of the puzzle. Without her creation was not good. Adam came from dirt, Eve from flesh. A massive upgrade! 2.0. She was the pinnacle, the cherry on the top, the final masterpiece of the master--with her in creation it "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." (1:31)

Helper (Ezer): in the Hebrew it is not servitude but strength. In fact it is almost always used in the Bible to describe God. Other times it is used to describe military help, such as strategic reinforcements, without which a battle would be lost.

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We see the beauty of male-female complementarity not only in marriage but also in how the two sexes interact in other relationships, whether in the church, workplace, community, or extended family. As Barth suggested, there is a sense in which the fullness of being "male" is realized only in relationship with "female," and vice versa. Marriage is a powerful way this fullness is manifest, but it is not the only way.

Male and female are not fluid, easily interchangeable constructs we fashion from below. Rather, they represent a complementary unity from above: one that goes beyond bodily or even gendered polarity. It is a complementary unity that reflects the structure of the wider world and the God who created it.

Male and female are, after all, not the only complementary polarities in God's creation sequence in Gen. 1-2. There is also light and dark, evening and morning (1:3-5), waters above and below (1:6-8), land and sea (1: 9-10).

The binaries in Genesis are so important. . . It's all about God making complementary pairs which are meant to work together. The last scene in the Bible is the new heaven and the new earth, and the symbol for that is the marriage of Christ and his church. It's not just one or two verses here and there which say this or that. It's an entire narrative which works with this complementarity so that a male-plus-female marriage is a signpost or a signal about the goodness of the original creation and God's intention for the eventual new heavens and new earth.

**When to share  
&  
When to shake?**

# Who is Worthy?

## **Matthew 10:11-17**

Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave. 12 As you enter the home, give it your greeting. 13 If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you. 14 **If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words,** leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet. 15 Truly I tell you, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town. 16 “I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. 17 Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues.

Will they listen to the Words of the Apostles...

# How hard should we push?

Acts 17:1-5

As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead. “This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah,” he said. 4 Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women. 5 But other Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city.

Until there is some clarity whether they are listening and being persuaded or becoming more and more closed minded.

# How will they know truth?

John 7:15-17 “The Jews there were amazed and asked, “How did this man get such learning without having been taught?” 16 Jesus answered, “My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me. 17 Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.”

John 8:30-32 “ Even as he spoke, many believed in him. To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Even from initial outreach I'm looking for a willingness to put into practice. Small steps become big steps as faith grows from hearing.

# What ultimately convinces?

Luke 16:19-31

27 “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, 28 for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

29 “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

30 ““No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

31 “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”