



Legacy

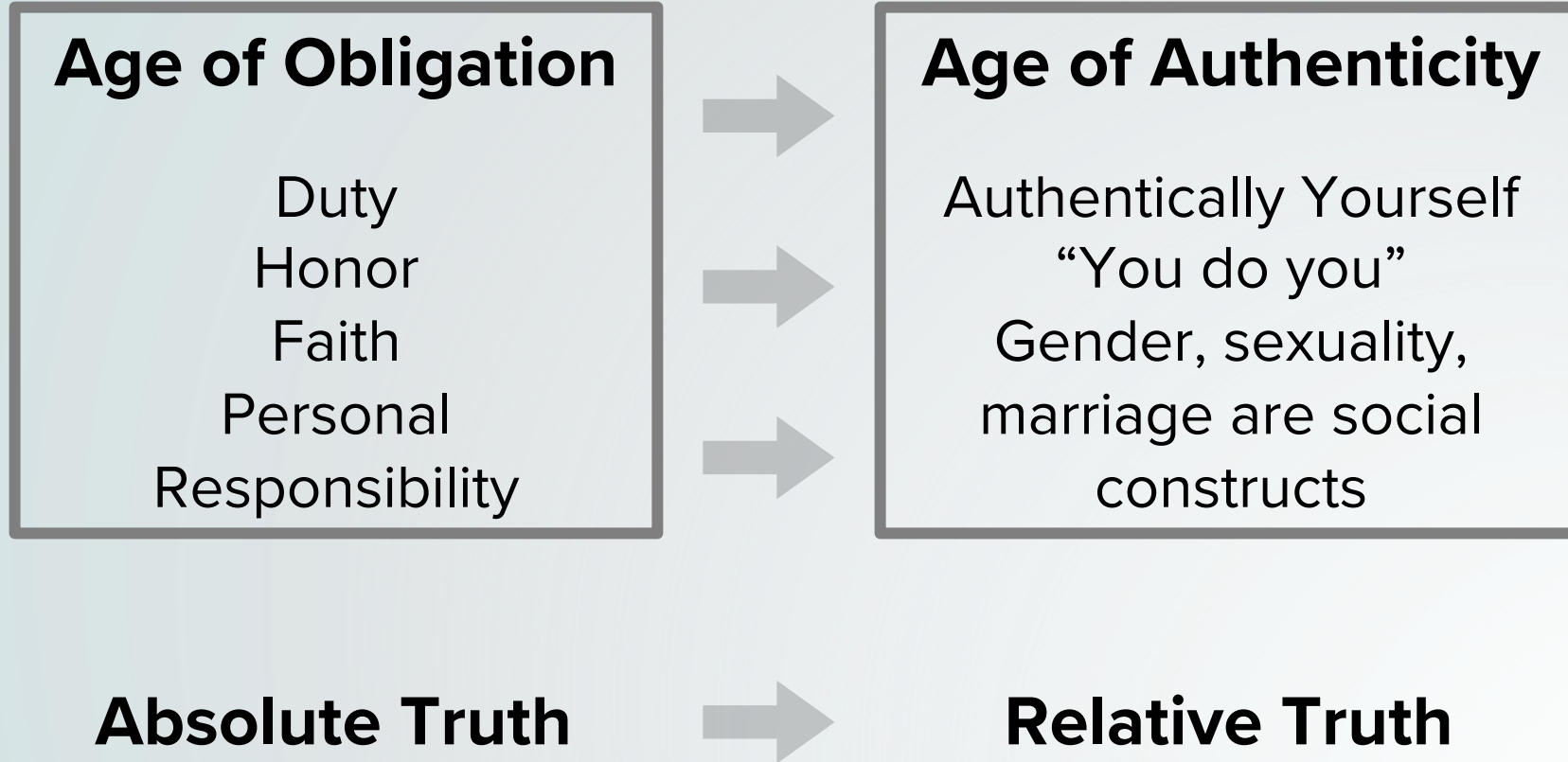
CULTURE ~~WARS~~
ENGAGEMENT





Our Cultural Context

- 1 We live in a fallen world populated with broken and sinful people who are being guided by ungodly and deceitful philosophies. (*Romans 1:18-32*)
- 2 Our culture has rejected the concept of absolute truth and embraced relativism. (*2 Tim 4:3-4*)
- 3 The lifestyles, standards, and actions of our culture reflect the godless value system that the culture has embraced



Age of Authenticity

(Relative Truth)

Who says marriage is only between one man and one woman and not a thurple?

