

POLS 350 A: The Politics of Gender

Exercise #1: Leslie Feinberg, “We Are All Works in Progress” from *Trans Liberation: Beyond Pink and Blue*

- How would you explain the doctor’s actions in this case?
- Do gender norms “straightjacket the freedom of individual self-expression”? Is that all they do?
- Do you think women, men, or transgender people have equal investments in changing existing systems of gender “bigotry” (as Feinberg calls it)?

Exercise #2: Read Cynthia Enloe pp. 23-8 (of *Bananas, Beaches and Bases*) about the international Arms Trade Treaty, ratified by the UN in 2013.

- Who supported and who objected to the inclusion of the “gender-based violence” clause as a binding assessment criterion, and why?
- What is the difference between “gender-based violence” and “violence against women and children”? Why might a member state (or observer) push for one phrase but not the other?