

# Before trading in your old equipment go for a test drive first.

You wouldn't buy an expensive car without looking under the hood, would you? Without starting the engine? Without taking it out on the road? Without having it checked by a mechanic? Of course not. Well, neither should you rush into an irreversible procedure like sex reassignment surgery without a period of at least one year in which you will work and live 24 hours a day in your chosen gender.

This period of crossliving (called the real-life test) is part of the Standards of Care of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association, and is required by all reputable surgeons and gender clinics, for it has been found that a period of crossliving minimizes the chance of surgical regrets.

Sex reassignment surgery does not turn men into women, or women into men; it merely confirms what already is. Few people see your genitalia, but your gender is evident to everyone. Rushing into surgery before establishing yourself in your new role is taking a needless risk.

The period of crossliving is like a test drive. It enables you to establish yourself in your new role, to experience your new life before making permanent changes to your body.

Think about it: would you rather pay for that new car before you take the test drive or after you have taken it around the block?

## Don't be sorry... Be sure.

*A public service of*

**AEGIS**  
**American**  
**Educational**  
**Gender**  
**Information**  
**Service**

*Write us at:*

AEGIS

P.O. Box 33724

Decatur, GA 30033-0724