Who says that pornography is immoral and not artistic expression?

Who says that my gender expression ought to align with my biological sex?

**We are not at war with
our ideological opponents**

we are at war for them.

Is my heart postured to **pray for**
and **desire conversation for** my
ideological opponents?

Gender

How do we engage?

1 Informed Apologetic

2 Biblical View

3 Our response

1 Peter 3:15b _____

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

Acts 17:16

“Now while Paul was waiting for them [Silas and Timothy] at Athens, **his spirit was provoked within him** as he saw that the city was full of idols..” (ESV)

“**greatly distressed**” (NIV)

Vs. 23... For as I walked around and **looked carefully** at your objects of worship ...

“observed” (ESV)

John's Story

Table Talk

How should John respond?

1. Fully accept his daughter's lifestyle and marriage
2. Fully reject his daughter's lifestyle and marriage
3. What other options does he have?

Informed Apologetic

Terms

Sex

Gender

Gender Identity



**Gender
Role**

**Gender
Expression**

Gender Identity

SEX

Gender

**Gender
Role**

**Gender
Expression**



Binary



Genesis 1:26-27

Then God said, “**Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.** And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” **So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.**

IMAGE OF GOD

Image of God (**Imago Dei**) means “**in likeness or similarity**” to **God**. It’s a metaphysical expression that includes human’s moral, spiritual, and intellectual essence. Humans are created with unique abilities, absent in all other creatures of the earth, that mirror the divine nature of God. **It reflects our connection with God.**

Our Purpose

We were made for a purpose .. *To glorify God and be fruitful and multiply*

- *Heterosexuality is natural
- *Biblical marriage is normative
- *Gender = biological sex

The Gospel tells us to reject the self and follow Christ. Now you have freedom in Christ to live out God's call as a man or woman.. You reject other ways!

Matthew 16:24-25

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple **must deny themselves** and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

Colossians 3:10

And have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Fellowship Bible Church

We believe that God created the human race male and female, and all conduct with the intent to adopt a sex/gender other than the one ordained by God at conception is contrary to God's intent, and therefore sin.

(Genesis 1:27; Matthew 19:4; Mark 10:6).

Informed Apologetics

Terms

LGBTQ+

Binary



Cisgender (“on this side of” or
“not across” (non-transgender)
or **Cishet**)

Gender

Identity

- *A social construct
- *One's psychological and social response to our environment.
- *The way a person feels It's just who we are...

Gender

Identity

When a person senses a dissonance between body and mind, the mind wins. The body is dismissed as irrelevant, inconsequential, and insignificant to who we are. **All that matters is your inner feelings. Gender is a matter of feelings. Your body means nothing!** (Powerful expression of individualism)

Gender

Identity

*What does some little bit of flesh between the legs matter?

Why should that make a difference to your **sense of who you are?**

How can anyone be forced to adopt an arbitrary gender that comes from a social construct especially if doing so detracts from their own happiness?

Gender

Identity

“My flat chest is not male, **it’s** female.”

“My beard is not male, **it’s** female.”

“My male genitals are female, **not** male.”

Genesis 3:1

He [serpent] said to the woman, “Is it really true that God said,” (NET)

Trans*

Umbrella term for the incongruence between gender identity (internal sense of who you are) and your biological sex.

-Highly flexible and complex

Male ---- Female (transfemale)

Female ----- Male (transmale)

Transgender

Trans*

If you've met one transgender person
You've met **one transgender person**

Table Talk

**What emotion do you most feel
when you think about Trans*
people?**

Question

How many Trans* individuals live in Arkansas?

Frequency of Trans*

(UCLA School of Law(Williams Institute)

2017-19 Youth Risk Behavior Survey from the CDC)

Ages	Arkansas	United States
<i>13-17</i>	<i>0.88% or 1800</i>	<i>1.43% or 300K</i>
<i>18-24</i>	<i>3.59% or 9800</i>	<i>1.31% or 399K</i>
<i>25-64</i>	<i>0.24% or 3500</i>	<i>0.45% or 766K</i>
<i>65+</i>	<i>0.58% or 2900</i>	<i>0.32% or 172K</i>
<i>All</i>	<i>0.7% or 16,200</i>	<i>0.52% or 1.34M</i>

Gender Dysphoria

Psychological diagnosis for the distress some people experience when they live with the incongruence between gender identity and biological sex.

