

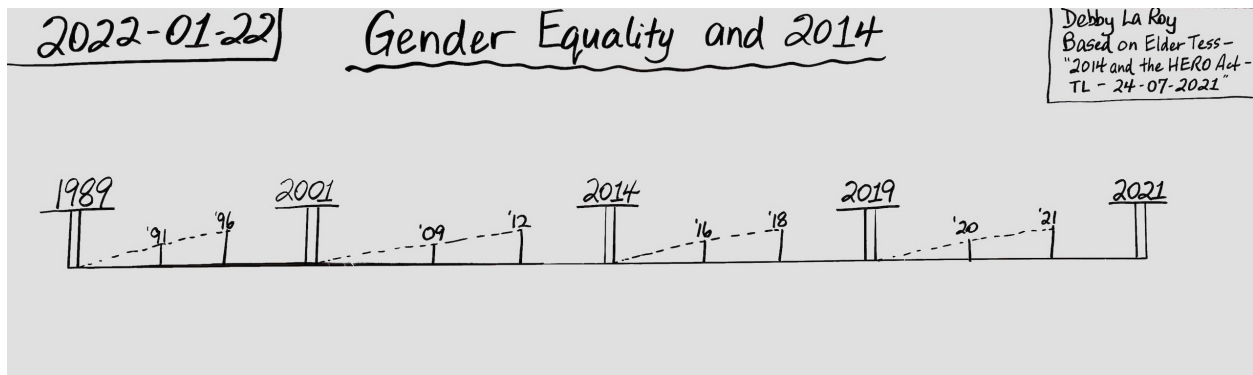
Gender Equality and 2014

Presented by DL
2022-01-22

Based upon:

TMW - "2014 and the HERO Act - Tess Lambert - 24-07-2021" -

<https://youtu.be/7VE4nfBqEWs>



A. Introduction

We'll be first looking at Gender Equality by doing a little exercise which Elder Tess takes us through dealing with menstruation, misinformation, and sexism. Her study closes with some of the aspects of gender equality in the Midnight Cry that we as Priests must believe and live in our treatment of others. So, let's begin.

B. Menstruation and Misinformation

You might be thinking nervously, where is this going? Hopefully by this point in time all the genders amongst us are no longer nervous hearing words like "menstruation." As Elder Tess Lambert introduces her study, she reminds us that:

- we are now publicly discussing the **stigma** that exists around women's menstruation;
- how this really hidden area of women's lives impacts them, especially in countries without access for services; and,
- we've really only begun to enter into that discussion, and this was in mid-2021.

Like any form of stigma and stigmatization, eradication is a process, and it can take a very long time to eradicate. For eradication of the stigma surrounding female menstruation to succeed, that stigma must be removed not only from the minds of the prejudiced, but **even in the women themselves** to start being able to speak about what you were taught was shameful.

Our leadership are not naïve about how long it will take our Movement to speak openly and unashamedly about what we were all taught was taboo. Articles, discussions, presentations have been occurring. Eyes are beginning to be opened, and slowly women might begin to open up more and more, and the non-female Priests will understand better why this topic has become **part of the Midnight Cry message** at the end of the world.

Let's do a beginning exercise. I've broken it into two parts.

1. A Memory

This first exercise will appear "off-topic" until the end of this presentation; it has nothing to do with misinformation, but it is an exercise I'd like you to participate in to begin. My instruction is for you to:

- think about a memory you have, possibly from childhood, possibly from your teen years: a memory that produced a trauma for you about your self-image and your self-worth;
- recapture it for a brief moment;
- revisit for a fleeting few seconds the pain that memory caused you, the hurt, maybe shame; and,
- consider for what duration of your life you have relived that hurt and how frequently that memory has popped up in your mind over your lifetime (maybe right up until now—the present of 2022—you still carry that hurt or that memory can even yet resurface).

Remember for later what memory came to your mind, what thoughts and feelings it produced just now, and we'll come back to this later.

2. True or False? [B = bias]

This second part consists of Elder Tess' exercises. She introduces them by mentioning a brand of menstruation products sold in Australia: menstruation pads, tampons, and other such products for women. Around the product wrapping, this company has tried to make it fun for women; so, in the wrapping they have all these random facts that you can read, trying to bring some pleasure for the menstruating women, as Elder Tess puts it. We'll now discuss the five random facts she bases her exercise upon, beginning with a simple one, and subsequently moving to more problematic ones. Finally, a sixth one will be added in, not from Elder Tess.

