



SIBYLS LOGO - ROBYN GOLDEN - HANV 28 MAY 2018



Newsletter 95

What we experience when people have really met God is that there is no fear of the present because it is always full. There's no fear of the future because a loving God is in charge.

There's no fear of the past because it has been healed and forgiven. *Richard Rohr*

Dear Sibyls

Very sadly we have now lost our very cherished and beloved Sibyl, Elaine Sommers. We held an online memorial service for her on 10 March and the tributes delivered at that service are reproduced below. They speak for themselves. Elaine was an inspiration to so many of us. In living a life courageously true to her authentic self in God she challenged gender norms but never angrily or confrontationally, no matter at what cost to herself. She will be sorely missed. Elaine has gone to her glory. She endured the cross of her long illness with much faith and trust and patience, an example to us all as we await the end of the pandemic and return to “normality”. Whatever else might have been changed by the pandemic, it seems unlikely that much will change in the position of trans people and that we shall remain uncomfortably in the cross fire of heated, often acrimonious debate and controversy. The Church of England continues to tie itself in knots over sexuality and gender as the Living in Love and Faith process trundles on, its leadership enmired in many cases in mendacity or hypocrisy. The Vatican continues to reiterate its hard-line views, telling same- sex couples that “God does not bless sin” and trans people that we are deluded or demonic.

But the lives of trans people, people like Elaine, tell a different story as we patiently wait for understanding in the churches and in society to catch up with our lived reality, taking comfort from our Lord who throughout his life had to hide his true identity, be misunderstood even by those closest to him, be deserted by those he loved at the time of trial, endure the shameful death of a criminal – and rise in glory. I pray that you and your loved ones will have a very happy and holy Easter and that, all being well, many of us will be able to have the joy of meeting in person at Purley Chase later this year.

Pauline M 07581553357

pauline.fleck@btinternet.com

Contents

Introduction to Sibyls, website and Facebook – P 3-4
Sibyls’ on-line events – P 5
Invitation from *Jenny-Anne Bishop OBE* – P 5-6
Chair’s message – P 6-7
Elaine Sommers RIP P 8-12
Thoughts, Poems and Reflections in the Time of Pandemic: *Susan Gilchrist* P 12
Taking Stock: *Yvonne Wood* P 13
GIRES (Gender Identity Research & Education Society) – *Mary Dean* P 14-15
Sister Luisa Derouen – ministering to trans people: P 17
On the buzzer *Jack Simmons*
Trans faith P 18-19
Trans politics and law – P 19-21
Trans health - P 22-23
Trans life – P 23-25
Trans world – P 26
Trans books – 27-28

THE SIBYLS

Christian Spirituality Group for Gender Variant People

Sibyls is a nationwide group for Christian transgender, non-binary and intersex people, partners and allies. Sibyls offer companionship along your journey, and supports advocacy work with churches and faith groups on behalf of trans people. Sibyls seek to fulfil the two great commandments of Jesus: to love God, and to love each other as ourselves, which we hope to do by -

Living faithfully - accepting yourself as you worship, and in day-to-day life

Spiritual upholding – encountering the freedom to pray and to seek God's will

Fellowship - sharing with Christians who understand what it is to be transgender

Listening – respectfully and confidentially to each other

Sibyls' website

Visit our website www.sibyls.co.uk to find more information on joining the Sibyls confidential mailing list; planned events, supportive churches and inclusive faith groups; resources, such as books and sign-posted web links.

Facebook Groups

There are two Facebook groups which enable Sibyls and other trans Christians to communicate and exchange views and news. They are:

- Sibyls Members' Group – send a request via Facebook to join this confidential group
- TranschristianUK – an open group, do join up if you are not already a member.

Contact Sibyls committee

By post - c/o 10, Ffordd Las, Rhyl, LL18 2DY

By email - enquiries@sibyls.co.uk

Sibyls' Listening Service

We know that sometimes it is necessary to talk to someone who understands the basics of being transgender and Christian. If a listening conversation could be of particular help, you can call any of the following:

Jenny-Anne Bishop

jennyannebuk@yahoo.co.uk Telephone: 01745 337144 or 07500 74195

Yvonne Wood

Yvonne-wood@outlook.com Telephone 01279 833499 or 07595 087207

Pauline Fleck

pauline.fleck@btinternet.com Telephone 07581 553357

Meetings for personal conversation and sharing

It is possible that some of you would appreciate the opportunity for more personal conversation on Zoom, rather than the regular large sessions. We can help arrange meet-ups for just three Sibyls - this would enable easier direct conversation and sharing (with some ground rules). If you would like this please email yvonne-wood@outlook.com and we will see what is possible.

Zoom get-togethers

We would love others to be involved in future Zoom get-togethers. Would you like to lead worship or facilitate a discussion? Please let us know.

Sibyls' On-line events

We are currently following a routine of an act of worship on the 25th of the month and an informal social gathering on the 10th of the month, though these timings may vary depending on people's availability. The events are publicised on the Sibyls' website and notifications and zoom links are sent out by email. The acts of worship are open to all, the social gatherings are for members only.

Invitation from Jenny-Anne Bishop OBE

The Metropolitan URC LGBTIQ+ Congregation continue to be active during lockdown: < <https://metropolitanchurch.org.uk/> >

We run a weekly LGBTIQ+ Sunday service at 4.30pm (London Time) but currently by Zoom with some online involvement for everyone.

To Join the weekly Zoom Service; please check for the Zoom link on our

Facebook page: < <https://www.facebook.com/MetropolitanChurch> > , or our

Twitter feed on a Sunday Morning : < https://twitter.com/Metro_Church >

or please subscribe to our **LGBTIQ+ congregation weekly Newsletter** here:

< <https://metropolitanchurch.us2.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=3546eacfecb20036d5679ebcc&id=d956811cdd> >

We also provide a **URC Daily Devotional** here:

< <https://us13.campaign-archive.com/?u=8958e2851d933a7a389a9f51c&id=99fe4caf1c> >

Announcement from the Unique Transgender Network, North Wales and TransForum Manchester -Transgender social and support Groups.

