

Key Scientific Papers (Appendix Two in *Lost in Trans Nation*)

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Social Transition

1. Zucker, Kenneth J.. "Debate: Different strokes for different folks." *Child and adolescent mental health* 25 1 (2020): 36-37.
Social transition of younger children is not only a psychosocial treatment, but may be iatrogenic (therapist/doctor unintendedly induces symptoms or complications with specific treatment) given the rate of desistance otherwise (reported rates of desistance up to 97% without intervention)
2. Sievert, E. D., Schweizer, K., Barkmann, C., Fahrenkrug, S., & Becker-Hebly, I. (2021). Not social transition status, but peer relations and family functioning predict psychological functioning in a German clinical sample of children with Gender Dysphoria. *Clinical child psychology and psychiatry*, 26(1), 79–95.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1359104520964530>
Demonstrates that current research does not support the assumption that social transition benefits gender dysphoric youth.
3. Singh D, Bradley SJ and Zucker KJ (2021) A Follow-Up Study of Boys With Gender Identity Disorder. *Front. Psychiatry* 12:632784. doi: 10.3389/fpsy.2021.632784.
Desistance is outcome for majority of children (only 12% persisted in this study) if they are not transitioned early (socially or otherwise).
4. Wong, W. I., van der Miesen, A. I. R., Li, T. G. F., MacMullin, L. N., & VanderLaan, D. P. (2019). Childhood social gender transition and psychosocial well-being: A comparison to cisgender gender-variant children. *Clinical Practice in Pediatric Psychology*, 7(3), 241–253. <https://doi.org/10.1037/cpp0000295>
Psychological challenges appear to be similar whether a gender variant child has socially transitioned or not.
5. Kristina R. Olson, Lily Durwood, Rachel Horton, Natalie M. Gallagher, Aaron Devor; Gender Identity 5 Years After Social Transition. *Pediatrics* August 2022; 150 (2): e2021056082. 10.1542/peds.2021-056082
*Demonstrated early transition led to persistence as trans 5 years later in over 97%; authors argue that despite being in stark contrast to all previous research, this was confirmation that detransition/desisting is rare. However, this study reiterates significant concern for iatrogenic effect caused by Social Transition
6. Morandini, J.S., Kelly, A., de Graaf, N.M. et al. Is Social Gender Transition Associated with Mental Health Status in Children and Adolescents with Gender Dysphoria?. *Arch Sex Behav* 52, 1045–1060 (2023).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10508-023-02588-5>
Whether or not a child socially transitioned was not associated with mood, anxiety, or suicide attempts; study "failed to find superior well-being in socially transitioned young people".

Suicide vs. Reported Suicidality and Self-Report Surveys:

Biggs, M. Suicide by Clinic-Referral Transgender Adolescents in the United Kingdom. *Arch Sex Behav* 51, 685–690 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10508-022-02287-7>
Discusses exceptionally low rate of suicide, complex, unreliable nature of self-report, especially in young children. 15,000 children referred to GIDS Clinic in England from 2010-2020, 4 completed suicides (2 in treatment, 2 on waitlist).

Informed Consent & Gender Affirming Care for Minors:

1. Levine, S. B., Abbruzzese, E., & Mason, J. W. (2022a). Reconsidering informed consent for trans-identified children, adolescents, and young adults. *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*, 48(7), 706–727.
doi:10.1080/0092623X.2022.2046221
"Beliefs about gender-affirmative care need to be separated from the established facts so that proper informed consent process can occur prepare parents and patients for the difficult choices that they must make"

2. Levine, S. B., Abbruzzese, E., & Mason, J. W. (2022b). What are we doing to these children? Response to Drescher, Clayton, and Balon Commentaries on Levine et al., 2022. *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*. Advance online publication. doi:10.1080/0092623X.2022.2136117
3. Levine SB. Informed Consent for Transgendered Patients. *J Sex Marital Ther*. 2019;45(3):218-229. doi: 10.1080/0092623X.2018.1518885. Epub 2018 Dec 22. PMID: 30582402.
Informed consent, which requires consent to future risks, is not possible in children.