- ✗ (a) "Cold water weighs less than hot water." T or F?
Not true. We won't go into the science of why it's not true; it's relatively harmless.
- ✓ (b) "Men sweat 40% more than women." T or F?
Research shows that men and women do not sweat differently. When you take away any differences based on body type and shape, we find that men and women sweat the exact same, which makes sense. Sweating is part of the body's safety mechanism. We all need it. The fact: "Men do not sweat more than women." In a case where they do, it is because of a particular body shape.
- ✗ (c) "Women blink nearly twice as much as men." T or F?
This one's more problematic. It's not understood why, but they can see that women *do* blink a bit more. Some people believe this is because, in most circumstances, women are more likely to be nervous under test. Women do blink more than men. Some studies show that women blink about 14.9 (? , added by Elder Tess) times per minute, and men 14.5; so, you can see how problematic the studies are. (Why is Elder Tess labelling the studies problematic?) And they are still not sure about external causes of it. So, this one is given a "tick cross" [check mark with a diagonal line crossing it] by Elder Tess.

While discussing this fact, Elder Tess has a brief digression:

A comment in the Zoom chat was made: “man made from soil, woman from bone.” Elder Tess asks, “Do you think the whole body of Eve was made from one rib bone, that God stretched that rib and formed the whole woman from that one rib? And what was that rib made of? Soil. You have a ‘Thus saith the Lord.’ [Smiling.] I won’t get into the text. But the whole of woman was not made from one rib, even if that became part of her. And that rib was only soil anyway. So, men and women were made from soil. Men and women were made from the exact same thing.”

X (d) “Men have worse hearing than women.” T or F?

Young boys and girls have identical hearing. Yet they can see that many men’s hearing becomes quite damaged as they grow old. The problem is, Why? Is that because they are men? Or is that because of some of the industries that a lot of men work in? When you take a large group to test, and some of those men work in construction, and you test all these 50- and 60-year-old men and women, you’re going to find hearing loss more in men than in women. There can be many reasons for loss of hearing; and some of the reasons are totally gender-neutral (e.g, eating a diet conducive to producing clogged arteries; the smaller ones in the eyes and in the ears get impacted, adversely affecting sight and hearing over time).

(15:30 min)

B (e) “Women say 7,000 words, on average; men, 2,000.” T or F?

Where does this come from? From a 2006 book entitled *The Female Brain*; so, we can know what this book is trying to do. The author is arguing that there is a distinct female brain that is different to a male brain. In this book, the author claims that women say about 20,000 words a day while the men say 5,000. Every time you see this statement made that give widely different answers for how much we speak—some claim women speak 4,000 words, some up to 25,000 words—if you’re going to have a scientific study that goes from 4,000 to 25,000, if that’s your variable, then there is a problem with your study.

B (f) “Women cry more than men.” T or F?

Is this true? If this is true, why might it be?

- Male stereotypes and societal expectations – “Boys don’t cry.” “Real men don’t cry.” Males from babyhood are conditioned to suppress their emotions, to not express “any weakness,” to not be/act/speak “like a girl.”
- Women are “allowed” to cry; this reflects an attitude of being “the weaker sex.” Women have suffered more being:
 - neglected
 - abused emotionally/mentally/physically
 - fearful
 - ignored or put down for being female, and being gas-lit, mocked, minimized as inferior.

Any of the above can contribute to emotions lying close to the surface, allowing them to spill over at any point. As a corollary, it should be noted that both men and women can have sensitive, caring hearts. Showing emotion or not is no accurate gauge of the compassion, sensitivity, and depth of caring feelings one has.
- Society is changing, becoming more accepting of male emotion, more open about mental health issues; but still there are barriers that need to come down.

Let’s consider three sources of information on crying. Only brief portions will be considered to make a point.

- (i) ABC's The View – Oct 22/21 – “Men cry 25% more than women.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pK3z92mo4Eo>

- According to a new survey: men cry 25% more than women
- Male crying - Special occasions (weddings, funerals); generational (older men soften and seem to cry more now); traumatic events
- Latinx people – ingrained from birth “Men don’t cry.” (“Los hombres no lloran.”) [“Real men don’t cry.” “Los guapos no toman sopa.”]

The survey mentioned –

<https://www.studyfinds.org/men-cry-more-than-women/>

“According to the poll of 2,004 Americans, men cry on average about four times a month. Women, on the other hand, weep about three times in a given month. That’s 48 times a year for men and only 36 for women.”

Considering the source of the “fact” would it be wise to believe that men cry 25% more than women?

- (ii) Why Do People Cry?

American Psychological Association – “Why We Cry” – Lorna Collier (Feb 2014, Vol 45, No. 2, pg 47)

<https://www.apa.org/monitor/2014/02/cry>

“I think the study of crying, more than is the case for any other emotional expression, may help us to obtain a better insight into human nature,” says leading tear researcher Ad Vingerhoets, PhD, a psychology professor at Tilburg University in the Netherlands.

- (iii) Frontiers in Psychology – “The Relationship in Gender Roles and Beliefs to Crying in an International Sample” (Oct 10, 2019)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6795704/>

This was a large international survey design study (N = 893) conducted in Australia, Croatia, the Netherlands, Thailand, and the United Kingdom. Two paragraphs are presented with added bolding to make a point.