During these testing times, physical distancing does not have to mean total social isolation. **Unique**(< www.uniquetg.org.uk >) and **TransForum** (<

www.transforum.co.uk >) are working with our associated trans support groups in North Wales, Manchester, Crewe and Cardiff to facilitate a number of on-line meetings using Facebook Messenger and Zoom. We now run our **Trans, Non-Binary** and **Intersex (TNBI) Support groups** every Thursday Evening and every Saturday Afternoon by Zoom as follows.

Unique is meeting every Thursday evening from 8.00 pm till approx.11 pm (London Time), and **TransForum** is meeting every Saturday afternoon from 3.30 pm to approx.7.00 pm (London Time). We now use one link for both

zoom meetings.

Please join us to socialise and to raise any **TNBI** issues you might have. As we are on Zoom you are most welcome to join us from all over the UK (and beyond)

Unique Zooms every Thursdays 8.00 pm to 11.00 pm (London Time)

To join the Unique Zoom meeting just click on the link below (you may be asked to download the Zoom app onto your computer or phone if you do not already have it):

<<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/77583683876?pwd=TW9sc2ZRZ0Y2ZEdOazJjenhNWGs4Zz09>>

If you log in from your own Zoom Account:

Meeting ID: 775 8368 3876 Password: 130237

TransForum Zooms every Saturdays 3.30pm to 7.00pm (London Time)

Just click the same link:

<<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/77583683876?pwd=TW9sc2ZRZ0Y2ZEdOazJjenhNWGs4Zz09>>

If you log in from your own Zoom Account:

Meeting ID: 775 8368 3876 Password: 130237 If you have any difficulty please contact Jenny-Anne at <jennyannebuk@btinternet.com> or 07500-741955

Chair's Message from Yvonne

Fellowship

Sibyls is a fellowship – this is the glue that makes community, to share joys and sorrows, to enjoy each other's company and feel the spirit that binds us. We are a transgender fellowship, but we are inclusive without question of a wide variety of gender diverse experience – masculine, feminine, both and neither; certainty and uncertainty; journeys of transition and lives constrained by faith, family, work or health. Over the past year our fellowship has blossomed through Zoom – those of us who might not wish or be able to travel can get together and get to know each other and feel each other's upholding. It has been wonderful to encounter new faces – welcome to our fellowship to you all.

Discernment

The very challenging debate about trans women and women's rights forces us into opposing camps, which is deeply sad, because this is too nuanced to be a two-sided row. I look for the light in what I feel, and the truth in all I hear from feminist and trans advocates. When there is a war of words between trans people and women's rights activists, who wins? Unreformed men. The 'institutional man', by which I mean the brazen, arrogant, powerful, predatory forces that dominate our lives, language and institutions.

I am appalled by the institutional man represented by the Catholic Church, but the best book I have read in months is 'Let Us Dream' by Pope Francis. He says:

'Between the first step which is to see, and the third step which is to act, there is an essential intermediate stage: to discern.... Discernment means to think through our decisions and actions, not just by rational calculation but by listening for His Spirit... ideas are debated but reality is discerned. This is a difficult thing for those of a more impatient disposition, who believe that to every problem there must be a technical solution. Many religious people, too, struggle with discernment... And it is quite impossible for ideologues, fundamentalists, and anyone else who is held back by a rigid mindset. But discernment is vital if we want to create a better future.'

ELAINE SOMMERS RIP



Hope in a Desert Place” (Part 3) – “Flying High” by Elaine Sommers

I am a bit of a birdwatcher, although you won't find me hiding in the bushes with binoculars and a notebook. No, I just love watching birds, especially when they're in flight. The ones which I enjoy most are those which soar. I've marvelled at red kites in the Wye Valley, eagles in the Scottish Highlands and lammergeiers in Nepal.

And from early childhood I dreamt that one day I would be able to fly. So, as a student I took up skydiving, which gave me the feeling of floating, although I was actually falling to earth at 120 miles per hour. Later I switched to paragliding, probably the nearest a human can get to flight. I learnt to circle in thermals, and once or twice had the privilege of soaring with the birds, following them towards the clouds.

My chosen verse has come to mean so much to me in my life, although I must confess that I have spent much of it flapping my wings in my own strength. But there was another reason why I took to the air. As a trans person, born male, one of the reasons I took up these adventurous activities was an attempt to expunge the female side of my identity from my life. As I discovered, it didn't work! Then came the day when I crashed my glider and nearly died. As I lay on my back, a voice in my head said: 'I knew I'd get my way in the end'.

From that moment, I knew that my struggle with my gender was over. I realised that Elaine was an integral part of me and I had found an inner peace, and most importantly peace with God. I often think of the eagles and how they rely on those invisible currents of air to lift them up to new heights. Trusting God's Spirit to lead us through life in all we do is so important.

Every day I thank God for sparing my life and leading me daily to new things.

The Road to Acceptance - Elaine

There is I believe a level beyond "acceptance" where the transgender side of a person is seen as something to be embraced and even appreciated by those around him or her. This is fuller acceptance, which I prefer to call Inclusion. The Transgender person is valued and welcomed, irrespective of whether they present in their adopted gender role, or their birth gender. Any confusion that this causes for the friend or family member is something that they are prepared to work through themselves, which usually needs some effort and heart-searching. Transgender is no longer seen as an enemy or something that needs to be discouraged (like trying to persuade a smoker to cut down or give up). I do have some people around me who fit this description and I am very grateful for them. I can talk unapologetically with them about my Elaine side at any time or place, without feelings of judgment or disapproval. I know that they are happy to be with me in my male or my female presentation and some even prefer my company when I'm Elaine!

Tributes to Elaine

For many of us joining the Sibyls has been an important, even pivotal, point in our lives. It was so for me, not least because through the Sibyls I met Elaine, with whom I quickly became firm friends. I remember at one of my first Sibyls weekends her telling me her story with her characteristic openness and honesty.

I marvelled at the way she was navigating the challenges of her "bi-gendered" life at home, at work, at church, at how she had come to terms with the experience of having both masculine and feminine gender identities, with the compromises in her relationships that that entailed. I saw at once how she was a person of great innate decency, integrity and unselfishness who was negotiating the tricky course of her life with a determination to be her authentic self but also with great respect and consideration for the needs of others especially her wife Solveig.