Gender Dysphoria

Incongruence

- Gender incongruence is “characterized by a marked and persistent incongruence between an individual’s experienced gender and the assigned sex, which often leads to a desire to transition, in order to live and be accepted as a person of the experienced gender, through hormonal treatment, surgery, or other health care services to make the individual’s body align, as much as desired and to the extent possible, with the experienced gender.” (ICD-11)

Gender Dysphoria

Early onset - Distress begins in early childhood, (usu. age 2-4 years) Only a small number of these children will continue to have symptoms in later adolescence or adulthood.

Rapid onset gender dysphoria - An increasing social phenomenon; Affects teens and adults who have identified with their own biological sex for years, then decide they want to change genders and sometimes alter their bodies.

Gender Dysphoria

Risk Factors

Low self-esteem Anxiety Depression Lack of identity Eating disorders	<u>Personality disorder</u> Self-injury <u>Autism spectrum disorder</u> <u>Sexual trauma</u>
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Gender Dysphoria

Risk Factors

- Social media influencers celebrating the ideology of gender fluidity.
- Peers embracing transgender behavior as popular and trendy — and as an avenue for social celebration or unique recognition.
 - LGBTQ+ affirming clubs within public school systems

Transitioning

Social

Pronouns

Different name

Clothes/hair/makeup

Legal name change

Gender/sex changed on government documents

Voice training

Natal female (wears a binder)

Transitioning

Medical

Cross-sex hormones

Puberty blockers

Anti-androgens (Natal male)

Transitioning

Surgical

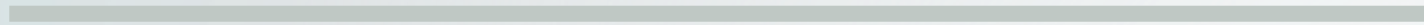
Face/neck surgery

Breast/chest surgery; Genital surgery (Natal female)

Breast implants; Genital surgery (Natal male)



Binary

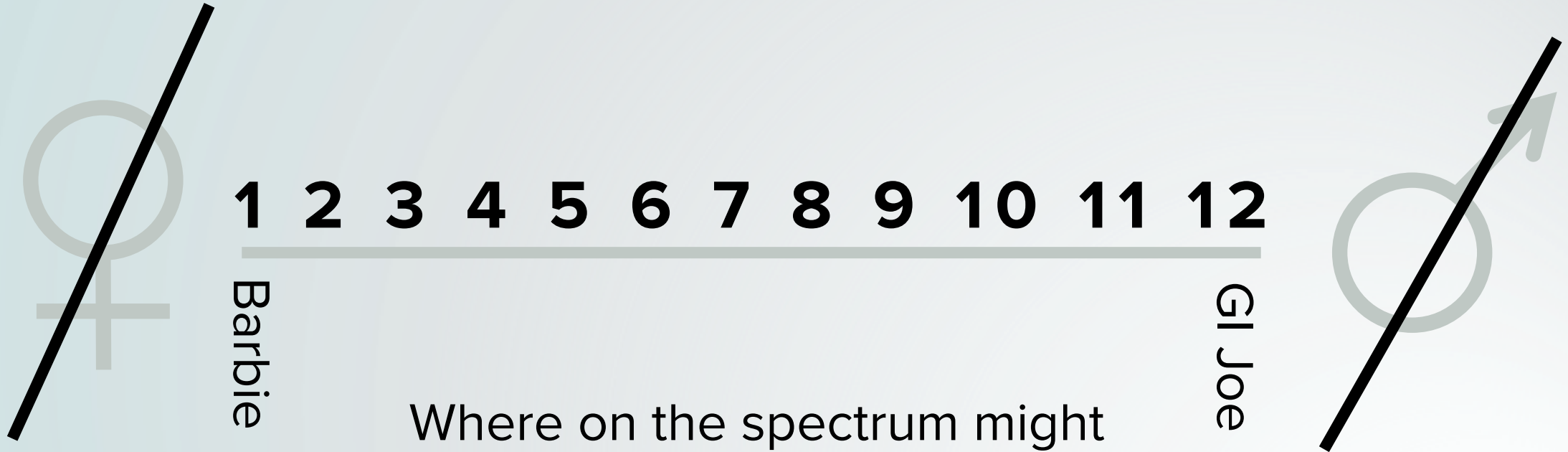


Non-Binary



Also called ... agender, queer, genderqueer, gender neutral or pangender; demigirl or boy; bigender; or called “nothing”