*“Although it is well established that women cry more than men (see [Vingerhoets, 2013](#)) this difference does not innately appear, with **no such differences appearing among infants and small children** (see [Vingerhoets and Scheirs, 2000](#)). **From the age of 11, however, differences in crying proneness and frequency begin to emerge** ([van Tilburg et al., 2002](#)). Of course, contrary to the notion that women might be biologically inclined to be more emotional, research investigating the role of menarche and crying have found **no association with menstrual cycles and crying behaviors** ([van Tilburg et al., 2003](#); [Romans et al., 2017](#)). Furthermore, much of this change appears to stem from **a reduction in boys’ expressions of crying**, rather than an increase in girls’...*

Note that the research discloses no differences in crying amongst the genders. Where the differences arise is in later childhood and onwards. Particularly it is noted that there is a reduction in boys' expressions of crying. It is only a matter of time where it is learned behaviour for males not to cry or express other "weak" emotions. The research also appears to debunk the myth that women are more emotional during their periods, revealing instead there is no association between menstrual cycles and crying behaviours, which is interesting. Now the second paragraph.

*"The widespread distinction between masculinity and femininity in the expression of negative emotions has resulted in a **gender-role-consistent pattern of emotion expression**, with men tending to express more **powerful and hostile emotions** such as "anger" and having less tolerance for **emotions that display vulnerability**, such as sadness and shame (Zeman and Garber, 1996; MacArthur and Shields, 2015). Women, on the other hand, tend to express more vulnerable emotions, such as sadness, fear, and shame, rather than anger (Fischer and Manstead, 2000; Fischer and LaFrance, 2015). Indeed, **early parental socialization of emotion expressions in children** appears to encourage more expression of anger and less expression of sadness in boys, whereas the opposite is true for girls, with parental socialization resulting in more displays of sadness and less anger than boys from as early as pre-school (Fivush et al., 2000; Brody, 2001; Chaplin et al., 2005). Furthermore, there is an important influence of peers on emotion expression, whereby **children are more likely to emphasize gender-role-consistent emotion behaviors when interacting with their peers** (Zeman and Garber, 1996; Chaplin and Aldao, 2013). In cultures where gender differentiation for emotion expression is pronounced, this socialization tends to culminate in the attitude that showing vulnerable emotions is a weakness for boys, illustrated with the well-known saying that "boys don't cry" (MacArthur and Shields, 2015).*

We can see the Apis bull "fighting spirit" and "warrior king" reflected in emotions such as anger, whereby men emulate what they have been taught befits the gender-role for males. Likewise seeing more vulnerable emotions—where the individual has opened themselves up to **vulnerability**—being purportedly displayed in females reinforces the myth of women being "the weaker sex."

It is to be remembered that gender role is society-assigned, therefore artificial and not innate. Rather than emotion being ingrained from birth according to one's gender, socialization by parents, peers, and other elements of society produce **the gender-role emotion expression** that is acceptable in that society, causing such emotion to be labelled as gendered.

(38:50)

C. Questions From Within the Movement on Gender Differences

A question was submitted to Elders Tess and Parminder by a young male person in the Movement, with this question included: "Is it still okay to identify a woman with female genitalia as a woman?" Elder Tess breaks the individual's various questions and comments into four parts, and then meticulously delves into addressing each.

- 1) Physical differences between men and women (accusation that we're trying to erase gender, to erase these differences)

In the Movement, we are not trying to erase the fact that sex differences exist between men and women. Our point is how great those differences are and what you do with them.

- 2) Female is weaker – Law must Protect the weaker (must be able to identify the person who is weaker)

Elder Tess mentioned that she has less issue with the written words of point number two, but has more issue with what is being implied. From 2019 through to the present, it has become obvious to her that when you dissect and diffuse every argument that people have for sexism, this is always the argument they fall back upon: men are stronger, women are weaker. Therefore, men are designed to lead, and women are designed to follow—as if the best world leaders have always been the strongest ones (case in point: Putin)! Who is a better leader, Putin, because he can look strong on a horse, or Angela Merkel? Admittedly, this questioner may not have been implying this.

However, if there is a physical difference, what do you do with it? This is especially when people move the physical into the mental and the spiritual. Then they'll go to nature. For example, you'll see the bull, the strong one, obviously the leader. But if you're going to use nature, that gets problematic pretty quickly. You go to the lion; Elder Tess will give you the elephant. [It can be noted that the lioness does the hunting much of the time, and the male lion could be described as lazy and entitled.] Elder Tess then states, "And then we should all, obviously, be polygamists, because bulls are."

That's how this argument has been repeatedly used in this Movement. When people say, "Men are stronger," it is not just a statement that men are stronger; **it's what they imply with that.** The "female being weaker argument" is dangerous, particularly in how they use it—in **this Movement** as much as in society. It exists in society which is why Putin had to give that kind of persona.

Then to the point that the law is there to protect the weaker. It misses the point as to what is wrong with society. Were African Americans abused and enslaved for all of those centuries beginning in 1619 because they are physically weaker than white people? No. In fact, many of those African Americans brought over as slaves were so physically powerful, that along with the fact that they had this melanin that protected them more from the sun, it was seen as evidence that they were meant to work in the fields and be treated like beasts.

