

Table 1
Some Criteria by Which to Evaluate Various Models
of Transgender and Transexual Behavior

- How has the model impacted the way transgendered and transexual persons see themselves and the way they are viewed by others?
- Does the model treat the transgendered and transexual individual with self-respect and dignity?
- Does the model maximize the amount of choice of the transgendered and transexual individual (allow the individual to set his or her own pace, to participate in decisions to change/not change the body, and to decide upon particular life goals)?
- Does the model require the individual to surrender autonomy?
- Does the model build a sense of transgendered and transexual persons as healthy and productive, or does it pre-suppose abnormality and pathology?
- Does the model allow a healthy range of personal styles, as opposed to promoting gender stereotypes?
- Does the model provide a variety of outcome choices, including sex reassignment, genital surgery, hormonal therapy, androgyny, transgenderism, and remaining in the original gender role?
- Does the model provide procedural safeguards for medical procedures and treatment?
- Does the model provide continuity from early “coming-out” stages through coping with circumstances of the new life?
- Does the model provide the individual with opportunities to explore alternative gender roles before taking irrevocable steps? Does it allow “fall-back” positions when a step proves undesirable?
- Does the model provide for a hierarchy of treatment, with less aversive and intrusive methods considered before more aversive and intrusive methods are tried?
- Does the model provide for peer support?
- What are the relative costs associated with the model?
- What have been the outcomes of past applications of the model?