Overstated certainty of benefits/Lack of transparency regarding risks in Gender Affirming Treatment

1. Clayton, A. Gender-Affirming Treatment of Gender Dysphoria in Youth: A Perfect Storm Environment for the Placebo Effect—The Implications for Research and Clinical Practice. *Arch Sex Behav* 52, 483–494 (2023).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10508-022-02472-8>
2. Biggs, M. (2022). The Dutch protocol for Juvenile transsexuals: Origins and evidence. *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*. Advance online publication. doi:10.1080/0092623X.2022.212123
3. Biggs, M. (2020). Gender dysphoria and psychological functioning in adolescents treated with GnRHa: Comparing Dutch and English prospective studies. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 49(7), 2231–2236. doi:10.1007/s10508-020-01764-1
4. Biggs, M. (2021). Revisiting the effect of GnRH analogue treatment on bone mineral density in young adolescents with gender dysphoria. *Journal of Pediatric Endocrinology and Metabolism*, 34(7), 937–939. doi:10.1515/jpem-2021-0180
5. Biggs, M. (2023). The Dutch Protocol for Juvenile Transsexuals: Origins and Evidence, *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*, 49:4, 348-368, DOI: [10.1080/0092623X.2022.2121238](https://doi.org/10.1080/0092623X.2022.2121238)
International standard of care for gender dysphoric youth is based on untrue assumptions (reversibility), little to no evidence of benefits, lack of long-term follow-up studies and poorly-reported to omitted permanent, negative outcomes.
6. J. Cohn (2022) Some Limitations of “Challenges in the Care of Transgender and Gender-Diverse Youth: An Endocrinologist’s View”, *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*, DOI: [10.1080/0092623X.2022.2160396](https://doi.org/10.1080/0092623X.2022.2160396)
7. E. Abbruzzese, Stephen B. Levine & Julia W. Mason (2023) The Myth of “Reliable Research” in Pediatric Gender Medicine: A critical evaluation of the Dutch Studies—and research that has followed, *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*, DOI: [10.1080/0092623X.2022.2150346](https://doi.org/10.1080/0092623X.2022.2150346)
8. Levine, S.B. Reflections on the Clinician’s Role with Individuals Who Self-identify as Transgender. *Arch Sex Behav* 50, 3527–3536 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10508-021-02142-1>
9. Zucker, K. J. (2019). Adolescents with gender dysphoria: Reflections on some contemporary clinical and research issues. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 48, 1983-1992.
Addresses suicidality discourse among providers treating gender distress, the recent increase in referrals to gender clinics and inversion of ratio of male: female referrals over last several years, ROGD diagnosis and treatment
10. Block J. (2023). Gender dysphoria in young people is rising—and so is professional disagreement *BMJ*; 380:p382 doi:10.1136/bmj.p382.
Discussion of lack of evidence in support of affirming treatments, social, medical and rush to affirm without psychological support
11. Littman, L. (2021). Individuals treated for gender dysphoria with medical and/or surgical transition who subsequently detransitioned: A survey of 100 detransitioners. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 50(8), 3353–3369. doi:10.1007/s10508-021-02163-w
Research regarding ROGD and intervening too early with affirming care; risk of “iatrogenically derailing the development of youth who would otherwise grow up to be LGB nontransgender adults”
12. James M. Cantor (2020) Transgender and Gender Diverse Children and Adolescents: Fact-Checking of AAP Policy, *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*, 46:4, 307-313, DOI: [10.1080/0092623X.2019.1698481](https://doi.org/10.1080/0092623X.2019.1698481)

Rapid Onset Gender Dysphoria:

1. Littman, L. (2018). Parent reports of adolescents and young adults perceived to show signs of a rapid onset of gender dysphoria. PLOS ONE, 13(8), e0202330. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0202330
2. Hutchinson, A., Midgen, M., & Spiliadis, A. (2020). In support of research into rapid-onset gender dysphoria. Archives of Sexual Behavior, 49(1), 79-80.

Comprehensive Guide to Exploratory Care:

Ayad S., D'Angelo R., Kenny D., Levine S., Marchiano L., O'Malley S., (2022). A Clinical Guide for Therapists Working with Gender-Questioning Youth. https://www.genderexploratory.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/GETA_ClinicalGuide_2022.pdf. sponsored by Gender Exploratory Therapy Association (GETA) and Society for Evidence-Based Gender Medicine (SEGM)