

LGBTQ + Reflection

There was a common theme from these videos that really stuck with me. All of these people – children – adolescents, just wanted to be themselves. They wanted the world to see them as normal human beings, without anyone having to question what gender they were. Of course when living in a conservative state that we are in, the judgement of people in the LGBTQ+ community is an issue that needs to be dealt with. It needs to be addressed with a certain sensitivity that is going to be helpful to everyone. With the first video, there were some questions from the parents of these kids who were going through this transition, that I thought was a bit controversial. The medications that they are giving these children are referred to as Pubertal Blocking Mediations. These medications only have FDA approval for pt's with prostate cancer. With that information being presented to a parent, there are bound to be some questions that need to be addressed. These parents are putting all their faith in these healthcare professionals to treat their kid with gender dysmorphia, with a medication that has minimal clinical research. There are some questions of long-term effects on these children. Will they have lower bone density at an older age? Will there be any neurological deficits that come about by giving these medications at such a young age? These are questions that as a parent, I would not want done to my child under any circumstance. I feel as nurses, we put our faith in evidence base practice, and with this scenario – there is a lack of evidence that there are not deficits that may not occur until later on in life. Now, with hormone replacement therapy (estrogen-testosterone), I noticed that these pts that were getting treated with that, were a little older. One of the pt's was being seen by a psychologist, which I think should be standard practice with any gender dysmorphia pts that want to make any change using a drug. Not only should the pt be psychologically evaluated but the parents need to as well. There was a parent in one of the scenarios that was adamant of not changing his mind set on his daughter wanting to transition into a male. With all of that being said I think it is vital for nurses to try and be compassionate to the pt, and the family to make it as smooth of a transition for them as possible.