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I CAN'T FIND THE SENSE IN TRANSITIONING... My Response



Charli · [Follow](#)

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Below is my response to a post written last week by someone who clearly has their own ideas about the transgender community and decided to be generous enough to share their thoughts with everyone else. They also followed up their views with



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moment to search for the title and read the entire post, I'm sure you will be enlightened by this person's insight into our lives, just as I and others have been. Sarcasm aside, I admittedly flew off the handle when I first read it. The post to me was reminiscent of another I had tore into not too long ago. Always up for a fight when it comes to defending the transgender community, I hastily went on the attack. For that I make no apologies. But as this person pointed out in their reply

to my original response, I had a case of mistaken identity. So, to make amends I added the following response.

Because I have a tendency to go on the offensive when it comes to attacking the transgender community, I sometimes react too hastily to posts such as yours. So, this is a follow up to my previous response.

Lately I've been trying to approach commentary like yours with a degree of self restraint in an effort to both illuminate the actual facts and years of comprised medical data regarding transgender health care and our community as a whole. I failed in that regard. Although to be fair your opinions and poor sentence structure are quite similar to the post that I had responded to. Basically I flew off the handle and got off on the wrong foot. In any case, what you've written is still inflammatory and full of misinformation as others have pointed out. I won't apologize for what I wrote in my response. I can however try to give you more concrete sources based on decades of research.

Please check out the WPATH standards of care. These standards are followed by medical professionals worldwide, not just here in the U.S. I believe they're on their eighth addition. Beyond that there is overwhelming support from the American Medical Association and the Endocrine Society. Please take a moment to read the links below.

<https://www.wpath.org>

<https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/press-releases/ama-reinforces-opposition-restrictions-transgender-medical-care>

<https://www.endocrine.org/news-and-advocacy/news-room/2023/ama-gender-affirming-care>

Puberty blockers delay the devastating effects of an unwanted puberty if there is any question in the minds of the patients and their parents. Being older, I know I'm not alone when I say I wish I had the opportunity to take my time making an informed decision to transition to female at a much earlier age and not have to go through a male puberty. Every medication has its risks. Some vary depending upon the medication and the individual patient. For instance, taking Viagra is apparently more risky than taking puberty blockers. Yet, we're being told that they're dangerous by politicians who have no medical credentials or credibility. They're just whipping up their base by fear mongering. So you know, surgeons are not performing gender reassignment surgery on minors, contrary to what the right wing is preaching. They've used children as an excuse because it plays into people's basic instinct to protect those who are the most vulnerable and innocent.

If you'd really like to protect children, try passing stricter gun control measures. Gun violence is the number one cause of death for children ages 1—19 in the U.S., while the highest mortality rates occur in red states. Still, we have Republican controlled states that are not only in denial of this sobering fact, but try to make it even easier for anyone to acquire a firearm without a permit or safety certification, and bake in open carry laws so

people can intimidate each other out in public. Florida recently became the 26th state to pass this law. These Republican hypocrites could at least try banning high capacity, fully automatic assault rifles, but won't because they pander to their right wing base. Don't get me wrong, I like guns and own several. I had to take hours of gun safety courses, and go through an extensive background check in order to apply for a permit. Measures that are common sense. BTW, I purchased my first handgun because I have been harassed to the point of fearing for my safety. All because I'm a visible transgender woman and nothing more. A result of the hate and lies being spewed by Republicans.

You had mentioned transgender people who pursue gender affirming care such as gender reassignment are wearing a disguise. One could argue that elective cosmetic surgeries cis men and women chose to have performed including breast implants for larger breasts, pectoral implants to give the appearance of being muscular, penile implants and girth enhancement, facelifts to look younger, nose jobs, or even something as simple as makeup and shape wear are a form of disguise but common and accepted because cis people are in the majority. They see no problem trying to correct, manipulate, or enhance natural occurrences on their bodies in an effort to improve their appearance to others and how they see themselves while casting stones at the transgender community for trying to do the exact same thing. It's hypocritical.

