English IV

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"Gender Fluidity" is Nothing More Than a Concept

With the increase of support for the LGBT movement, topics like gender identity have become controversial. The LGBT community have created new "genders" as a way to fight against society's gender stereotypes. However, ideas like "gender fluidity" are nothing more than the imaginings of anti-societal LGBT supporters. Gender is based on one's biological makeup, and the feeling of wanting to be a different gender is seen as a mental condition, thus making the process of transitioning harmful to society as well as one's physical person.

While gender is now a widely argued topic, gender was originally based on one's physical biology, not his/her mental ideology. Gender is determined by a person's chromosomes, an XX for females and an XY for males. A "gender static" activist states, "...if you've got two X chromosomes, as far as I'm concerned join the girls" ("Changing sex is not to be done just on a whim"). So in other words, one is determined a boy a girl by what his/her parents gave him/her. Those who believe that gender should be a decision made by the individual are clouding logic with emotion. The same activist says, "So the notion that you can simply put on a gender the way you change your contact lenses is, I think, symptomatic of a worrying indifference to a basic question of what makes us ourselves" ("Changing sex is not to be done just on a whim"). One's gender cannot change just because he/she wants it too, it is given to a person at birth. In summary, gender is based on physical biology and a person's mental image of his/herself.
What probably makes those supportive of "gender fluidity" and transgenderism the angriest is the fact that the desire to change genders is not considered a legitimate medical condition but rather a mental imbalance. Gender identity disorder (GID), as it has been dubbed, is not an actual medical problem that should institute treatment. Numerous medical professionals have stated, "No scientific evidence supports the existence of gender dysphoria" (Besse). This supports the notion that GID was made up by gender rights activists. The want to be a different gender has been linked to dysfunctional family backgrounds. One medical expert says, "But when there's nothing to suggest that these kids have a genetic anomaly, something in their background is dysfunctional. The evidence shows that in a boy, he's over-identified with his mother or other female to the extent that his ego boundaries are blurred. With a girl, usually her mother was seen as ineffective and she identified with a dominant father figure" (Besse). So this "condition" can be linked to parental or a close family member’s behavior and can be seen as a form of coping. To sum up, gender identity disorder is not a medical condition but rather a mental imbalance.

While one can argue for an eternity on what determines gender, one can hardly argue about the dangers of receiving a sex change procedure, or transitioning, as it is called. This procedure can create very serious side effects to one’s physical person. A study shows that, "The transgendering of children damages bone health, it alters height, it leads, in girls to early hysterectomies at 18 years, or whenever the surgery to remove sexual organs is carried out, and menopause if the administration of testosterone is interrupted. The lifelong drugs involved have numerous harmful health consequences, such as the danger of liver cancer" (Jeffreys). The transitioning process can lead to lifelong health issues, as well as causing sterilization in adolescents. Perhaps just as harmful is the effect transitioning has on society. A medical expert
states, “The practice of transgendering children reveals that stereotypical gender roles are still widely believed, particularly by the medical profession which diagnoses and treats the children, to be desirable and unavoidable. Those who treat children with body changing drugs believe that this is the morally correct course” (Jeffreys). The transitioning process goes against everything the transgender movement is about: eliminating gender roles. By having people become the gender they feel is right for them, they’re solidifying the stereotypes that are associated with each gender. All in all, sex change procedures are harmful to one’s health and society as a whole.

To conclude, gender is determined by a person’s biological makeup, and the desire to change one’s gender is seen as a mental condition, which in turn makes the process of transitioning harmful to society as well as one’s physical person. Gender is given to a child in the form of chromosomes, XX for girls and YX for boys. Gender identity disorder is not seen as a legitimate medical condition but rather a mental imbalance. Finally, the process of getting a sex change is harmful to a person physically as well as society as a whole. Despite the amount of evidence against “gender fluidity” and the transitioning process, the argument over whether gender is predetermined or a person’s personal choice will continue to escalate, pitting logic against emotion.
Works Cited


"Changing sex is not to be done just on a whim." *London Evening Standard* [London, England] 5 Jan. 2016: 15. *Opposing Viewpoints in Context*. Web. 5 May 2016. This article shows the standard point of view of those against the idea of "gender fluidity." Though opinion based in nature, it does bring up some valid points against "gender fluidity".