**IMPORTANT TERM**

- **Social Construction**
  The process by which people continually assign, create—or construct—meaning in the world.
APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS
“WHERE ARE THE HARDEST PLACES TO LIVE IN THE U.S?”

A composite ranking of where Americans are healthy and wealthy, or struggling.

Source: New York Times
PIKE, OHIO

A composite ranking of where Americans are healthy and wealthy, or struggling.

County Ranking

- Doing Better
- Doing Worse

PIKE, Ohio
- Overall Rank: 2,871 of 3,135
- Median Income: $39,735
- College Education: 12.7%
- Unemployment: 12.9%
- Disability: 4.5%
- Life Expectancy: 74.8 years
- Obesity: 43%
“Ally’s Choice”
Aired July 2, 2013
Run time: 15 minutes
SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION

1. Language matters
2. Not arbitrary
3. Constrained to the physical world
4. Meanings people construct to make sense of their world
INTERSEX NEWBORNS

Following diagnostic work-up, newborns with intersex should be given a gender assignment as boy or girl, depending on which of those genders the child is more likely to feel as she or he grows up. Note that gender assignment does not involve surgery; it involves assigning a label as boy or girl to a child. (Genital “normalizing” surgery does not create or cement a gender identity; it just takes tissue away that they patient may want later.)

Medical procedures necessary to sustain the physical health of a child should be performed. Examples of these would be endocrinological treatment of a child with salt-wasting congenital hyperplasia, or surgery to provide a urinary drainage opening when a child is born without one.

Surgeries done to make the genitals look “more normal” should not be performed until a child is mature enough to make an informed decision for herself or himself. Before the patient makes a decision, she or he should be introduced to patients who have and have not had the surgery. Once she or he is fully informed, she or he should be provided access to a patient-centered surgeon.

Does this mean ISNA recommends “doing nothing”? Not at all. Please re-read the above, and if you’d like more information about how our recommendations differ from the traditional concealment-centered model, check out our chart called Shifting the Paradigm of Intersex Treatment.
TRANSGENDER ISSUES IN POPULAR MEDIA

- Transamerica
- M. Butterfly
- Hedwig and the Angry Inch
- Transparent
WHY IT MATTERS.

Transgender teen struck and killed on Ohio interstate in apparent suicide

"My death needs to mean something. My death needs to be counted in the number of transgender people who commit suicide this year. I want someone to look at that number and say 'that's fucked up' and fix it. Fix society. Please."

Staff Reports

Monday, December 29, 2014

455 Comments
NEXT LECTURE

• Read news stories on website slideshow:
  • Transgender story
  • Charlie Hebdo shooting

• Social Problems Process Model