

Date: March 28, 2004

To: Illinois Department of Professional Regulation
100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 9-300, Chicago, Illinois 60601

From: Lynn Conway and Deirdre McCloskey

Subject: Publication of confidential clinical psychological case-history information by J. Michael Bailey of Northwestern University.

We hereby submit textual and other evidence that J. Michael Bailey, while serving as a faculty member at Northwestern and practicing as a clinical psychologist (without a license), later published confidential case-history information about transsexual women he interviewed as a clinician, and that he published this information without the women's knowledge or permission.

Mr. Bailey represented himself as a licensed psychologist competent to write the "SRS letter," that is, the letter that most surgeons require from a licensed psychologist affirming that the patient is psychologically prepared to change gender.

In his book *The Man Who Would Be Queen*, Mr. Bailey claims to have disguised the case histories taken from his clinical practice by using pseudonyms. Unhappily he did not take reasonable care to protect the women's anonymity. He revealed factual details of places, relationships and events that would allow many members of the public to infer the women's identities. For example:

Case 1, "Juanita":

The young woman named "Juanita", who is a dear friend of ours, is described in his book:

"Juanita, who has been a successful prostitute before and after sex reassignment surgery" (p. 187); "Juanita's most recent boyfriend confronted her after penetrating her for the first time. Her vagina is shallow, and he concluded that she is not a normal woman" (p. 190) "However, in 1999 Juanita invited me to her wedding. Her engagement story was quite romantic, in an odd, transsexual sort of way....The wedding was small, touching, and hilarious. Juanita's family – mother, father, three brothers and three sisters- all attended, and of course, they knew that Juanita used to be Hector. However, neither the groom's parents nor his son from his fist marriage had any idea" (p.210).

It is a violation of the patient-psychologist relationship to reveal such details. Anyone who attended the wedding will know who is involved. Her relatives who did not know she was in the sex trade will learn it from Mr. Bailey. They will also learn intimate clinical details about her medical condition that never should have been revealed by Mr. Bailey.

Case 2, “Terese”:

Terese is not known as a former male. Her boyfriend, for example, does not know of her past. Mr. Bailey uses a pseudonym for Terese, but his book includes facts about her that could easily be revealed to a suspicious partner by her family history and her immigration status.

“Terese was born Jose Garcia in Mexico. His parents divorced when Jose was young, and he was raised by his grandparents. They moved to Chicago when he was XX” (p. 147). “In XXXX 19XX., Terese (then XX) flew to Belgium and over a XXXX-day period, had sex reassignment surgery, learned to care for her new vagina, and recovered sufficiently to leave the hospital.”(p.150) [we use X’s here to avoid further propagating facts displayed in the book: they are accurate so far as we know.]

Bringing public attention to "Terese" is extremely dangerous. Many gender crossers have been murdered after such revelations. This example illustrates Mr. Bailey’s reckless disregard for the well-being of his patients.

Case 3, “Kim”:

Mr. Bailey initially spotted Kim on one of his “research field trips” to the Crobar (a night-club in Chicago), as he says in his book:

“I cannot decide whether Kim is transsexual, and in a tribute to her beauty, I decide for now not to approach her. If she is transsexual, I will have other chances to meet her, and I will probably also have the opportunity to find out from others without asking her directly. So I leave. (p. 142).

He later described Kim to his research subject Anjelica Kieltyka, indicating that he’d like to meet her socially. Anjelica reports that he asked if she knew this woman, and whether she was transsexual. She said yes to both questions. Sensing an opportunity to help Kim, Anjelica arranged for Kim to go see Mr. Bailey for clinical interviews for eventual approval for SRS surgery, as she had done for several other young transsexual women. Kim then met Mr. Bailey for clinical interviews on two occasions in his office at Northwestern University.

When reporting in his book on these meetings with Kim, Mr. Bailey does not point out that the meetings were clinical interviews, nor that he wrote letters for sex reassignment surgery for any of the women. Instead he refers to Kim as being interviewed for “the study we were conducting”.

“Sure enough though, when I told my transsexual informants about her they recognized the description and claimed Kim as one of their own. I arranged to interview her for the study we were conducting. When she came to my laboratory, my initial impression was reconfirmed. She was stunning. (Afterwards, my avowedly heterosexual male research assistant told me the he would gladly have had sex with her, even knowing that Kim still possessed a penis.)”(p. 182)

Mr. Bailey reveals that "Kim" was originally from “XXX” (a very small country – which we will not repeat here) and that he admired her during visits to Crobar, which is the real name of the club. Dr Bailey would have known that almost all of Kim’s friends and acquaintances call her “Kim from XXX”. Thus his book openly reveals the name she is widely known by, while

identifying her as a transsexual woman who “still has a penis.” No reputable clinical psychologist would “out” their clients by such misconduct.

Case 4, “Cher”:

Anjelica Kieltyka, known as “Cher” in Bailey’s book, is the transsexual advocate who brought the young women to Mr. Bailey for clinical interviews regarding gender reassignment surgery. She also long served as Mr. Bailey’s research subject. Although open about her transsexual past with Mr. Bailey and with her transsexual friends, Anjelica nevertheless has kept much of her past confidential for personal safety reasons. Nevertheless, Mr. Bailey published in 2003 extensive intimate details of Anjelica’s sexual activities during her gender transition in the early 1990’s.

He also revealed her original male first name “Chuck” in the text, alongside the pseudonym “Cher” for her current female name. These revelations outed Anjelica in her own community as being the “sexual paraphiliac” person brutally caricatured in Mr. Bailey’s book. On pages [151](#) through [156](#) of his book, Mr. Bailey refers to Anjelica as “Chuck” repeatedly (about 46 times).

Mr. Bailey does not appear to understand the clinical case-management of transsexual women, nor was he professionally qualified to interview and recommend transsexual women for approval for gender reassignment surgery. His work had been on homosexuality, not transsexuality. He was not a member of HBIQDA, the professional society dedicated to the treatment of transsexualism and gender dysphoria, and that maintains the international standards for care of transsexual people.

Furthermore, the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation has recently confirmed that Mr. Bailey was not licensed as a clinical psychologist when he interviewed these young women and wrote their letters for surgery.

The women who came to him certainly thought he was a clinician, as did the surgeons to whom he sent the letters. He represented himself as having the competence to conduct psychological interviews and make decisions. He deceived the young women by posing as clinician conducting confidential clinical interviews, and he then deceived the science community by reporting in his book information gained during those interviews as deriving from “research subjects” in scientific “studies”.

Transsexual women face an epidemic of hate crimes. This is especially true for young minority women. The first three women mentioned above are Hispanic. For a full report on the issue you might consult the Winter 2003 Southern Poverty Law Center *Investigative Report* entitled:

'DISPOSABLE PEOPLE' [A wave of violence engulfs the transgendered, whose murder rate may outpace that of all other hate killings.](#)

By willfully revealing detailed clinical case-history information about the young minority transsexual women who came to him for help, Mr. Bailey has put them at increased risk of such hate crimes.

We regard Mr. Bailey's behavior as inconsistent with the humane, or indeed the legal, treatment of patients. Therefore, we wish to register a formal complaint with your office regarding the publication by Mr. Bailey of confidential clinical case history information.

Sincerely,

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See Also: “**J. Michael Bailey performing unlicensed clinical therapy**”, a complaint and evidence submitted by Andrea James and Lynn Conway to the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation, 28 March 2004. That complaint includes copies of three SRS approval letters signed by Mr. Bailey during the period 1996-2002, indicating that he indeed acted as a clinical psychologist during that period.