Over the years I came to know more of her extraordinary and eventful life, her early attraction to extreme sports like hang-gliding, her cycling exploits including Land's End to John O'Groats twice, her work as an orthopaedic surgeon (during which time she was "outed" in the Sun newspaper), latterly her work as a president of the European Forum of LGBT+ Christian Groups.

Elaine took up the causes she believed in with great passion and vigour and worked tirelessly to support other trans people. She wrote movingly in the first Sibyls book "This Is My Body" about her life as a bi-gendered person of faith and also had her story featured in the Church of England's Living in Love and Faith book. Elaine was above all a person of great faith. She came from an evangelical background and felt great pain at not feeling welcome in her church after coming out. To the very end, she was hoping for reconciliation with those who had rejected her. I am sure her deep faith sustained her in the long ordeal of her illness which she bore with courage, trust and seeming serenity. She was an inspiration in the way she lived her life and how she met its end. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Pauline

My Dearest Elaine,

I first met you in France at a conference for the European Forum of LGBT Christian groups. I was a co-president at the time and working to change the constitution to be more inclusive and empowering of trans* members.

You told me that you felt very strongly that Sibyls should be a member even though you had never attended any event. Consequently you decided to go along to a conference as an individual so you could take more information back and hopefully encourage Sibyls to join. You emailed me a few times leading up to the conference as you had some concerns about accommodation etc. I could tell you were very nervous and so I made sure I was available to greet you on your arrival and help you settle in.

It was lovely watching you relax and fully engage in the activities of the weekend. You were clearly very passionate about the work the Forum was doing and looking for a way to increase your activism. As I was about to stand down from office I suggested you put herself forward to take my place. This was a huge leap for you but the more we talked, the more we both felt this was why you were there. Consequently, you joined the Forum as a Forum Friend so you had voting rights etc. and you simply embraced the challenge.

You had spent your life trying to follow the way that God lead you as I discovered as you shared your life story with me, including all your missionary years. For you, Elaine, this was just another calling from God which you took in your stride with full confidence that God would provide anything you lacked. You were a real blessing in my life and I watched with pride and admiration as your activist heart and soul blossomed as you devoted yourself to the task of the work of the co-president. On top of the demanding schedule of the work of co-president, Elaine, you supported the work of the Trans* working group, even taking over as chair when I needed to take some time out. I never once heard you say 'no' to a request for help.

By comparison to so many of the members of Sibyls, I didn't know you for very long, I guess about 8 years, but I thank you for the many blessings you brought to my life and I feel honoured to have been able to call you my friend. I will always cherish the last text messages we shared.

There are so many things about you that I could list and tell you that I will miss them but in the end it all just boils down to the fact that I will miss you! Your soul now rests in the arms of God where it truly belongs.

Until we meet again I will keep all the memories we made in my heart where they will continue to inspire me.

Thank you.

Love and blessings as always.

Shanon Eli

We owe so much to friends who found a way to resolve their gender identity with family and community; I have gained so much from many Sibyls who have overcome challenges to be true to themselves and to their faith.

Elaine gave me so much richness and wisdom from her experiences: of suspicion and rejection within her church; her devotion to Solveig and their mutual upholding. I reflect on what I have learned from Elaine.

Her joyful openness and lack of embarrassment; her rejoicing in worship, singing, radiating her inner beauty and strength; offering her ability and talents to LGBT work; offering her experience to others in talks and writing.

I first saw Elaine at an event in London where she gave her life story. I then wrote to her to buy her booklet - an original, conversational approach to explaining her careful steps towards acceptance by her church, her rejection, her adaptation and adjustment, her resolve to make churches and congregations inclusive.

Elaine shared her experience with sadness not anger, she knew her fullness opened up a depth of worship and leadership. I learned in particular so much from her love: her respect and devotion to Solveig, the importance of family cohesion despite not being understood and accepted by some family. I feel great humility around Elaine's and Solveig's demonstration of the resilience of marriage in love and faith, and of other Sibyls whose marriages adapt and give love.

When I was in Bristol three or four years ago, I called into see Elaine and Solveig in their Westbury home, and to see them both made me know Elaine better. I remember meeting Elaine in Birmingham John Lewis cafe before a meeting - a lovely sparkling conversation.

In recent months, while Elaine was undergoing treatment, I enjoyed a few phone conversations, when Elaine spoke of building a strong relationship with the vicar; of singing and leading in her church; reaching out to her brothers in a letter; of having her children visiting at home; of trying to grasp the truths across the fraught debates around transgender. It was sad when the conversations stopped but I had

the sense she was strong in her faith and her relationship with home.

Yvonne

I only met Elaine once, at a Sibyls Hilfield weekend a few years back, and she was wonderfully friendly and enjoyable to be with. Her biggest impact on me was her contribution to 'This is My Body', the 'Sibyls' book edited by Tina and Michelle, which I read before I even knew who she was. There is a very wide spectrum (or rainbow!) of trans experiences, so to read about someone whose story very closely aligned with mine was such an encouragement. After that Hilfield weekend we exchanged the odd on-line chat. Elaine will be sorely missed by us all until we meet again.

Rebecca

Susan Gilchrist: Thoughts, Poems and Reflections in the Time of Pandemic

com.tgdr.co.uk/articles/sqthoughts.htm

**Be who you were created to be,
and you will set the world on fire.**
– St. Catherine of Siena



Taking stock

Me? There are niggles and worries, waits and hurries;
points to remember, from December to whenever;
treatments, ointments, appointments, crunch-points;
doubtful moments, hopeful fortnights, too much reflection.

But what is happening here about me?

Things are sharper, the light warmer, the place calmer.
A sense of belonging, where I felt alien, oddly at odds.
A comfort in company, whether check-out chat, walk or worship.
A friendship, a smile;
where what was trivial is now convivial, small talk the seed for sharing.
New light where I felt dim-lit, and new openings, which once were closed.

The world around me is transitioning.

Yvonne Wood

GIRES (Gender Identity Research & Education Society)

GIRES is a UK wide organisation whose purpose is to improve the lives of trans and gender diverse people of all ages, including those who are non-binary and non-gender. GIRES is a volunteer operated membership charity that, in collaboration with the other groups in its field, hears, helps, empowers and gives a voice to trans and gender diverse individuals, including those who are non-binary and non-gender, as well as their families.

