



「
TOGETHER
CHURCH
」





**Gender diversity is
welcomed here.**

**Please use the restroom that
best fits your gender identity
or expression.**

**Abbotsford
Convent**

LONGING FOR LOVE

A series on love, sexuality and gender





CHRISTIAN
ORTHODOXY

What is marriage /
singleness?

What is gender?

What is sex / sexuality?

What is freedom?

What is love?

GOD is LOVE

GENDER + TRANSGENDER

in a teaching series on love, gender and sexuality



「**TOGETHER**
CHURCH」

**A PLACE
TO BELONG**」

Sunday 15th August @ 3pm — 3 Lorne Crescent, Howrah

12+







WHAT IS GENDER DYSPHORIA?



“Dysphoria feels like being unable to get warm, no matter how many layers you put on. It feels like hunger without appetite. It feels like getting on an airplane to fly home, only to realise mid-flight that this is it: You’re going to spend the rest of your life on an airplane. It feels like grieving. It feels like having nothing to grieve.”

— Chu, a transgender person —

TRANSGENDER AND MENTAL HEALTH



41% of people who identify as transgender will attempt suicide at some point in their lives, compared with 4.6% of the general population.

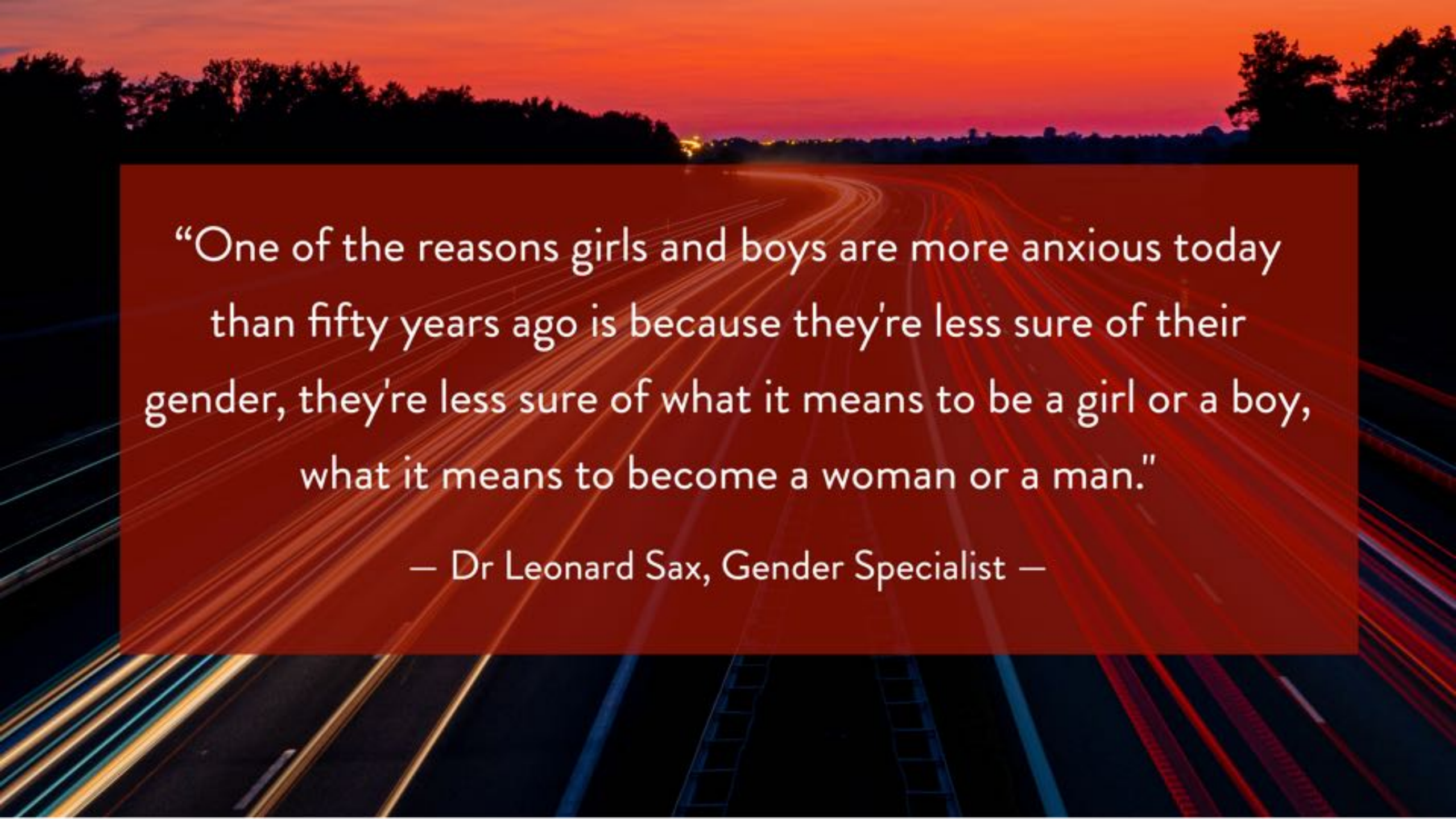
80-95% of children
will grow out of gender
dysphoria if allowed to