The story of Harriet Tubman is only one example that would utterly destroy the "female being weaker" position. There are other examples throughout all of history.

Harriet Tubman – an abolitionist who led 70 enslaved people to freedom (originally to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, then, after the passage of the **Fugitive Slave Act in 1850**, rerouting the freedom-seekers to Canada) as a "conductor" of the "Underground Railway" (a secret network of safe houses for fleeing slaves) and first woman to serve in the **American Civil War (1861-1863)** to lead an armed expedition (successfully, liberating more than 700 slaves in SC)

and was a scout for Union forces in South Carolina; in 2016, the US Treasury Department announced that Harriet Tubman would replace Andrew Jackson on the US \$20 bill.

Britannica – “Harriet Tubman” –

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Harriet-Tubman>

Were the Jews discriminated against because of a physical weakness? The law is there to protect the vulnerable. But **what makes people vulnerable** is not physical weakness. **It’s social stigma, discrimination, conspiracy theories.** The law should be there to protect black Americans, Muslims, Jews, LGBT, women. None of that is because of a physical weakness. All of that is because of **a history of discrimination and bias** that has caused untold damage. These marginalized, discriminated against, stigmatized people—including women—targetted because of who they are, should get laws to protect them put in place simply because of their vulnerability to this treatment throughout history, not based on physical weakness.

When Robert Long shot and killed six Asian women

(<https://www.nytimes.com/live/2021/03/17/us/shooting-atlanta-acworth>), did he shoot them because they were weak and physically easy targets? Did he target them because they had less muscle mass? Or is this incident and many others that don’t get reported about **stigma**? That is why laws are being put in place to protect women. The questioner is missing the point about what the law is there to do.

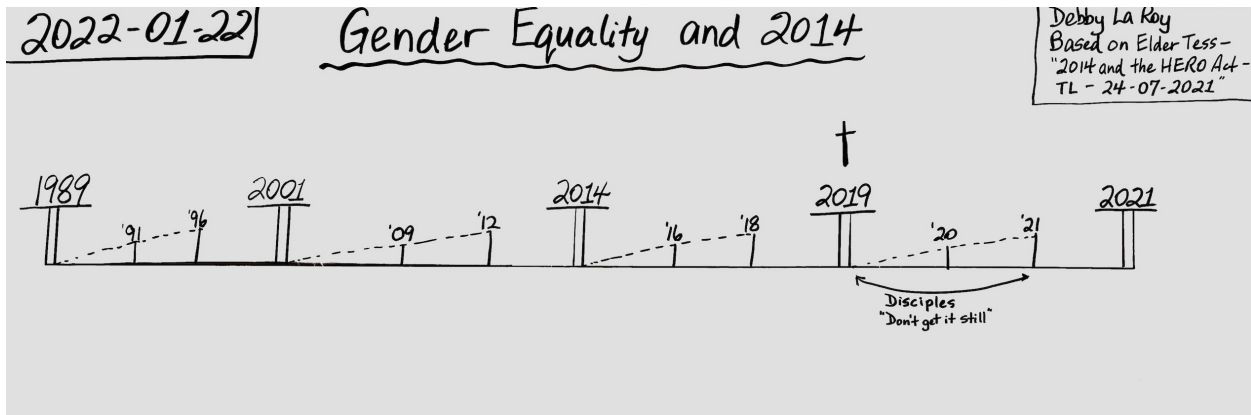
3) “The toilet problem” (most of us will understand the meaning here)

The questioner says you need to be able to identify between the weaker and the stronger. If you are going to divide people just by physical strength you are going to face a problem. So, are you going to create separate toilet blocks, one for men from South Korea (identified as being more petite) and one for men from South Sudan (identified as very tall individuals)? If it is going to be made about physical stature, we will face quite a problem. However, here is where the questioning takes a turn.

As soon as the questioner mentions “the toilet problem” he is talking about **trans**, so that is what we’ll look at now.

(1:01:00)

Elder Tess started teaching in 2018, forcefully about gender in 2019. What is the 2019 waymark? The Cross. The problem the disciples had between 2019 and 2021 [short 2021 waymark, representing the Formalization] is that **they still don’t get it.**



2019—the Cross, the Test. Because back in 2018, what we were given was **two streams of information**. Every one of us was hit hard by that: chem trails, vaccines.

Why did we predominantly need to understand two streams of information?

Out of all the other reasons that were good reasons, it had to do with how being in the wrong stream affected **our perceptions of gender**. We did not have a Midnight Cry message that was designed to teach us about Monsanto and essential oils. It was about gender. So, we needed to understand the danger of the wrong stream and all the wrong ideas we had about gender. What we have been saying for the last two and a half years, three years [since 2018], is, if you think you have arrived where we have fully relearned, well, we haven't. The message has and will continue to **challenge us** in all the areas where conspiratorial thinking, Babylonian/evangelical thinking, discriminatory thinking, and conspiracy theories have impacted our brains. Don't get this far and give up on the learning process, as it has always been the unlearning and learning process.

