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GENES FIT PERFECTLY

TransGender Victoria welcomes research by Prince Henry's Institute showing genetic evidence in relation to male-to-female transsexuals as a "highly useful step in uprooting inaccurate perceptions regarding people experiencing gender identity issues."

"The overwhelming evidence is that people experiencing gender identity issues simply become aware of their innate nature as their lives progress. Trying to fight that innate biology is impossible and no amount of misguided ideas such as conversion therapy can counter this, "stated spokesperson Sally Goldner.

"Unfortunately, those who with some problem – their problem - about transgender people created a diversion tactic of "proof" about who we are. This idea is discriminatory and prejudiced in itself, as those who do not experience gender identity issues are not required to "prove" themselves."

"Further, denying our existence by claiming we make a 'choice' or 'lifestyle choice' is often the first tactic used by such people to block medical, social and legal reform assisting our health, our wellbeing - and often our ability to remain alive. Evidence such as that of the Prince Henry's study add to other findings that negate such tactics. Such evidence also rebuts the recent 21-point plan by such people that tries to shift the focus of their prejudice from sexual orientation to gender."

"As rapidly increasing numbers in our community speak up, the verifiable evidence about our situation increases and mythical ideas eliminated, there is simply no excuse to allow discrimination against people experiencing gender identity issues to continue."

Ms Goldner added one cautionary note: "that whether someone meets genetic criteria or not is never an excuse for prejudice or discrimination in any way."

"Let's keep moving towards the basic premise of treating people on their merits or as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, on a basis of "the inherent dignity and...the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family," concluded Ms Goldner.

For more information contact Sally Goldner on 0407 946 242.

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