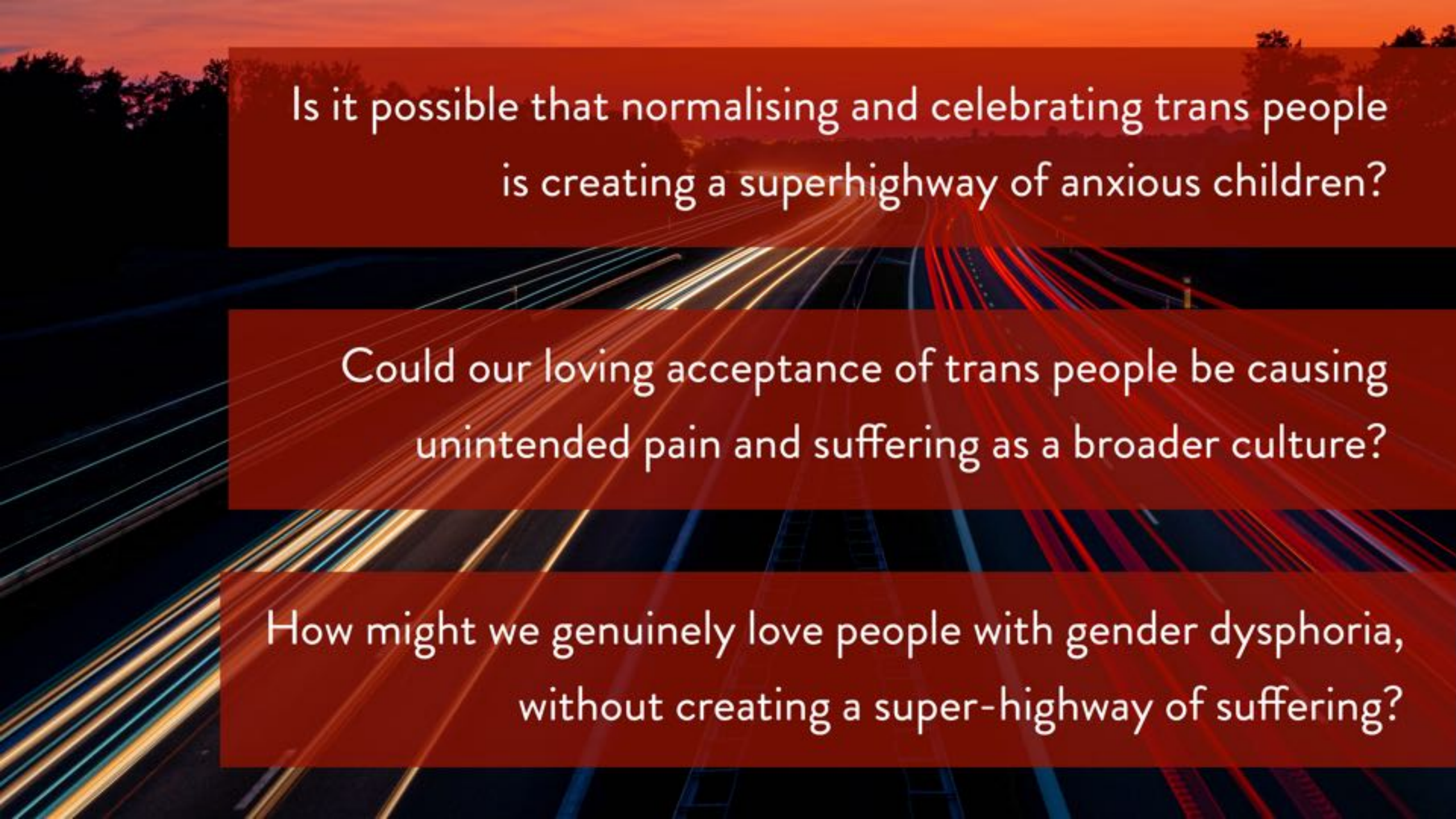
**RAPID-ONSET
GENDER DYSPHORIA**





“One of the reasons girls and boys are more anxious today than fifty years ago is because they're less sure of their gender, they're less sure of what it means to be a girl or a boy, what it means to become a woman or a man.”

