

Re-imagining the Human Species: Welcoming Intersex People into Society

BY HIDA VILORIA
OII-USA

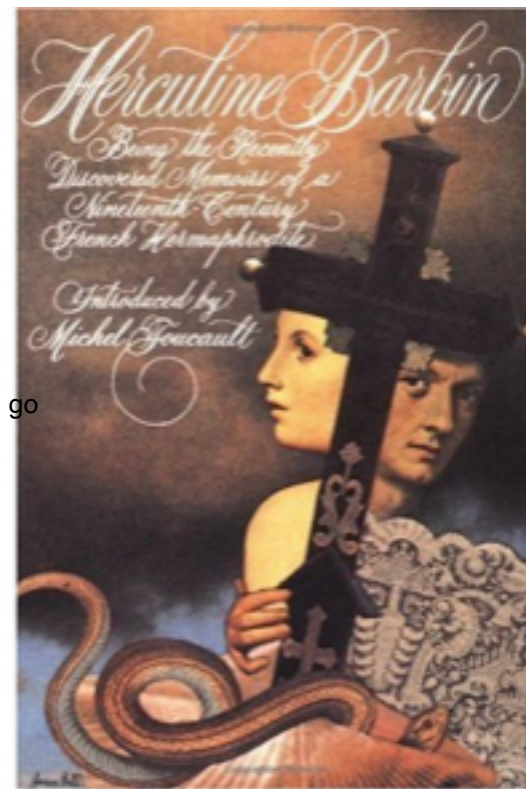
Intersex People have always existed.



- “ The sexes were not two as they are now, but originally three in number; there was man, woman, and the union of the two....” Plato, *Symposium*, c. 360 B.C.E..
- Sleeping Hermaphroditus, 1620 A.D.,
Replica of bronze original, 155 B.C.

Social factors such
as religious and
government
persecution caused
us to hide.

go



go


In the late 20th century, we began to re-emerge into the public eye



1st intersex
documentary,
Hermaphrodites
Speak (1997)



**STOP
Intersex
Genital
Mutilation!**



We told the public that Intersex babies and minors are mutilated every day in an effort to erase intersex traits – and thus, intersex people – from society.

First intersex protest against Intersex
Genital Mutilation (IGM), Boston, 1996.



We began fighting for the human right to exist and
to make our own decisions about our bodies

First gov't hearing on intersex human rights (San Francisco, 2004).

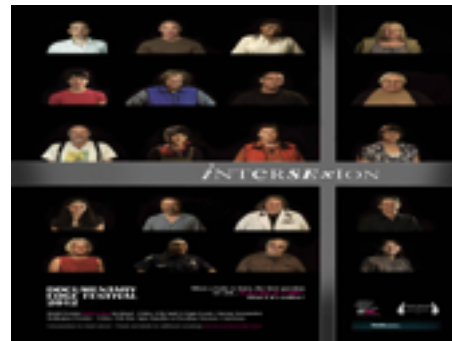


... And using the media and arts to educate people about us.

Oprah, 2007



Intersexion documentary, 2012

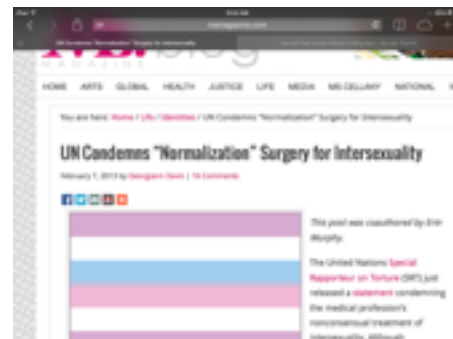


Intersex activism led to "normalizing" surgeries being declared a harmful human rights violation

Harvard Law Review compares IGM to FGM, 2004



UN condemns IGM, 2012



But so far only one country has banned
IGM – hurray for Malta!

On April 1, 2015, Malta became the first country in the world to ban nonconsensual, medically unnecessary surgeries on intersex babies and minors.

Sadly, the historic news received very little attention in the U.S.



And while transgender issues have become very visible in the U.S....

GENDERQUEER:
someone who identifies
themselves as something
other than male or female



Intersex people and our human rights needs have remained relatively unknown & unaddressed.
Why?



Society says biological sex is binary, and medicine in turn enforces this belief on the bodies of intersex people.



But the real enemy is a society that insists that everyone must be male or female.



Acceptance will only happen when we re-imagine humanity to include intersex people...

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☒ Neither



And create a culture where intersex people can live and be seen as who we are

**I DO NOT WANT TO BE FIXED
TO BECOME SOMETHING I AM NOT**



**I AM PROUD TO BE
INTERSEX**

Such as accurate representation in language



And in the law.

"I am not male, I
am not female, I
am intersex, and I
shouldn't have to
choose a gender
marker for my
official U.S.
Identity document
that isn't me."

-- Dana Zzyym,
OII-USA



We are real people, living amongst you
from all walks of life



But we need your
help letting the
world know that
we exist.



EVERYONE DESERVES TO BE WHO THEY ARE



October 26, 2015

Happy Intersex Awareness Day!

Support our efforts for legal recognition of non-binary intersex people

#intersexequality

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