



LIVING IN TRUTH: KEY QUESTIONS

“Who Am I?” This is the fundamental question in every person’s life. Discovering the answer to this question makes it possible to answer other key questions about life: “What is my purpose in life?” “What is the meaning of suffering?” “What is good (or evil)?” And “How shall I live?” The Christian considers these questions in light of our most fundamental relationship — with God, our Creator.

PERSONS IN RELATIONSHIP

We are persons loved by God, created in love, for love, in his image and likeness. From our first moments of existence, we are in relationship with God and called to relationship with others. Created male or female, we are equal in dignity and complementary in our differences, made one for another.

IDENTITY AND THE MORAL LAW

Our most fundamental identity is as a son or daughter of the Lord. We bear the consequences of original sin, but have been redeemed by Christ, and are called to eternal life with Him. As creatures with intellect and will, we are tasked with knowing, loving, and serving God. Humbled by our human frailties, we seek to live in the truth about ourselves and God. We accept the truth of the moral law as taught by the Church, finding happiness by embracing God’s will for our lives.

CHRISTIAN ANTHROPOLOGY

As embodied persons, a unity of body and soul, our sex reveals the truth about “who we are.” A person is male or female and we are called to accept our sexual identity as given, a gift from God (Catholic Catechism, 2333). Both males and females have a wide variety of feelings, interests, personality traits, and experiences, but these cannot change or override a person’s fundamental identity as male or female.

EMBODIED PERSONS: MALE OR FEMALE

“Sex” is the person’s whole-body organization for a reproductive role. Sex is binary (M/F) because reproduction is binary: a person’s body is organized to produce either sperm or ova. A person’s sex is determined at conception and is in “every cell” of the body (Institute of medicine). Sex cannot change, ever.

WHAT ABOUT GENDER IDEOLOGY?

Gender ideology is a false anthropology, a set of erroneous beliefs about the human person. Gender ideology denies human nature, the reality of sexual difference, and the natural harmony of body, identity, and sexual attraction. It *contradicts Christian anthropology*, rejecting God as Creator and the unity of body and soul. Instead, gender ideology presents the person as a jumble of disconnected, unstable dimensions, each existing on a spectrum and subject to change. The individual is a “self-creator.”

GENDER IDEOLOGY CAUSES HARM

Gender ideology’s core belief is that each person has the “right” to self-define an identity, regardless of biological sex, to access “gender-affirming” hormones and surgeries in order to alter the body as desired, and to compel others to accept and validate that identity in speech and actions. (Yogyakarta Principles, 2007, 2017)

Gender ideology claims that a person’s feelings or self-perception (“*gender identity*”) determine a person’s true identity as “a man, woman, both, neither, or something else,” regardless of sex (American Psychological Association). But “*gender identity*” is completely subjective; it is fluid and may change over time. “*Gender identity*” cannot be tested, proven, or observed by others, but activists claim it is more significant than sex and can override the reality of the sexed body.

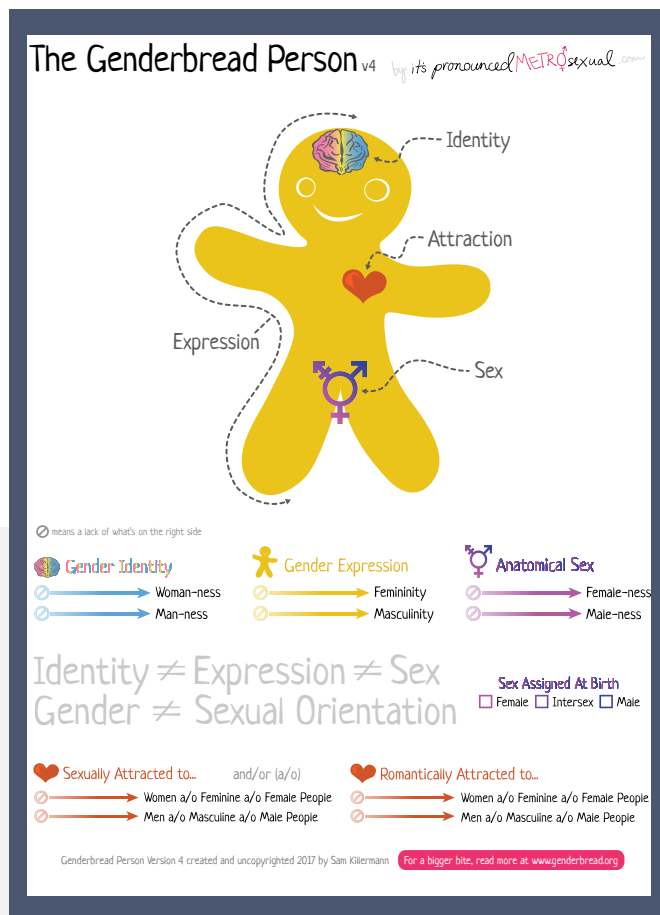
Gender ideology pretends there are no rules of nature to limit human desire. *For example*, A boy who thinks he’s a girl or “feels like” a girl “*is*” a girl. The *gender narrative* tells children confusing and dangerous lies — that a person can be “trapped” or “born in the wrong body,” but “gender-affirming” hormones or surgery will set them free and solve their unhappiness.

Gender ideology:

Denies science. It describes “anatomical sex” not as a fact (“male” or “female”) but as abstract and ill-defined (“female-ness” or “male-ness”). Gender ideology describes *sex* as “*assigned at birth*,” as if sex is merely a temporary label given at birth, subject to change later.

Puts an exaggerated focus on outdated, rigid stereotypes (“gender expression”) about appearance, interests, and behaviors. It causes teens to be pre-occupied and anxious about appearance and to engage in self-critical monitoring and judging.

Falsely promises depressed, anxious, and autistic teens that “transition” will solve their problems. **Fact:** Puberty blockers do not resolve gender dysphoria; wrong-sex hormones and surgery do not reduce suicide risks or mental illness; they cause irreversible damage to body parts and functions, causing sterility and lifelong drug dependence.



The *Genderbread Person* is a teaching tool used by governments, schools, and activists to promote gender ideology.