



Introduction

"Human life and sexuality have become the watershed moral issues of our age. Every day, the twenty-four-hour news cycle chronicles the advance of a secular moral revolution in areas such as sexuality, abortion, assisted suicide, homosexuality, and transgenders. The new secular orthodoxy is being imposed through virtually all the major social institutions: academia, media, public schools, Hollywood, private corporations, and the law.

*It is easy to get caught up in the latest controversy or breaking news story. But current events are merely surface effects, like waves on the ocean. The real action happens below the surface, at the level of worldviews. These are like the tectonic plates whose movements cause the roiling surface waves. In [the book] *Love Thy Body*, we will move beyond the click-bait headlines and trendy slogans to uncover the worldview that drives the secular ethic."*¹ Nancy Pearcey

Foundational assumption of secular sexuality morality: radical distinction between personhood and body.

*According to the California education code, gender is "a person's gender identity and gender related appearance and behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth."*²

*Gender dysphoria is therefore "a conflict between a person's physical or assigned gender and the gender with which he/she/they identify."*³

Biblical principles to think through gender confusion:

1. God views the material world as good and valuable.

*"There is no good trying tot be more spiritual than God. God never meant for man to be a purely spiritual creature. . . . He likes matter. He invented it."*⁴ C. S. Lewis

1 Corinthians 15: 42, 44 *"What is sown perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body"*

¹ Nancy Pearcey, *Love Thy Body*, 9.

² Quoted in Pearcey, *Love Thy Body*, 195.

³ As defined here: <https://www.psychiatry.org/patients-families/gender-dysphoria/what-is-gender-dysphoria>

⁴ Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, 64.



2. God creates all humankind and unites body and soul within them in a gender-specific person.

Psalm 63:1: *...my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you...*

Proverbs 4:21-22: *...keep [my teaching] within your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.*

Genesis 1:27: *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

3. Therefore, gender confusion results from indwelling sin and the idolatry of self.

Camille Paglia writes poetically: Fate, not God, have given us this flesh. We have absolute claim to our bodies and may do with them as we see fit.⁵

Tim Keller recently said there are 3 things the culture is trying to catechize each of us with:

1. Be true to yourself.
2. No one can tell you what's right for you.
3. In the end, you have to do what makes you happy.

Guidelines for helping someone in the midst of gender confusion:

1. Let us not be surprised by sin but be compassionate.
2. Let us guard against male/female stereotypes but reinforce biblical ones.
3. Let us preach the gospel of grace and freedom.

⁵ Camille Paglia, *Vamps and Tramps*.