Foundational Things:

We're not saying that gender does not exist. We are saying as a Movement that biological sex exists, it's real. We are being more precise, now saying "biological sex," not gender.

- **biological sex** – when a person is born, and after being examined by a doctor, the gender assigned at birth according to your biology [biological genitalia]. It usually has been assigned male or female—binary.

We believe biological sex exists; trans people recognize that biological sex exists. We all agree on this; but, what trans people say is biological sex exists, and what also exists is gender identity.

	Biological Sex	Gender Identity
Us	✓	
Trans	✓	✓

Thoughts to Ponder:

Is this another example of “all we saw is not all there was”? Is gender identity some “hidden information” we need to understand through parable methodology?

cis man or woman – when the mind and the shell agree [put into “the nature of man” terminology] – biological sex is the same (==) as gender identity

For the vast majority of people, as they develop, their gender identity (the mind) does conform to their biological sex (the shell). But for a small minority of people, they are born in one shell, and as they grow, the mind is not in agreement with that shell, with their biological sex [it is NOT a hormonal issue, NOT hormones; nor is it a “mental illness”—these have all been tried in the decades, similar to gay conversion therapy].

Trans – when the mind and the shell disagree – gender identity is in discord with (≠) biological sex

Trans people recognize the majority of people around them have a biological sex and a gender identity that agree. However, in themselves they recognize something is discordant: what they are inside the shell [their mind] does not agree with the form of the shell. This problem has existed across different cultures for centuries [e.g., two-spirit Indigenous people; history in Hawai’i of accepting-attitudes towards homosexuals]. Understanding it *is* part of the Midnight Cry message: understanding these people and how we relate to them and how we and society should treat them.

MC = Vaccine Parable

(1:13:25)

The Midnight Cry message is like a vaccine. What are the two things a vaccine does?

A vaccine protects YOU

A vaccine protects the COMMUNITY

A two-fold job:

- part is purely selfish – it’s designed to protect YOU from the disease; if a woman receives the MC message—a vaccine—it is designed to protect and heal her
- part is designed to be shared and to be given to other people; so, if a black person takes the MC message, they can see equality but may not move on to [? unintelligible—implication being “share it”], thus failing at one part of that vaccine—Elder Tess suggests the salvational part.

It’s not just about us; **it’s understanding people who are different to us**, people who we cannot simply relate to. So, I might receive the MC message which impacts and protects me in a personal way. Then I need to be able to give that same level of understanding, educate myself, and have empathy to other groups of people. Elder Tess remarks that she does not know what it’s like to be black in a racist world but can understand sexism and just move forward on that.

Further, she does not know what it is like to look at her body in the mirror and recognize that what she is inside does not agree with the sexual identity she sees in her body.

Ignorance is excusable (to a point).

[Act 17:30](#) “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.”

In 2016, 99.9% of the people in the Movement still now were all sexist, embedded with conspiracy theories. So, if you still have ignorance when it comes to trans issues, Elder Tess does not have the purpose to tear people down; however, just as gender relates to women, it relates to trans. Much depends on people’s willingness to get out of the wrong stream, shake off everything that they’ve imbibed from it, and try to enjoy the learning experience.

Return to the Memory Exercise

At the beginning, you were instructed to bring to your mind a memory of some painful, hurtful memory that produced a trauma for you about your self-image and your self-worth, and to reflect upon the impact on you for whatever duration and intensity in your life. Now think about if your gender identity did not agree with your biological sex, and you encountered—possibly daily—hurtful, painful discrimination, mocking, disrespect, maybe even a fear of harm, just because of who you are.

Thoughts to Ponder

Will we be willing to understand people who are different to us? Will we be vaccinated ourselves and share it with others? Love and empathy for every human being—especially including those people to whom we cannot simply relate—is what we are being called to.

The External History

When you look at the LGBT group, the subgroup of that group that receives the most discrimination is trans. In 2014—which really was just the starting point, then we’re getting to 2015 and 2016—much took place.

What are some of the things (taught in 2018, but especially in 2019) that happen from 2014 through 2016, this 2-3 year period?

