

Real World Graduation: Question 17

Edward D. Duvall
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Question 17

A famous Hollywood movie star/celebrity concluded that he was born as the wrong sex because he was attracted to other men. He had a sex change operation and changed his name from William to Jessica. After the sex change, she found that she was no longer attracted to men, but was now attracted to women. This has turned out to be very confusing for her and her fans. What is the best course of action to address this unusual behavior?

- a) Have a sex change back to a man and announce he is gay.
- b) Maintain her sex as a woman, but live like a man and date women.
- c) Undergo extensive therapy to find out why he/she thought she/he should have been a female in the first place.
- d) Become a lesbian, since that is her present orientation.
- e) Change his/her name to Dale, Kim, Robin, or Gene to get in touch with her masculine side (since these names are commonly given to both boys and girls).

Answer to Question 17

This is a trick question. There is no correct answer because the premise of the question was "how to address this unusual behavior".

For celebrities, especially those in the drama business, the behavior as described would not be considered particularly unusual. The course of action taken by celebrities who find themselves in this kind of situation follows a well-known pattern. Usually the celebrity will attempt to portray themselves as some kind of victim, begin a foundation or activist group, demand that everyone else undergo "sensitivity training", and do whatever they can to draw attention to themselves. There might even be a movie script in it.

It should be kept in mind that celebrities as such are a dime a dozen, especially now that there are so many TV channels and opportunities for musical acts. The prime objective of a celebrity is to stay in the public eye, which is best done by staging publicity stunts like the ones described. Nearly everything a movie star or TV star does is a publicity stunt.