If you want to talk about wearing a disguise, then trying to live as a man was mine. I never stood a chance. I came to the realization that I was

transgender a few years ago, before all of the backlash that is happening now. I've had years of therapy and have been cautiously moving forward with hormone replacement and surgery ever since. The difficulty I've been through in trying to repair this body I occupy so that I can live an easier and thus happier life has taken its mental and financial toll on me. I wouldn't wish it on anyone, but it's been well worth it for me because I'm so much more comfortable in my own skin. I've struggled with depression my entire life. If I was no longer able to receive gender affirming care, my alternative would be suicide. It's that simple. I'm not advocating for transgender people to commit suicide, but it's something that our community has a disproportionate rate of. This is no longer only because of our own internal struggles with gender identity, but now because of the constant attacks by conservative and evangelical groups.

You can take it from me, but I'd like to challenge you to have a conversation with other people who identify as transgender, trans men and women, and our nonbinary counterparts, so you can get a glimpse into our reality, our struggles, and our successes.

And sure, there are people who regret transitioning. But it's such a small percentage. And it could be because of reasons not associated with the transition, like losing friends, family, housing, healthcare, or employment. I recently watched a documentary on Navy Seal Chris Beck who transitioned, but after a few years decided to de-transition. The documentary didn't make it exactly clear what their reasons were, but this person was estranged from their children because of their decision to transition.

You're entitled to your opinions, but please don't try to pass them off as facts. It's irresponsible. And citing You Tube videos doesn't substantiate any of your arguments.

I hope that what I've written here will help clarify to you and your readers some of the actual facts. I also hope it inspires you and your readers to take the time to understand what it means to be transgender, from at least our perspective and not some bias, bigoted, and hateful misinterpretation concocted by a religious ideology or politician hoping to gain votes by vilifying us and in turn destroying our lives.

I make a clear distinction that I'm a transgender woman, not a cis woman. I'm very visible in my community and proud of who I am and what I've accomplished. I know there are transgender people who are not comfortable being seen as trans and chose to live a stealth life because of concerns for their own well-being and those they love. Perhaps they have passing privilege and it comes naturally. We're all different. But we're all the same in that like anyone we want to be able to live dignified lives and be treated with the same amount of respect as everyone else.

Good luck and please feel free to reach out.



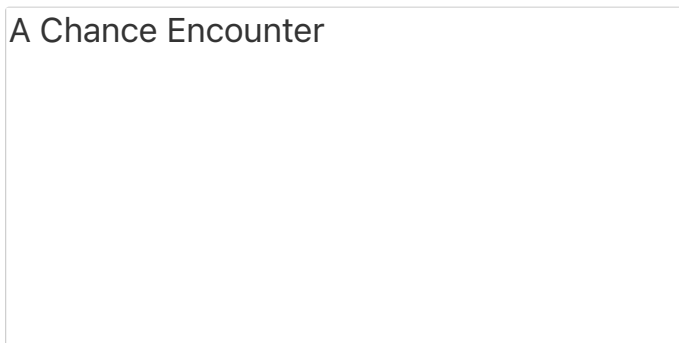
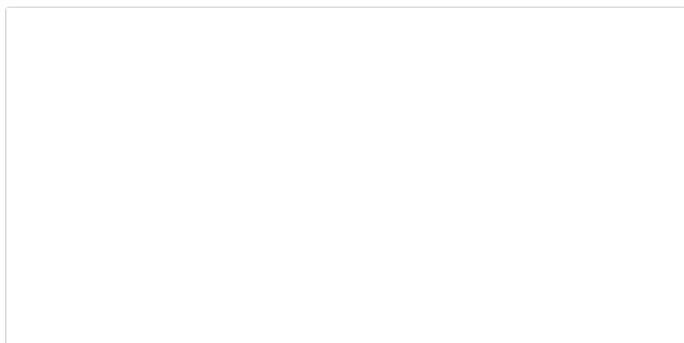
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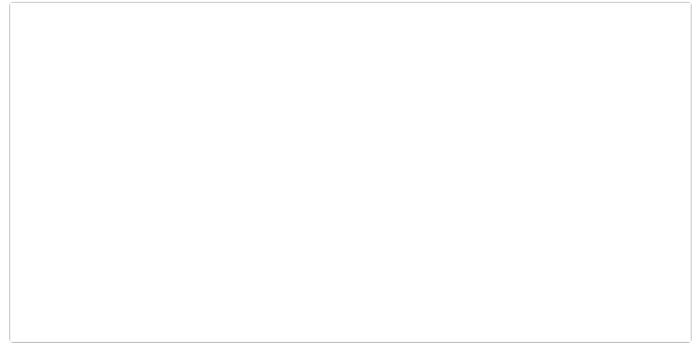
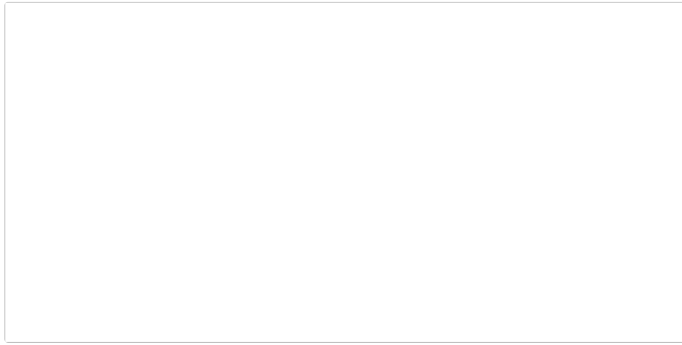
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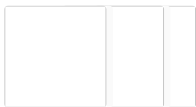
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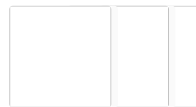
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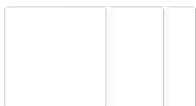
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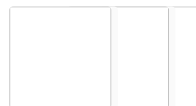
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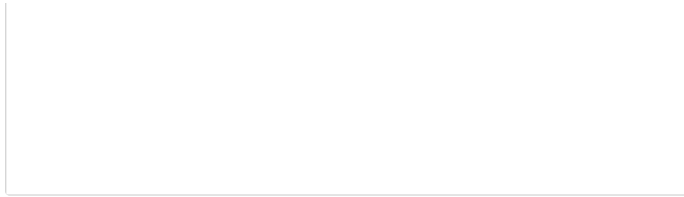