USA – 2015 – Gay marriage
SDA – 2015 – Women’s Ordination

1989 – Gay marriage became a major issue and discussion in the USA
2009 – Gay marriage issue re-ignited
2013 – came to a crossroads
2014 – was the turning-point
2015 – Gay marriage became a war for the Supreme Court

2014 – the turning-point for the Judicial Branch
2014 – a turning-point for the Legislative Branch (all about Steve Bannon, Jeff Sessions, Mitch McConnell)

2014 – *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby*

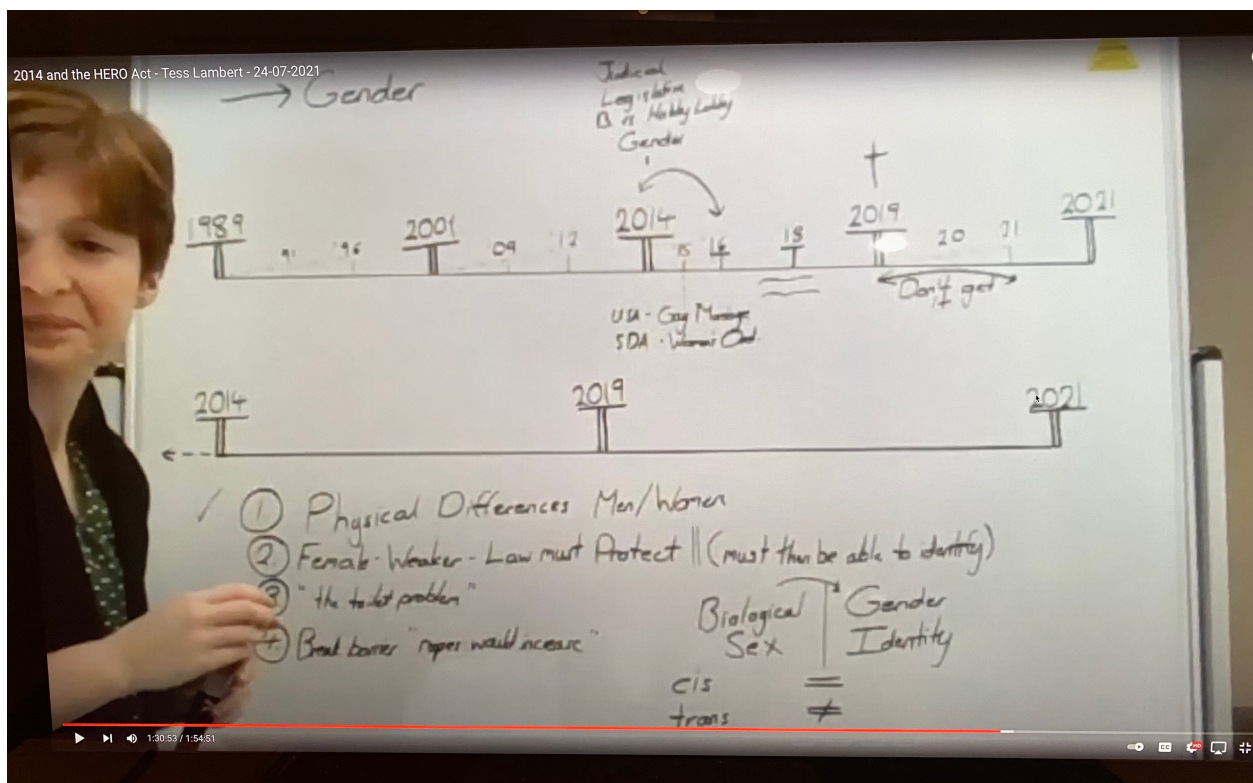
- recognized by Ruth Bader Ginsberg as a turning-point for the separation of church and state

- a turning-point on all the subjects of gender [contraception, women’s reproductive rights, abortion], internally and externally, which is what led to 2015 and led to 2016

Burwell v. Hobby Lobby

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burwell_v._Hobby_Lobby_Stores,_Inc.

- a case at the US Supreme Court whereby privately held for-profit corporations for the first time could be exempt from a regulation its owners religiously object to, if there is a less restrictive means of furthering the law’s interest, according to the provisions of the **Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (RFRA)**
- for such companies the Court’s majority directly struck down the contraceptive mandate (adopted under Obama’s Affordable Care Act [ACA] for covering certain contraceptives for the female employees at such companies)



(1:26:00)

4) Break barrier – “rapes would increase” (the bathroom problem)

This section covers off the fourth part Elder Tess divided the questioner’s query into. She read from a 2016 article (when the issue of bathrooms *really* began and intersected with the subject of gender):

*Bathrooms have become a huge battleground in America. Trump’s administration takes its first anti-LGBTQ policy action by rescinding a guidance that protected trans gender students from discrimination in federally-funded schools [it had asked schools to **allow students to use restrooms agreeing with their gender identity**].*

The issue that transgender people have is they have this **gender discord**, and the argument is, which one (biological sex or gender identity, shell or mind) really matters. If you were to be cut off at the neck, if someone performs a lobotomy, they have your brain wired up, your brain can still think, just like it thinks now. With your brain, do you see yourself as male or female; are you thinking as a man or a woman? So, what's more important to these people: their brain or their shell? We all recognize it's the brain, because if the shell was all removed, you'd still **know who you are**.

Thoughts to Ponder

Diseases like dementia and Alzheimer's, and certain other mental illnesses, can rob a person of their **identity** as they forget identifying memories in their life or suffer with personality altering illness. Our sense of identity is part of what makes life meaningful and brings joy. No longer being able to recognize close loved ones takes away **the relational part of our being**.