GIRES uses evidence from individuals' lived experiences, combined with scientific research into gender identity development, to educate all those who are able to improve trans and gender diverse individuals' wellbeing. GIRES contributes to policy development regarding equality and human rights for individuals, especially in healthcare.

GIRES also delivers training, e-learning and information to public and private sector organisations, including supporting trans and gender diverse employees and students.

GIRES has delivered training to organisations involved in information technology, television, aviation, nuclear power, defence equipment, publishing, financial services, food processing, education, healthcare provision and regulation, policing, the law, central & local government and sport. GIRES training is tailored to suit the specific needs of individual organisations. Delivery of the training may be face to face or online. Often the training is provided to support an individual who is proposing to undergo a change of gender role.

GIRES provides access to e-Learning programmes to assist organisations, friends and families to better understand how to support and work with gender diverse people.

GIRES has a website: <https://www.gires.org.uk/>

GIRES has lots of resources on their web site covering topics such as education, employment, faith, health, law, research and support. In addition, GIRES provides Tranzwiki (currently in the process of being updated) which is a comprehensive directory of the groups campaigning for, supporting or assisting trans and gender non-conforming individuals, including those who are non-binary and non-gender, as well as their families across the UK.

I think, I first got to know GIRES having seen their stand at Sparkle. Subsequently I got to know them better and they came to my workplace and delivered several training sessions when I transitioned at work. About 18 months ago GIRES were looking for some new trustees. I applied and am currently the secretary. For many years, the driving force behind GIRES has been Bernard and Terry Reed, two of the founding trustees. GIRES is now evolving as new trustees join us and staff are being employed.

GIRES welcomes new members who wish to support its work on behalf of people

experiencing any form of gender diversity, so why not take a look at the website?
If you have any questions, then please either contact GIRES using the contact web
page: [Contact Us – Gender Identity Research & Education Society \(gires.org.uk\)](#); or
myself on email: mary.deans@gires.org.uk.

Mary Deans



pond_wiser_inc

Pond Wiser Inc



Ugly Pretty

I'm very ugly
So don't try to convince me that
I am a very beautiful person
Because at the end of the day
I hate myself in every single way
And I'm not going to lie to myself by saying
There is beauty inside of me that matters
So rest assured I will remind myself
That I am a worthless, terrible person
And nothing you say will make me believe
I still deserve love
Because no matter what
I am not good enough to be loved
And I am in no position to believe that
Beauty does exist within me
Because whenever I look in the mirror I always think
Am I as ugly as people say?

(Now read bottom up)

by Abdullah Shoaib



Sister Luisa Derouen – a nun who has ministered to trans people for over 20 years, reflects on her experience: *(extract below – for full article see [I'm a nun who has ministered to transgender people for over 20 years. These are some of their courageous stories. | America Magazine](#))*

After years of trying, when they can no longer pretend to be who they are not, they enter the second movement of the transformation process. They make the profoundly risky and courageous decision to live from a place of truth rather than untruth. They finally admit to themselves that they can no longer sustain the pretense of trying to be who they are not. That acknowledgement comes only after doing the hard work of self-knowledge in therapy and after extensive prayer. Then gradually and carefully they begin to make life-changing decisions toward living as their authentic selves. Many lose their family or job or friends or faith community or all of these things! How many of us have paid that kind of price to live with integrity?

Their process of transitioning is one of growth into wholeness and holiness. What they experience is classic Christian conversion of life, of transformation in God.

This sacred journey of living into one's true self in God does not look the same for everyone. We are not cookie-cutter people. But I testify to you that transgender people are who they say they are. I know this because when any of us live from the place of honesty and truth, God is present. I experience the gifts of the Holy Spirit in transgender people who claim their true identity in God. I see peace, joy, compassion, wisdom, love and a lot of forgiveness.

They are part of the body of Christ, and they deserve to be treated as the body of Christ. They are not perfect. None of us are. After transition they struggle with life's issues the way all of us do, but now they navigate these challenges with their integrity intact. Transgender people are not delusional or trying to play God. They are not victims of gender ideology. They are who they say they are. For all these years my mantra to them has been, "The truth always leads us to God and never away from God. Keep your heart and your life close to God and God will show you the truth of who you are and how to live from that place of truth."

On the buzzer

On the buzzer I pressed and pressed,
banged on the window (in awful distress) -
Are you there? I shouted, glaring through dark gloom.
Where's the light – there is no room!
Shall I write or send a rocket?
All I need – just in your pocket!
I'll bang, bang, again.
Hang on a minute, better kneel and pray –
“Wow!” can't believe it, He's been here all day – plus night:
I needn't have shouted and screamed up to you.
Yes you're there, around about,
No need to bang, no need to shout
Just pause and whisper Him by name
and He will whisper me the same!

Jack Simmons

Trans faith

Susan Gilchrist's reflections on Living in Love and Faith:
[036B-HowLong.pdf \(tgdr.co.uk\)](#)

Splendid article by Tina Beardsley (“Having invested much time, effort and money consulting the faithful in matters of human identity, sexuality and gender, it is urgent that General Synod test the mind of the Church of England concerning equal marriage. Consultation, as Newman appreciated, requires an outcome.”)
[‘On Consulting the Faithful’ in Matters of Human Identity, Sexuality and Gender \(cloudpublish.co.uk\)](#)

Jo Inkpin's induction service:
[Induction Service | Rev Dr Josephine McDonnell Inkpin: Pitt Street Uniting Church - YouTube](#)

Rosie Harper: LLF is a chocolate tea-pot:
[LLF – Has There Been a Murder? | ViaMedia.News](#)

Mosaic – new coalition for Anglicans seeking an inclusive Church:
[New coalition seeks greater ‘inclusive’ clout in Church of England dioceses \(churchtimes.co.uk\)](#)

Pro-trans Brazilian Catholic priest:
[Julio Lancellotti: Catholic priest praised for message of trans inclusivity \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Catholic leaders must learn from 6 January riot to cease demonising of LGBT people:
[Catholic Leaders Must Learn from January 6th Attack - New Ways Ministry](#)

Was St Paul gay?

