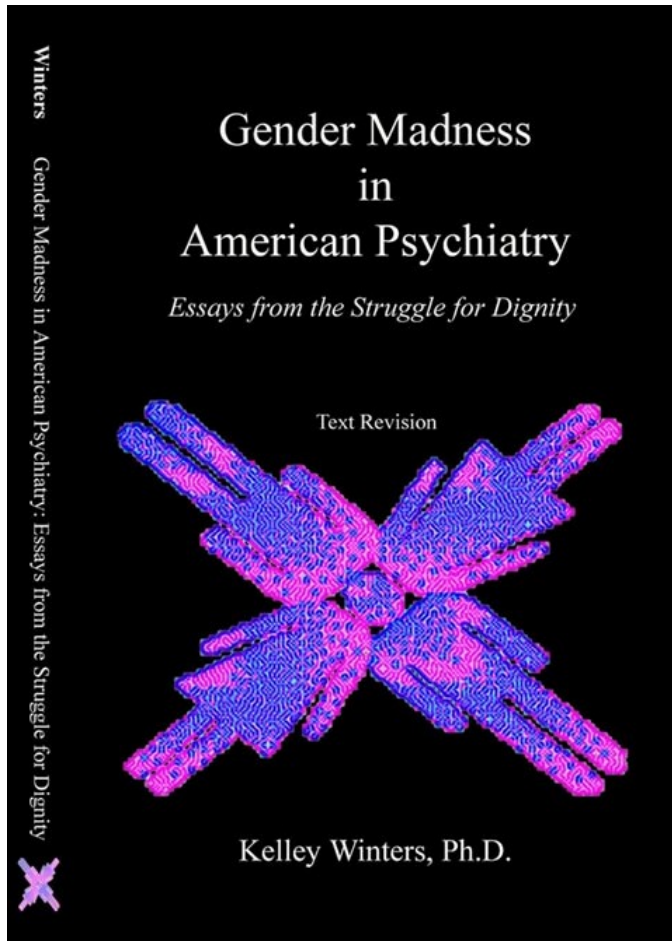


Book Announcement:

Gender Madness in American Psychiatry, Essays from the Struggle for Dignity



Kelley Winters, Ph.D.
GID Reform Advocates, 2008
\$17.99 USD
ISBN-10: 1-4392-2388-2
ISBN-13: 9781439223888
Paperback: 220 pages

**For more information, see
www.gendermadness.com**

Available for order at:

International Foundation for Gender
Education (IFGE) Bookstore,
<http://ifge.org/catalog/>;
Gendermadness.com ;
Amazon.com;
AbeBooks.com;
Alibris.com;
BookSurge.com

More than three decades after the
American Psychiatric Association voted to
remove the classification of
homosexuality as a mental disorder, those

who do not conform to their assigned birth-sex, either by inner identity or outer social expression, are labeled mentally ill in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM). Resulting stereotypes of psychiatric disorder and sexual deviance pose grave consequences to their human dignity and civil liberties. For transsexual individuals, the current diagnostic categories of Gender Identity Disorder (GID) and Transvestic Fetishism also pose barriers to access to medical transition procedures. As the APA works toward its fifth revision of the DSM in 2012, these gender diagnoses provoke growing controversy while failing to explain the existence of countless well-adjusted transsexual, gender queer and gender transcendent people who have contributed to society for millennia.

Gender Madness in American Psychiatry: Essays from the Struggle for Dignity provides an overview of the literature and attitudes behind the current diagnostic nomenclature and a historical snapshot of the issues and challenges faced by gender transcendent people on the eve of publication of the Fifth Edition of the DSM. This book contains a collection of essays from the struggle for transgender dignity and health care access. They are expanded from pieces

posted to the GID Reform Advocates web site in 2008 and incorporate the generous feedback and discussion from advocates and critics.

For students of psychology, sociology, anthropology and gender studies curricula, this book provides an overview of the literature and social context that led to the current diagnostic nomenclature. It offers a historical snapshot of the issues and challenges faced by the trans-community on the eve of publication of the DSM-V. For gender transcendent people, this book is a call for respect and celebration of the broad diversity that exists within our community. Yet, it is also a call for unity and solidarity in demanding change for psychiatric policies and stereotypes that harm all trans-people. For mental health clinicians who work with transitioning clients, this book is intended to provide some insight, from a trans-perspective, into the barriers to social legitimacy and access to medical care that are posed by the categories of current Gender Identity Disorder and Transvestic Fetishism.

Kelley Winters is a writer on issues of gender diversity in public and medical policy, founder of GID Reform Advocates (www.gidreform.org), and a member of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health as well as advisory boards for the Matthew Shepard Foundation and Trans-Youth Family Allies. Kelley is the author of *Gender Madness in American Psychiatry, Essays from the Struggle for Dignity*, available in February, 2009. She has presented papers on mental health policy issues to the American Psychiatric Association, the American Psychological Association and the American Counseling Association and has authored chapters in two books.

Bookstores and volume vendors may purchase *Gender Madness in American Psychiatry* at wholesale through:

BookSurge.com
Baker & Taylor, Inc. (available soon)

Pre-publication Reviews and Comments:

There is no one who has written more thoughtfully than Kelley Winters about the damage inflicted on transsexual and transgender people by pseudo-scientific psychiatric nomenclature and professional arrogance. In this book, she lucidly lays out the conflicts and some potential solutions for resolving the power struggle between some psychiatrists and psychologists, who are supposedly objective authorities, and trans people themselves, who are seeking autonomy, dignity and integrity. In the battle over DSM-V, this book provides some desperately needed understanding.

Jamison Green, MFA, author of *Becoming a Visible Man*

As long as our identities are regarded as a disorder we will never attain equality. Our rights and our lives depend on overturning this misogynistic idea. Kelley has been fighting for years to undo the damage this slanderous and dehumanizing diagnosis has caused. We all need to join this battle.

Denise Leclair, Executive Director, International Foundation for Gender Education.
www.ifge.org

Kelley Winters has compiled a remarkable collection of short essays examining the diagnosis of Gender Identity Disorder [GID] in the DSM and the role it has played in creating mental health problems for transgender people. Dr. Winters has long been a leader in deconstructing the psychiatric labeling of people with atypical gender expressions, and this book brings the discussion up-to-date, with a front row examination of the APA Committee formed to determine the fate of the GID diagnosis.

Gender Madness in American Psychiatry examines a broad array of issues from how the GID diagnosis is used to justify reparative therapy for gender-variant children and the historical context for psychiatrically labeling of sexual minorities. Dr. Winters critiques the half-baked diagnoses of transvestic fetishism and autognyephila with a sharp scalpel, presenting lucid evidence for the lack of scientific data to justify these gender-related diagnoses. Most importantly, Dr. Winters outlines the damage caused to transgender, transsexual, and other gender nonconforming people who are labeled with a mental illness.

Dr. Winters examines the current membership of the APA committee who will determine the inclusion and language used in the revision of the DSM. She outlines the lack of diverse viewpoints represented on this committee and the varied responses of the transgender community to address these shortcomings. Dr. Winters challenges the APA committee to address ten specific issues with the GID diagnosis, a challenge that will not be easy to ignore. *Gender Madness in American Psychiatry* is a well-written, well-reasoned argument for the reform of Gender Identity diagnoses in the psychiatric nomenclature, offering powerful proof that labeling someone "mad," may make them mad enough to fight back.

Arlene Istar Lev LCSW, CASAC, author of *Transgender Emergence* and *The Complete Lesbian and Gay Parenting Guide*. See <http://professionals.gidreform.org/aboutus.html>