Thanks for your last letter and newsletter. It is looking better and better all the time. Keep up the great work! How is your biography coming along and also, the newest version of your F-M guide? Oh, could you please send me a copy of the Los Angeles Times article on F-M TS-ism as the reporter promised to send me one but never did. Thanks!

(my fiancee of eight years) and I broke up last September, I gave her her "walking papers" as I fell in love with someone else —

, my new wife-to-be. We are engaged and exchanged rings and hope to tie the knot perhaps this September on her birthday. I met her in Ottawa last March and we started going together on September 16. I moved to Ottawa for three months from October till the end of December to be with her (we didn't want to be apart for even one day as we are desperately in love), and then we moved back to Toronto in January. She works for Revenue Canada (Taxation Office) and got a transfer to T.O. I still wanted to be friends with but she told me she doesn't want anything to do with me. Oh well, it's her loss.

I am presently working as a wordprocessor for a temp agency, making \$14.50 per hour (but am in between contracts at the moment). I am now familiar with nine software packages and I want to learn desktop publishing. I plan to buy a new computer within the next few months and may also purchase "Ventura" and "PageMaker" - desktop publishing packages. I may research the idea of going into my own business in this new industry. I'm also looking for permanent employment in the wordprocessing field, as well as in journalism and public relations - if it's not already too late for me, that is.

and I visited my sister in Ottawa last weekend and plan to visit my brother and his wife and son in Pittsburgh over Easter weekend — once we get the clutch on the car fixed. Three friends and and I went to "Lulu's" in Kitchener — the longest bar in the world — yesterday for my 37th birthday, and want to visit Susan in Hamilton sometime soon. We plan to go to Quebec City over Victoria Day weekend and hopefully to Montreal for the jazz festival in July, and also, to New Brunswick for my friend's mother's 50th birthday party in August. As well we're also planning trips to New York City and Detroit.

Please drop me a line if you would and let me know how you're doing. So sorry but I can't afford to come to San Francisco this April after all, I'll send you some photos of us after Easter. Take care till then, but hopefully we will get there me of these days!

Low and Peace.

"Gender Worker"

P.O. Box Station A

Joronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 167

Dear Friends:

February 1, 1989

Greetings and salutations! For those of you who sent Christmas cards, thanks very much. I hope you had a joyful Yuletide, and I wish you, as always, a peaceful and a prosperous New Year.

I had probably the best Holiday Season ever, as I spent it with my sister and my fiancee, whom I met last March in Ottawa. We got engaged last September and have been living together almost five months now. We are desperately in love, extremely compatible, and for the first time in years, I am laughing again and actually like life once more. I moved to Ottawa for three months to be with my wife-to-be, and then, she got a transfer to Toronto, so we moved back here January 6. We are going to Kitchener, Ontario to "Lulu's" the longest bar in the world, for my 37th birthday on February 10, and then, to Pittsburgh, over Easter weekend, to visit my brother, sister-in-law and nephew (once we have the clutch fixed on the car).

I am now working for a temp agency as a wordprocessor at \$14,50 per hour, and in between contracts I collect unemployment insurance (as at the present). I know 10 software packages and hope to pick up "Ventura" so that I can perhaps get into desktop publishing, as this can pay up to \$26 or \$27 per hour. I would very much like to hear from anyone out there who knows anything at all about desktop publishing, particularly in terms of starting up one's own business.

I have stopped publishing my newsletter for helping professionals and resource workers, "Gender Networker", because I had only 20 subscribers, and I would rather put the time and money to better use - ie. compiling my anthology of TS, TG and TV verse, and then, my F-M TS manual. I still do some very selective counseling, as well as some very limited networking, lobbying, research and education. I also hope to do some writing (papers, articles, reviews, editorials) for submission to professional journals and transgender publications. I am still selling "The Uninvited Dilemma" and the Research Supplement, as well as the "Standards of Care", and I hope to be able to sell "In Search Of Eve: Transsexual Rites of Passage", "Bodyshock": The Truth About Changing Sex", and perhaps, others. Regretably, I will not be able to make the IFGE convention in San Francisco in April as I had originally planned (due to "no moola"). I do hope to be able to attend the HBIGDA symposium on gender dysphoria in Cleveland in September. Take care till next time. Peace...