What trans people try to do is to bring the biology, the sex, into line as much as they can with their gender identity. The most traumatic period for a trans person is puberty. It's **a puberty of a body developing that the brain has rejected**. Working with a doctor over long periods of time and with multiple specialists, through a rigorous process, then with the agreement of experts, to varying degrees they might try to get their **biological sex** into line with their **gender identity**.

This is an area where there is a lot of **disinformation**. The people that go through this process (instead of all these things like "it's a temporary thing," "it's a mental illness," neither of which it is), of the studies that have been done, they show that the people who have transitioned (why it's called "trans"), the only people that undo that work of **transition** say they are born with female sexual organs and they might go through surgery, hormone treatments, different things, to bring that into line with their gender.

- Conservatives will say that a large proportion regret that transition and will attempt to undo it and will try to go back to their biological sex; Conservatives will use that to argue that this is just some type of mental illness

There is as much disinformation around this issue as around women. The claim that Conservatives make is just not true. There are not many studies on LGBTQ people after they have transitioned. Of the studies that have been done, it is showing that less than about 0.5 % de-transition, which reveals how serious they are regarding discord in the body and the fact that **they do not regret moving their biological sex towards their gender identity**. It shows that this is not a phase.

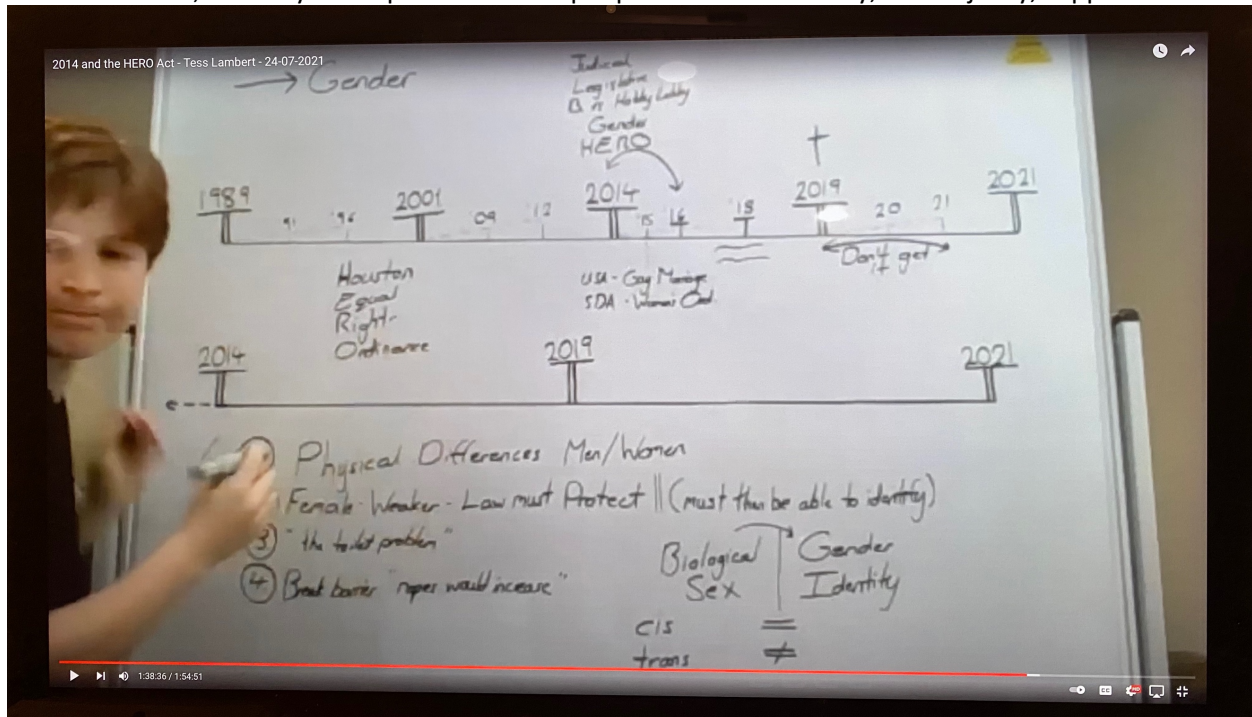
As they bring their biological sex more towards their gender identity, they start to experience what's in accordance with their gender identity. It shows in their bodies, in their dress; it's **visible**. What they want then is for society to acknowledge, not their biological sex, but their gender identity. And the amount of discrimination they face in society is incredible. For example, 41% of trans people commit suicide. This is not because they are more likely to have mental illness. We keep tracing through this message "cause and effect" and **the effects that discrimination has on vulnerable people**. 70% of trans people have experienced harassment in the bathroom. So, they are looking for a place they feel **safe**.