[Paul the Apostle: Did his homosexuality shape Christianity? \(qspirit.net\)](#)

Trans people are the body of Christ too:

[Transgender persons are the body of Christ too | Global Sisters Report](#)

Tina Beardsley in radio interview for LGBT history month (her bit's after about half an hour):

[The LGBT History Month Hour \(03/02/2021\) by Soho Radio | Mixcloud](#)

...and Tina is interviewed with Preston Sprinkle for Premier Christian radio:

[Transgender people and the church: Preston Sprinkle & Christina Beardsley - YouTube](#)

Vatican decrees the church cannot bless same-sex unions as “God does not bless sin” (sic)

[Catholic church cannot bless same-sex unions, Vatican decrees | Catholicism | The Guardian](#)

...full CDF response:

[Responsum of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith to a dubium regarding the blessing of the unions of persons of the same sex \(vatican.va\)](#)

New network for trans and non-binary Ministers:

[New Network for Trans and Non-binary Ministers – Alex Clare-Young](#)

A trans person's reflections on Lenten fasting:

[Eating in the Land of the Living - New Ways Ministry](#)

(“For years, my relationship to Catholicism was something that kept me dead while I was alive, a relationship so fraught that I had to be afraid of eating food as a way to distract myself from the anxiety it caused me. And once I began the miracle of healing, I, too, began to question what rising from the dead meant...”)

Alex Clare-Young: trans bodies and the church:

[Gottmik, that Little Black Dress and Another New Normal – Alex Clare-Young](#)

Trans law and politics

Anti-trans group successfully petitions for Census guidance on “sex” to be amended:

[Census guidance for sex question to be amended after High Court ruling \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Freddy McConnell on how anti-trans extremists are winning:

[Trans people in UK are facing death by 1,000 cuts. Where are our allies? \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Alex Clare-Young's reflections on the Census issue:

[Render Unto Caesar – The Census Dilemma – Alex Clare-Young](#)

Advisers resign over government's failure to ban conversion therapy, raising particular concern over trans people:

[LGBT+ groups' 'deep concern' over minister's approach - BBC News](#)

GIDS seeking leave to appeal against High Court decision on puberty blockers:

[Puberty blockers: Parents' warning as ruling challenged - BBC News](#)

Stonewall statement in support of GIDS action:
[Stonewall statement on Tavistock appeal | Stonewall](#)

GIDS granted leave to appeal:
[NHS wins right to appeal High Court puberty blockers blockers \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Distressing BBC article about plight of trans children caused by High Court ruling:
[Puberty blockers: Parents' warning as ruling challenged - BBC News](#)

...and Guardian article by father of trans son, describing judgement as “cruel”:
[As the father of a trans man, I fear for the consequences of this cruel judgment | Transgender | The Guardian](#)

Stonewall in coalition to support appeal and ensure voice of trans child is heard:
[Stonewall files intervention in High Court puberty blockers appeal \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Managing transgender conditions correctly: a commentary on the Bell v Tavistock case by Susan Gilchrist:
[249P-JudgementResponse.pdf \(tgdr.co.uk\)](#)

Plus - Susan Gilchrist: The following three papers describe the current United Kingdom Government's approach to Transgender people. It is a matter of regret to me that much of the content describes where you can discriminate against transgender people, rather than why you should not

House of Commons: (2020): “Gender recognition and the rights of transgender people” House of Commons Research Briefing Paper (Number 08969, 22 July 2020)
<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research.../cbp-8969/>

House of Commons: (2020): “Gender recognition reform: consultation and outcome” House of Commons Research Briefing Paper (Number 09079, 10 December 2020)
<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research.../cbp-9079/>

House of Commons: (2020): “Provisions to support transgender children in schools” House of Commons Research Briefing Paper (Number 9078 10 December 2020)
<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research.../cbp-9078/>

Legal judgement reverses some of the effects of Bell (I think!):
[Our parental consent case against the Tavistock has succeeded - Good Law Project](#)

Judge in Scotland deliberates over whether trans women are women:
[Judge retires to 'find answers' in trans law case - BBC News](#)

...and decides we are!
[For Women Scotland loses legal battle against trans inclusion \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Biden names trans woman Rachel Levine as assistant health secretary:
[Rachel Levine: Biden names trans official assistant US health secretary \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

White House website's act of trans solidarity:
[White House website now asks users for their pronouns \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Jo Biden signs historic pro-LGBT executive order

[Joe Biden signs most substantive LGBT executive order in history \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/news/2021/01/20/joe-biden-signs-historic-pro-lgbt-executive-order/)

...and some US bishops oppose it:

[U.S. Bishops Reject President Biden's New LGBTQ Executive Order as "Misguided" - New Ways Ministry](https://www.newwaysministry.org.uk/2021/01/20/us-bishops-reject-president-biden-s-new-lgbtq-executive-order-as-misguided/)

Trans faith leaders at Biden's inaugural prayer service:

[Biden's Inaugural Prayer Service Was Led By Trans Faith Leaders | GO Magazine](https://www.gomagazine.com/trans-faith-leaders-at-biden-s-inaugural-prayer-service/)

Andrea Jenkins, first trans POC elected to public office in USA:

[Andrea Jenkins: the first Black openly transgender woman to hold US public office | Black Lives Matter movement | The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/jan/20/andrea-jenkins-trans-black-public-office)

Alex Clare-Young invites you to support reform of GRA:

[Gender Recognition Reform Now – Alex Clare-Young](https://www.generationequality.org/alex-clare-young-asks-you-to-support-reform-of-gra/)

...and for adding safe spaces for trans people:

[Safer Spaces – Alex Clare-Young](https://www.generationequality.org/safer-spaces/)

Alex sets out the position on equal marriage for trans people:

[Marriage Equality and the Church – Alex Clare-Young](https://www.generationequality.org/marriage-equality-and-the-church/)

New Labour Trans Equality Group launched:

[Labour Trans Equality launches to fight for equality in Keir Starmer's party \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/news/2021/01/20/labour-trans-equality-launches-to-fight-for-equality-in-keir-starmer-s-party/)