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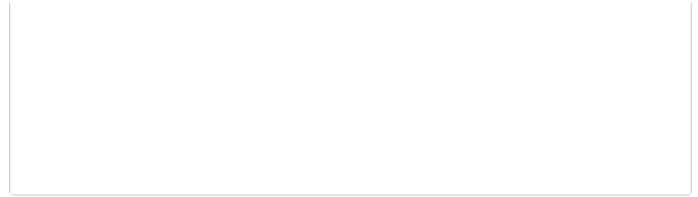
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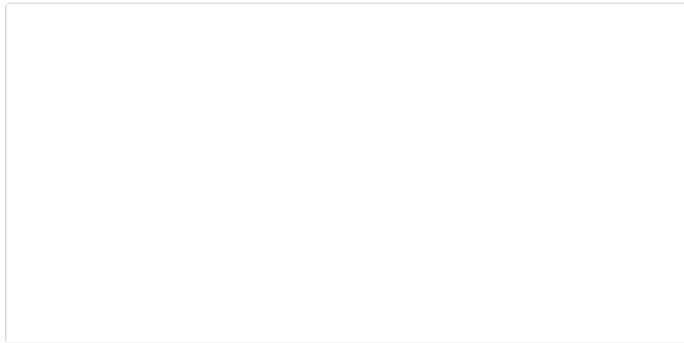
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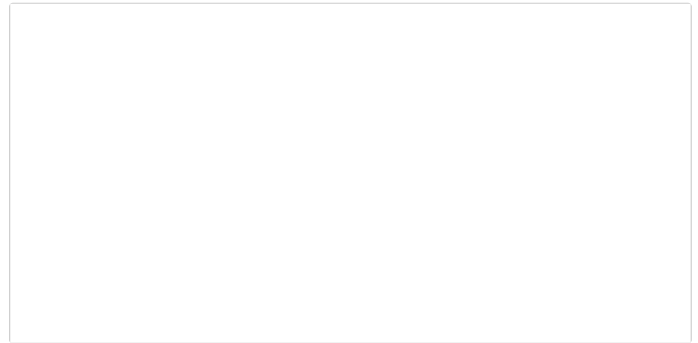
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