— Dr Leonard Sax, Gender Specialist —



Is it possible that normalising and celebrating trans people is creating a superhighway of anxious children?

Could our loving acceptance of trans people be causing unintended pain and suffering as a broader culture?

How might we genuinely love people with gender dysphoria, without creating a super-highway of suffering?

THE TRANSITION PROCESS



SOCIAL TRANSITION



PUBERTY BLOCKERS



CROSS-SEX HORMONES



SEX REASSIGNMENT SURGERY



“There is not a single large, randomised, controlled study that documents the alleged benefits and potential harms to gender-dysphoric children from pubertal suppression and decades of cross-sex hormone use. Nor is there a single long-term, large, randomised, controlled study that compares the outcomes of various psychotherapeutic interventions for childhood gender dysphoria ... In today’s age of “evidence-based medicine,” this should give everyone pause.”

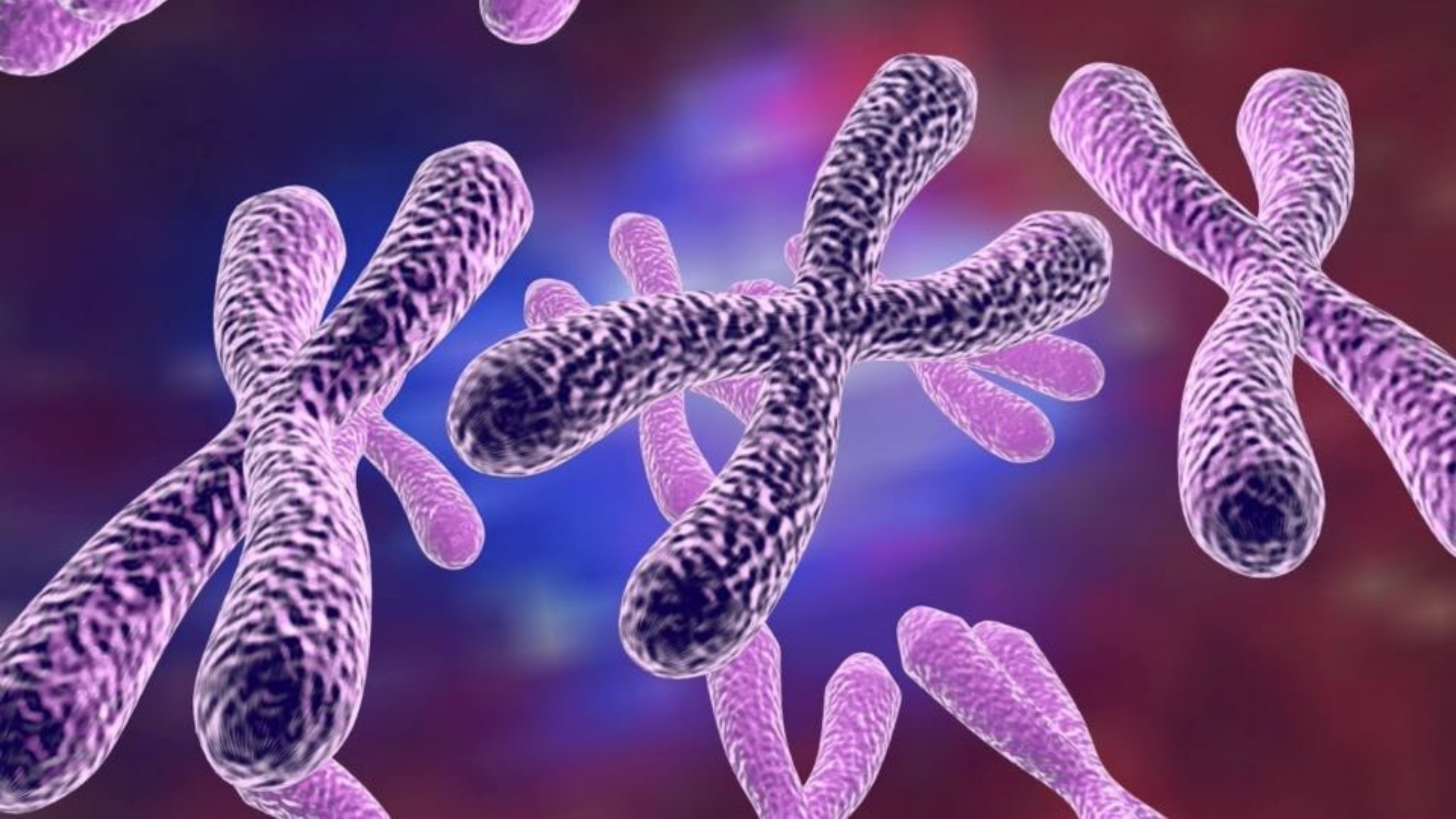
— Dr Michelle Cretella,
President of American College of Paediatricians, 2016 —