In fellowship,

# "Gender Worker" P.O. Box 1224 Station A

Joronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1G7

Dear Friends:

February 1, 1989

Please find enclosed a notice calling for participants in a research study on female-to-male transsexuals, and women who have lived as or become men. I have spoken with the researcher, Holly Devor (who is NOT a medical or helping professional, but rather, an anthropologist) and have offered to help her contact people such as you, who might be willing to assist in her study, in order that you may get the truth out about your lives, and also, so that Holly will have the necessary factual information to publish her book, GENDER BLENDING; When Two Is Not Enough. She has assured me that: 1) complete confidentiality will be observed at all times, 2) contacting her for further information implies no committment to participate in any further activities related to this or any other project, and 3) you may choose what parts of the project you wish to participate in if you prefer not to complete all parts. Your participation would include two interviews or a questionnaire about your life and two fill-in-the-blank tests. I sincerely hope that you care enough to help to educate the professional community and the general public on the rare phenomenon of female-to-male transsexualism and gender reassignment, by being a part of this study. I, personally, have already agreed to an interview by Ms. Devor because I feel this is a worthwhile study being conducted by a serious researcher who wishes to inform society about a very small percent of the population who have, or, who are trying to resolve their gender conflict. To date, there has been only one medical text (Lothstein's), two autobiographies (Martino's and Eliot's - unpublished), and one practical guide (Sullivan's) that deals with the subject of F-M TSism. Of course, I am working on my F-M TS manual and my personal memoirs, respectively, but there is still a tremendous need for additional literature on this topic. Please help to fill the void in this area by helping Holly to tell our story to the world. Thank you on behalf of F-M TSs everywhere. Please advise Ms Devor, when writing, that you were referred by me.

In\_fellowship,

GENDER WORKER

RR/encl.

## FEMALE CROSS-DRESSERS OR FEMALE TO MALE TRANSSEXUALS

Participants wanted for a project about women who have lived as or become men.

### THE QUESTIONS:

Where does it all begin? How does the decision to change get made? How is a change accomplished?

#### THE PARTICIPANTS:

Persons who were born to the female sex and who have, at some point during their lives, lived as men with or without the aid of hormones and/or surgery. Female to male transsexuals. Lesbian or heterosexual women who have lived as men for a period of time and who have, or have not, returned to living as women at a later date.

#### THE RESEARCHER:

Holly Devor. Feminist activist turned academic. Author of <u>Gender Blending: When Two is Not Enough.</u> Women's Studies instructor at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, B.C., Canada. Ph.D. candidate at the University of Washington in Seattle, Wa., USA.

#### THE PROJECT:

Each participant will be asked to complete two interview sessions of 1–1.5 hours each and two short paper and pencil tests. Interviews will be audiotape recorded but strictest confidentiality will be observed. No one's identity will be revealed without their permission. Participants will be asked to describe their experiences of their sex/gender of origin and to compare them with their experiences of their sex/gender of choice. Participants will be asked to describe how they accomplished their passing for men or their sex/gender change for themselves, with family, friends, loved ones, co—workers, and in the public generally. Participants will also be asked to answer questions about what sex/gender means to them and to complete two short pencil and paper tests about sex/gender roles. Participants may refuse to answer any question or withdraw from the project at any time and for any reason.

#### THE END PRODUCTS:

- 1. A Ph.D. dissertation for the researcher.
- 2. A book about female to male sex/gender changers, passing women, and the social construction of gender.

WRITE: Holly Devor or PHONE: Holly Devor (messages only)
Women's Studies Dept.
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6
Canada

Holly Devor (messages only)

(604)
in B.C. or Wa.
(516)
in N.Y.
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in Ont.