Transgender men's self-representations of bearing children post-transition

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Abstract
Since reports of Thomas Beatie's pregnancy appeared in the media in 2008, the visibility of transgender men having children post-transition has increased considerably. Whilst this visibility, it may be argued, has attracted negative attention to transgender men who choose to bear a child (and transgender men more broadly), it may also be argued that representations of transgender men bearing children have usefully drawn attention to the complex negotiations that transgender men undertake in having children. At the heart of these negotiations lies what is often framed as a competition between transgender men's masculinity, and their undertaking of a role historically undertaken by people who identify as women (i.e., child bearing). Yet what is repeatedly demonstrated in transgender men’s own self-representations of their pregnancies post-transition, is that they are very much men, even if their masculinity is placed in question by a society that equates child bearing with women. The present chapter takes transgender men's self-representations as its starting place in seeking to elaborate how such men reconcile their masculinity with child bearing.

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Transgender is generally used as an overarching term for a variety of individuals, behaviors, and groups involving tendencies along the gender continuum that are in opposition to or in divergence from the gender role (woman or man) commonly, but not always, assigned for life at birth. The term transgendered has come to refer to a range of people who do not feel comfortable within their birth gender which is usually based on physical/genetic sex. A transgender symbol, a combination of the male and female sign with a third, combined arm representing transgender people. Designed by Holly Boswell in North Carolina. A popular variant of Holly Boswell's symbol. SELF-RECOMMENDING! Recent Posts. Predictions For 2019. Psychiat-List Now Up. Transgender childhood transition is a hotly debated topic, with extensive media coverage devoted to it in recent years. (pro: BBC, The Lancet and The New York Times; contra: The Cut, New Statesman and The Globe and Mail). We see plenty of stories of transgender children (or gender dysphoric children and gender nonconforming children), both in the media and in the blogosphere.