...some people think Keir Starmer is not doing enough to drive out transphobia from the Labour Party:

[Mum of trans kid pleads with Keir Starmer to tackle transphobia in Labour \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/news/2021/01/20/mum-of-trans-kid-pleads-with-keir-starmer-to-tackle-transphobia-in-labour/)

Scottish government wants to remove criticisms of trans identities from hate crime law:

[Scotland: Humza Yousaf proposes trans exemption to hate crime bill \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/news/2021/01/20/scotland-humza-yousaf-proposes-trans-exemption-to-hate-crime-bill/)

...but Nicola Sturgeon condemns transphobia in “heart-felt” message:

[SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon slams transphobia in 'message from the heart' \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/news/2021/01/20/snp-leader-nicola-sturgeon-slams-transphobia-in-message-from-the-heart/)

...and the amendment is withdrawn:

[Scottish government withdraws trans hate exemption after backlash \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/news/2021/01/20/scottish-government-withdraws-trans-hate-exemption-after-backlash/)

Lesbian peer defends inclusive language in Maternity Bill:

[Baroness Barker tears down transphobic arguments in House of Lords \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/news/2021/01/20/baroness-barker-tears-down-transphobic-arguments-in-house-of-lords/)

Transphobia in Plaid Cymru?

[Adam Price responds after candidate quits over transphobia | The National Wales](https://www.thenational.wales/news/2021/01/20/adam-price-responds-after-candidate-quits-over-transphobia/)

Eddie Izzard hoping to become first trans MP:

[Eddie Izzard wants to become the UK's first-ever transgender MP \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/news/2021/01/20/eddie-izzard-wants-to-become-the-uk-s-first-ever-transgender-mp/)

Trans health

[Puberty blockers: why some young people need help exploring their gender identity \(theconversation.com\)](https://theconversation.com/puberty-blockers-why-some-young-people-need-help-exploring-their-gender-identity-125484)

[Treatment plans at gender clinics have 'effectively stopped' for young trans people, warns clinician \(inews.co.uk\)](https://www.inews.co.uk/health/treatment-plans-at-gender-clinics-have-effectively-stopped-for-young-trans-people-warns-clinician/)

GIDS rated “inadequate” by CQC – but main problem seems to be length of waiting lists:
[NHS child gender clinic rated 'inadequate' by inspectors - BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55844444)

[Gender identity development service for children rated inadequate | Transgender | The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/sep/17/gender-identity-development-service-for-children-rated-inadequate)

Research on link between negative media messages and mental health of trans people: The study found that transgender residents of Massachusetts and Rhode Island were exposed to a broad range of negative transgender-related media messages and that increased frequency of exposure to such messages was associated with poor mental health. Individual interventions that help transgender people cope with the stress of negative media messages and structural interventions that target stigma at its source may help to prevent the onset of adverse mental health symptoms in this population. Media-based interventions and individual clinical or empowerment interventions necessitate future development and testing among transgender populations.

[Negative Transgender-Related Media Messages Are Associated with Adverse Mental Health Outcomes in a Multistate Study of Transgender Adults | LGBT Health \(liebertpub.com\)](https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/10.1089/lgbt.2020.0000)

Govt’s response to petition calling for increased funding for trans health services:

“The Government is providing additional resources and funding to help reduce waiting times for gender identity services, this includes the opening of more services in local health settings.

Both the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England (NHSE) have recognised that waiting times for gender identity services, driven by increasing demand, are unacceptably long, despite a £6 million increase in yearly funding since 2016/17. To address this increase in waiting times for Gender Dysphoria Clinics (GDC), NHSE has concluded that a new delivery model was necessary; one that could offer access to specialist interventions in primary care and other local health settings. Three sites were identified to run as pilots for the new delivery model. These are in, London, Manchester, and Cheshire and Merseyside. The first of these new services in London began seeing patients in July 2020. The service is run by Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust and is sited alongside a specialist sexual health service run by the trust. The second new service in Greater Manchester began seeing patients in December 2020 and the third service in Cheshire and Merseyside began seeing patients in January 2021. All these services will be assessed as pilots for 3 years, and planning is underway to establish further clinics in other parts of the country. Alongside the procurement of new GDCs, additional surgical services have been secured - increasing clinical capacity for chest reconstruction surgery so that there is now sufficient capacity to meet the planned national case load. Due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the emergency suspension of elective procedures, this additional funding was not deployed in this way in 2020. However, NHSE will continue to set aside additional money in 2021/22 to fund the increased number of surgical procedures. Whilst funding is

important for services, it is recognised that having the right workforce is vital. To enable this the NHS has, in 2020, established the UK's first accredited post-graduate training credential in gender medicine. The course is delivered by the Royal College of Physicians and University College London with the aim to increase the professional workforce.”
Department of Health and Social Care

GIDS study shows benefits of puberty blockers for trans children:

[Puberty blockers make majority of trans kids happier, GIDS study confirms \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/06/18/gids-study-confirms-puberty-blockers-make-majority-of-trans-kids-happier/)

A bleak view of the state of trans health care from Pink News:

[High price of being trans in the UK means those who can are leaving \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/06/18/high-price-of-being-trans-in-the-uk-means-those-who-can-are-leaving/)

Covid vaccine can turn you trans (but of course you knew that):

[QAnon conspiracy theory claims COVID vaccines will turn you gay or trans \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/06/18/qanon-conspiracy-theory-claims-covid-vaccines-will-turn-you-gay-or-trans/)

One parent's moving account of her trans daughter's experience of puberty blockers:

[Puberty blockers gave my trans kid a joyful, anxiety-free, typical girlhood \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/06/18/puberty-blockers-gave-my-trans-kid-a-joyful-anxiety-free-typical-girlhood/)

Is a cervix cis: a trans masculine's person's "year in the stirrups":

[Is a Cervix Cis?: My Year in the Stirrups - Aster\(ix\) Journal](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/06/18/is-a-cervix-cis-my-year-in-the-stirrups-asterix-journal/)

Trans life

YouTube films by excellent Chrissie Chevasutt:

[Heaven Come Down | Vlog 2 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Films to facilitate trans conversations:

[Film classification body shares list of trans films to help families 'start conversations' \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/06/18/film-classification-body-shares-list-of-trans-films-to-help-families-start-conversations/)

Luna – a delightful trans young girl and her mum:

[Mum of Britain's 'youngest transgender toddler' beams with pride \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/06/18/mum-of-britain-s-youngest-transgender-toddler-beams-with-pride/)

TransActualUK - a new (to me) trans support group looking for writers about trans issues:

[About Us — TransActual UK](https://www.transactualuk.com/about-us/)

Transmission Ministry Collective's online support groups:

[Join the Community — Transmission Ministry Collective](https://www.transmissionministrycollective.com/join-the-community/)

Adam- powerful BBC drama about a transmasculine asylum seeker in Glasgow:

[BBC iPlayer - Adam](https://www.bbc.com/iplayer/programmes/b09t8t8t)

UK tumbling down ILGA-Europe's rankings for LGBT equality:

[JK Rowling and transphobia 'causing damage to LGBT rights in UK' \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/06/18/jk-rowling-and-transphobia-causing-damage-to-lgbt-rights-in-uk/)

Eddie Izzard opts to be she/her:

[Comedian Eddie Izzard praised as 'heroic' for requesting she/her pronouns \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2020/06/18/comedian-eddie-izzard-praised-as-heroic-for-requesting-she/her-pronouns/)

...great interview with her (she's run 130 marathons!):

[Eddie Izzard: 'I'm just trying to create a space for myself' | Film | The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/film/2020/jun/18/eddie-izzard-i-m-just-trying-to-create-a-space-for-myself)

Shon Faye and Freddy McConnell on rampant British transphobia:
[Owen Jones, Shon Faye and Freddy McConnell dissect British transphobia \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://pinknews.co.uk/owen-jones-shon-faye-and-freddy-mcconnell-dissect-british-transphobia)

Roland Betancourt: the forgotten legacy of transgender saints:
[The Little Known History of Transgender Saints \(advocate.com\)](https://advocate.com/the-little-known-history-of-transgender-saints)

[Grandfather calls off Christmas after learning granddaughter is trans \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://pinknews.co.uk/grandfather-calls-off-christmas-after-learning-granddaughter-is-trans)

[A Love Letter To My Granddaughter \(Who I Knew As My Grandson Until 5 Weeks Ago\) | HuffPost](https://huffpost.com/love-letter-to-my-granddaughter-who-i-knew-as-my-grandson-until-5-weeks-ago)

[I Battled My Body For 30 Years. Having A Transgender Daughter Changed Everything. | HuffPost](https://huffpost.com/i-battled-my-body-for-30-years-having-a-transgender-daughter-changed-everything)

[Andrew Sullivan says he 'needs' lesbians to nurse him in anti-trans column \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://pinknews.co.uk/andrew-sullivan-says-he-needs-lesbians-to-nurse-him-in-anti-trans-column)

Debbie Hayton's Spectator reflections on trans issues in 2020 (you might not agree with it but she is entitled to her views):
[2020 was the year the tide turned in the trans wars | The Spectator](https://the-spectator.com/2020-was-the-year-the-tide-turned-in-the-trans-wars)

Exhibition of photos of older trans people:
[Igor Pjörrt: Wallpaper* Next Generation 2021](https://www.wallpaper*nextgeneration.com/2021/igor-pjorrt-wallpaper-next-generation-2021)

Trans people honoured in New Year list:
[New Year Honours: Trans firefighter leads LGBT honourees \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://pinknews.co.uk/new-year-honours-trans-firefighter-leads-lgbt-honourees)

...600 academics condemn award of OBE to Prof. Kathleen Stock:
[Philosophy Transphobia Letter \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com/philosophy-transphobia-letter)

Passionate and despairing view of a transphobic UK:
[A thread on how absurd the UK is on transgender issues and ... \(buzzchronicles.com\)](https://buzzchronicles.com/a-thread-on-how-absurd-the-uk-is-on-transgender-issues-and-...)

You Tube interview with feminist icon Judith Butler on transness, queerness, transphobic feminism and intersectionality:
[Feminist icon Judith Butler on JK Rowling, trans rights, feminism and intersectionality - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Pottery as metaphor for trans experience:
[Who is Rose Schmits: Trans kiln girl on the Great Pottery Throw Down \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://pinknews.co.uk/who-is-rose-schmits-trans-kiln-girl-on-the-great-pottery-throw-down)

Butch lesbian repeatedly harassed in ladies' loos:
[Butch lesbian harassed 'tens of times' in public toilets by anti-trans people \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://pinknews.co.uk/butch-lesbian-harassed-tens-of-times-in-public-toilets-by-anti-trans-people)

Talking about trans rights doesn't put cis children at risk:
[Talking about trans rights doesn't put cisgender children in danger | Shout Out UK](https://shoutoutuk.com/talking-about-trans-rights-doesnt-put-cisgender-children-in-danger)

Hannah Graff says she thought that to be trans was to be unlovable:
[Hannah Graf grew up thinking being trans meant you were 'unlovable' \(pinknews.co.uk\)](https://pinknews.co.uk/hannah-graf-grew-up-thinking-being-trans-meant-you-were-unlovable)

Hannah and Jake planning for second baby:

[Hannah and Jake Graf announce they're planning for a second baby \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Trans comedians, transphobia and cancel culture (Guardian article):

['It gets to you': trans comedians on transphobia and cancel culture | Comedy | The Guardian](#)

Believe trans children:

[Study Says Trans and Cisgender Children Have Equally Strong Gender Identities | them.](#)

Michael Cashman: trans people facing the stigma gay people did in 1980s:

[Loss and anger raged in me after watching It's a Sin – the stigma we faced in the 1980s is now being directed at trans people | The Independent](#)

Harry Josie Giles on trans liberation:

[Trans in the UK: What the Hell Are We Going To Do? | by Harry Josephine Giles | Feb, 2021 | Medium](#)

Interview with Laverne Cox:

[Laverne Cox: 'I can be so hard on myself' | Film | The Guardian](#)

How Britain became transphobic:

[Why is Britain so transphobic? A look at the UK's transphobia epidemic \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Freddy McConnell's guide to queer TV shows:

[From RuPaul to Pose: the TV providing queer community through lockdown | Television | The Guardian](#)

Death of Hull trans hero:

[Tributes after tragic death of Hull trans trailblazer 'Queen Helen' - Hull Live \(hulldailymail.co.uk\)](#)

YouTube recording of a panel discussion with LGBT+ women in Leeds for LGBT history month. Your editor was one of the panellists:

[Women Friendly Leeds Celebrating LGBT+ History Month Panel discussion recording - YouTube](#)

A DC trans superhero:

[DC Pride anthology to introduce trans superhero to the comics universe \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

More trans people hiding identity at work than 5 years ago:

[More trans people hiding identity at work than five years ago — report | Transgender | The Guardian](#)

31 March – Transgender Day of Visibility

[Trans Day of Visibility 2021: Everything you need to know \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Distressing account by father of Cambridgeshire trans teen's suicide:

[Dad opens up about the devastating reality of losing trans child to suicide \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Trans world

Transphobic Republicans try to keep trans girls out of sport and to deny trans people gender-affirming healthcare:

[How trans children became 'a political football' for the Republican party | US news | The Guardian](#)

Challenges of transitioning in Germany:

[Trans activists in Germany want 'archaic' gender-recognition law reformed \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Trans woman of colour shot dead on Christmas Day:

[Courtney Eshay Key: Transgender woman shot dead on Christmas Day \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Australian trans swimming – no excuses for version of womanhood that’s not trans-inclusive:

[Bodies of water: who is welcome in women's spaces? | Transgender | The Guardian](#)

Trans murders in USA continue:

[Tyianna Alexander: Black trans woman shot and killed in Chicago \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

..better news from US “Transhood” – tender documentary about trans children and affirming Southern Baptist parents:

[Transhood: Child worried parents would disown her for coming out as trans \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

...and a group of US trans people have formed the Tenacious Unicorn Ranch and community in Colorado, living in a geodesic dome and farming alpaca (apparently true!). They have to be armed to defend themselves from redneck neighbours:

[Meet Tenacious Unicorn Ranch, a community of anti-fascist alpaca farmers \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Non-binary Japanese woman challenges rigid gender stereotypes that dominate job recruitment in Japan:

[Shukatsu sexism: The Japanese jobseekers fighting discrimination - BBC News](#)

5th trans woman killed this year in USA:

[Fifty Bandz: Black trans woman shot dead in cold blood \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Indian trans woman abandoned by parents as a child is mother to 8 orphans:

[Trans woman abandoned as a child becomes mother to eight orphans \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Horrors of being trans in Ghana:

[Being gay in Ghana: LGBT community is ‘under attack’ - BBC News](#)

...and in Hungary:

[Colors of Tobi: The heartbreaking story of a non-binary teen in Hungary \(pinknews.co.uk\)](#)

Trans women of colour in Toronto talk about their difficult experiences in the pandemic:

[These trans women of colour say the pandemic has left their community isolated and hurting | CBC News](#)

Trans books

The Gospel of Eve by Rachel Mann

Many Sibyls might be personally acquainted with Rachel or perhaps know some of her work, including her memoir *Dazzling Darkness*, a brilliant account of her experience of transitioning while also tackling chronic, disabling illness and her vocation to the Anglican priesthood. Or had the privilege of hearing some of Rachel's dynamic preaching. Now to add a further strand to her enviable collection of talents she has published her first novel. If you intend to read it – and I recommend you do – look away now as this review includes spoilers.

The Gospel of Eve is set in a theological training college near Oxford in the 1990s soon after women were admitted to the Anglican priesthood and features a group of ordinands (including Kitty the first-person narrator) beginning their training. It starts, boldly, with the death by suicide in the college chapel of Evie, one of the group, and the rest of the novel gradually discloses what drove Evie to her death and the complicated relationships between the group who in a quest for a kind of spiritual authenticity and costly, committed form of discipleship become drawn into extreme forms of flagellation and other masochistic mortifications. The atmosphere is intense, highly wrought, overheated, sexually charged and ultimately sombre and tragic – this book is a page-turner but it is deeply serious and even disturbing, showing how what can begin as something holy and spiritual can be perverted to ruinous and destructive ends.

The “Gospel of Eve” itself comes into Kitty's possession as a partially erased text in a palimpsest, the more legible text being a guide to the kinds of penitence appropriate to particular sins. What is revealed is a hidden and highly subversive account of early Christianity erased by history just as the text itself has been erased but not entirely obliterated. (I did find this a tad Dan Brown.) And Evie herself, after giving the book to Kitty and imploring her not to let it fall into the hands of one of the men, is erased after suffering greatly at the hands of the men in the group.

It is good that 30 years after the events in *The Gospel of Eve*, the argument over women priests has (more or less) been laid to rest (for Anglicans). It is sad that it has taken the best part of 2000 years for this to happen. Perhaps if a real Gospel of Eve had survived the history of the Church and of much else might have been different. Rachel didn't need to write this book to persuade us of how much the Church has been diminished by its long neglect of the gifts of women – she herself, and those like her, are the best possible advert. It would be great if this book were on the Pope's reading list.

Pauline

21 children's books about gender identity and expression:

[Children's Books About Gender Identity And Gender Expression \(buzzfeed.com\)](https://www.buzzfeed.com/childrens-books-about-gender-identity-and-gender-expression)

Not trans-related at all, just pretty funny:

[50 Very Bad Book Covers for Literary Classics < Literary Hub \(lithub.com\)](https://www.lithub.com/50-very-bad-book-covers-for-literary-classics/)

Amazon will not sell books that treat being trans as a mental illness:

[Amazon will not sell books that 'frame sexual identity as mental illness' - BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55888888)

Orlando, Virginia Woolf and her influence on fashion:

[How Virginia Woolf's Time-Traveling Androgynous Hero Became Shorthand for Fashion's Genderless Future < Literary Hub \(lithub.com\)](#)

Anti-trans books by Christian authors (NB I'm not recommending you actually read them – just so that you know what's out there):

[Anti-Trans Books by Christian Authors | Canyonwalker Connections -- LGBTQ Advocacy](#)