(1:38:00)

The HERO Act

This issue about trans people and bathrooms began, as you'd expect, in 2014. Therefore, you should know that **you as a Priest are required to understand it**. Then you as a Priest should not be surprised that, approaching the Formalization of this message, we need to discuss it. Where this issue began was in Houston, Texas. Houston passed the **HERO Act (Houston Equal Rights Ordinance) in 2014**. It was designed to protect **trans people**, but also **women**. It prohibited discrimination against people based on a variety of traits but particularly sexual orientation and gender identity. It was designed to fill in a gap, because in most states LGBTQ people are not covered by the current anti-discrimination laws.

And as you would expect, the stream that we know to be problematic, reacted. The Republican Party reacted in 2015; but they had a problem. Most people in the community, the majority, supported HERO.



How do you turn the tide of public opinion? **Fear**. This is when they started introducing the idea that this would endanger women in bathrooms and such. [Houston rejected HERO by referendum (Proposal 1: do you support HERO?) in November 2015.]

Thoughts to Ponder

Conspiracy theories feed on the fear of the unwary and gullible individuals who will often fully believe they are in the correct stream of information. Manipulating people using **fear** is effective. The **parable methodology** is God's method of casting out fear by establishing a solid foundation of truth that cannot be gainsaid.

[1Jn 4:18](#) There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

In 2014 efforts are made to protect LGBTQ people from discrimination. This is “the starting gun” of a war that we are still in and is rapidly accelerating. [Remember Lexington and May 25, 2020?] Now you know that when it comes to 2015 this Movement has a clear and prophetic position on both **gay marriage** (the External) and **women’s ordination** (the Internal) in 2015. We’ve been teaching that since the Brazil School in 2019, two and a half years ago.

To change public support for HERO, Conservatives latched on to a tried-and-true plan: persuade people that this will endanger women, that sexual assault and rape will increase, if these Acts are passed. **There is absolutely no evidence to show that that will happen.** There is an abundance of evidence to show that it is unlikely. The examples that people bring to show men dressing up as women to enter change rooms and bathrooms, or women’s shelters, any women-only places, such incidents were already occurring before any of these Acts were passed. What is to stop a man from doing that on any given day, with or without a discrimination act? No matter where you are in any conservative country a man can dress up as a woman; you can try it, to see. And the areas that have brought in these rules and allowed trans women into women-only spaces have not seen any uptick in sexual harassment or rape.

This is **fearmongering**, But worse: it’s a deliberate, tactical plan.

Elder Tess asks: when else was fear about women’s safety used to cast a group of people as unsafe (violent, deviant, less than human), so that strong action was needed to be taken? Elder Tess states she thinks we all know the answer to that question. It was one of the main reasons or excuses made for **segregation**.

Slavery – fear was used – that white women were in danger of being raped by male black “beasts” became the rationale/justification/excuse so vigilante justice and lynching were fully justified and acted upon, and segregation would be maintained

“The Birth of A Nation” film, 1915 (originally called, “The Clansmen”)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Birth_of_a_Nation

The film has been denounced for its racist depiction of [African Americans](#).^[8] The film portrays them (many of whom are played by white actors in [blackface](#)) as [unintelligent](#) and [sexually aggressive](#) toward white women. The [Ku Klux Klan](#) (KKK) is portrayed as a heroic force, necessary to preserve American values, protect white women, and maintain [white supremacy](#).^{[14][15]}

Emmett Till death Aug 28, 1955

<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/the-death-of-emmett-till>

As Elder Tess draws her study to a close, she explains that the idea that not only black men but also **black women** would put white women in danger was promulgated to justify keeping black women out of women’s spaces.

Now, women need protecting: not because of a physical weakness, but because of ignorance and social stigma. Shouldn’t trans women be treated the same?

D. Conclusion

This study of Elder Tess' was a beginning of the discussion of trans in the theme of **Gender Equality**. She asks for three things:

- (1) Do not lose focus on the subject of **menstruation**. She does not want us to divert all our attention now on a new hot topic when we have so much work to do on men and women in every single country to address the stigma, eradicate the stigma, and give women the support that they need.

Do not lose focus on the material Elder Parminder introduced last week.

{“It’s Your Destiny. Or is it?” Parminder Biant 26.6.21

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0oY505MxMI>}

Continue to focus on Elder Parminder’s presentations.

- (2) Look at **the Reform Lines**. Remember **two streams of information**. Remember that we have been saying since 2019 that this Movement is not done understanding Gender. Therefore, **each one of us should be happy, willing, and ready to unlearn and learn**, just as God has been asking you to do for years now.
- (3) Handle yourself wisely on **social media** and in discussions with others on this topic. Trans subjects, the course of trans, might just seem like a scientific discussion to you. For some people it’s intensely personal and painful. Recognize that you have a degree of influence and a large degree of misinformation. You need to understand what a Reform Line is trying to teach you rather than just giving voice to that disinformation and spreading it further; then independently, quietly, educate yourself. The education on these subjects as far as Elder Tess is able to will continue with subsequent presentations. So do not move this debate onto forums (though she admits she knows it will happen anyway).

We have a lot more work to do on these Reform Lines. – Elder Tess Lambert