Spectrum



Where on the spectrum might
your gender identity be?

at least 72

Gender Fluid

Male → Female → Male

Gender Expansive



Gender Euphoria

In their sweet spot...

Mis-Gender

The use of a word, especially a pronoun or form of address, that does not reflect their gender identity.

Pronouns and Inclusive Language

*Pronouns are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. *(i.e. he/him/his, she/her/hers, or binary pronouns)*

neutral: they/them/theirs (also used when you don't know someone's pronouns)

Non-Binary Pronouns and Inclusive Language

co/cos/coself

en/ens/enself

ey/em/eir/eirs/emself

ze/zir/zirs/zirself

yo/yos/yoself

ve/vis/vir/verself

Non-Binary Pronouns and Inclusive Language

*Ze reminded zirsself to pick up zir umbrella
before going outside.*

***(She reminded herself to pick up her
umbrella before going outside)***

.

Non-Binary Pronouns and Inclusive Language

Mx (Ms/Mr/Mrs)

Nibling (Niece or Nephew)

Parent or Guardian (Mother or Father)

Marrier (Bride)

Pibling (Aunt or Uncle)

Pregnant individuals (Pregnant women)

Chest feeding (Breast feeding)

Should we use Preferred Pronouns

(Pronoun Hospitality)

YES!

I am building a relationship
(Compassionate Position)

NO!

I am affirming a lie
(Integrity Position)

Table Talk

A 25 y.o. person sits down next to you on a 3-hour flight. This individual is wearing a plaid shirt with a denim jacket, beanie hat, pants with frog emblems, and what looks like combat boots. Pink hair can be seen. Hello, my name is Cedar. I use *yo/yos/yose/f*).

How do you respond?

What are 3 questions you would like to ask?

De-Transition

(Desistance)

How often? We just don't know!

After some quiet reflection, Jim changed his mind about wanting a Hippopotamus for Christmas.



De-Transition – why?

(Littman, Lisa, Arch of Sex Behavior, 2021)

Discrimination (23.0%)

More comfortable identifying as their natal sex (60.0%)

Potential medical complications from transitioning (49.0%)

Discovered gender dysphoria was caused by trauma, abuse, or a mental health condition (38.0%)

Homophobia or difficulty accepting themselves as lesbian, gay, or bisexual (23.0%)

Majority (55.0%) felt that they did not receive an adequate evaluation from a doctor or mental health professional before starting transition

Only 24.0% of respondents informed their clinicians that they had detransitioned.

Intersex

Intersex is a general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male.

Intersex - Frequency

1 in 1500 to 1 in 2000 births. (*Intersex Society of North America*)

Klinefelter (XXY) one in 1,000 births

Androgen insensitivity syndrome one in 13,000 births

Partial androgen insensitivity syndrome one in 130,000 births

Classical congenital adrenal hyperplasia one in 13,000 births

Vaginal agenesis one in 6,000 births

Ovotestes one in 83,000 births

Table Talk

**How can you engage in the life of a
trans* or non-binary person?**

Our Response

How do we Engage?

1. How is my soul?
2. Am I consistent in my love for people and my life?
3. Is this a new problem? **No! We are swimming against culture.** Think of Daniel, Judges, and Romans 1.
4. How do we *love* people who are trans*?

Our Response

How do we Engage?

- 5. Acknowledge we are absolute truth people living in a relative world.**
- 6. Persuasion is best when subtle (through relationships)**
- 7. Choose a truthful position with a graceful tone.**
- 8. Make friends with a trans* person.**

Colossians 4:6

Let your speech always be gracious,
seasoned with salt, so that *you may know
how you ought to answer each person.* (ESV)

Let's **pray for and desire**
conversion for and engage our
ideological opponents!

Thanks!



Legacy