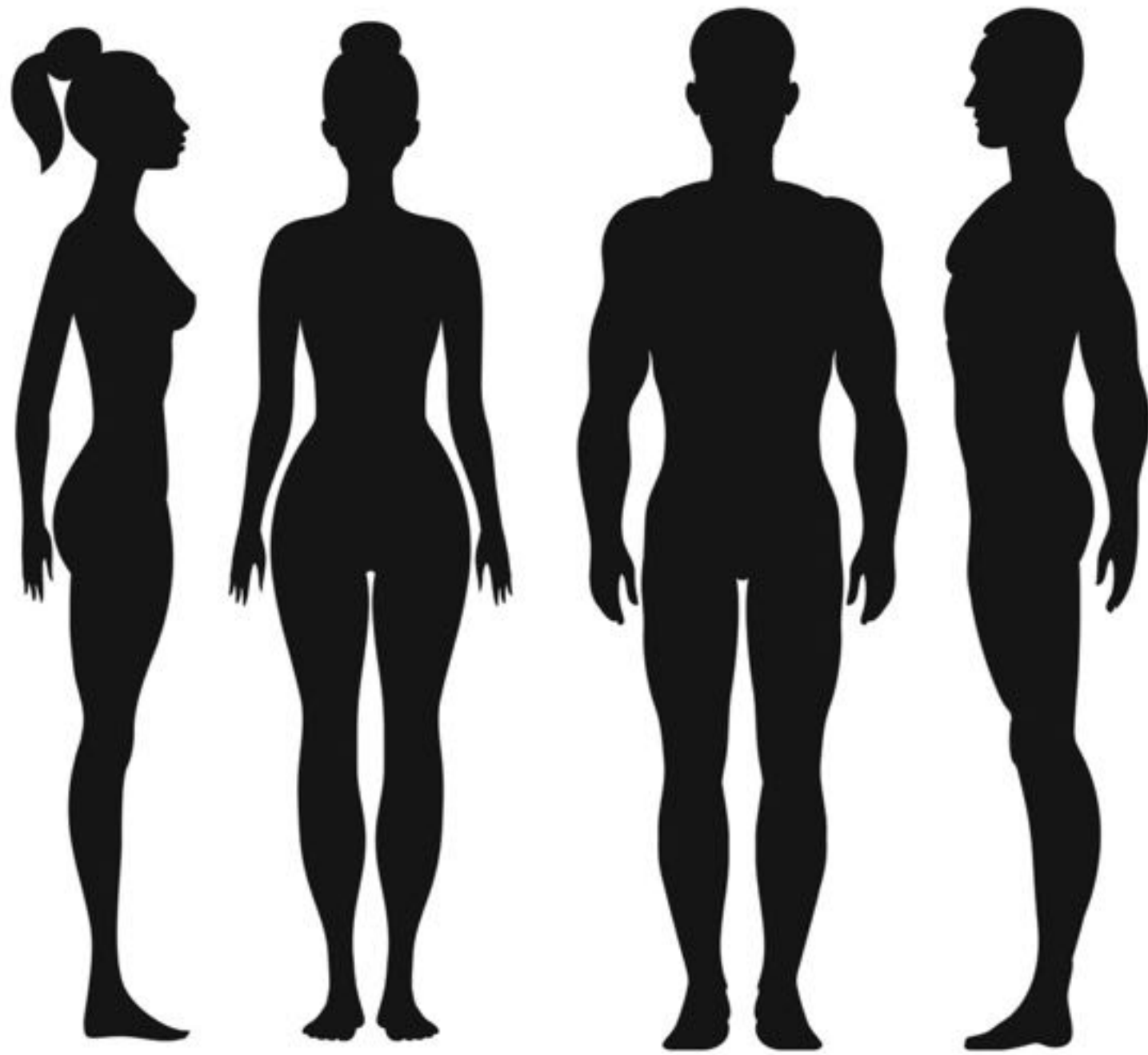


Are kindergarten children really able to provide informed consent?

GENDER DIFFERENCES AND BIOLOGY











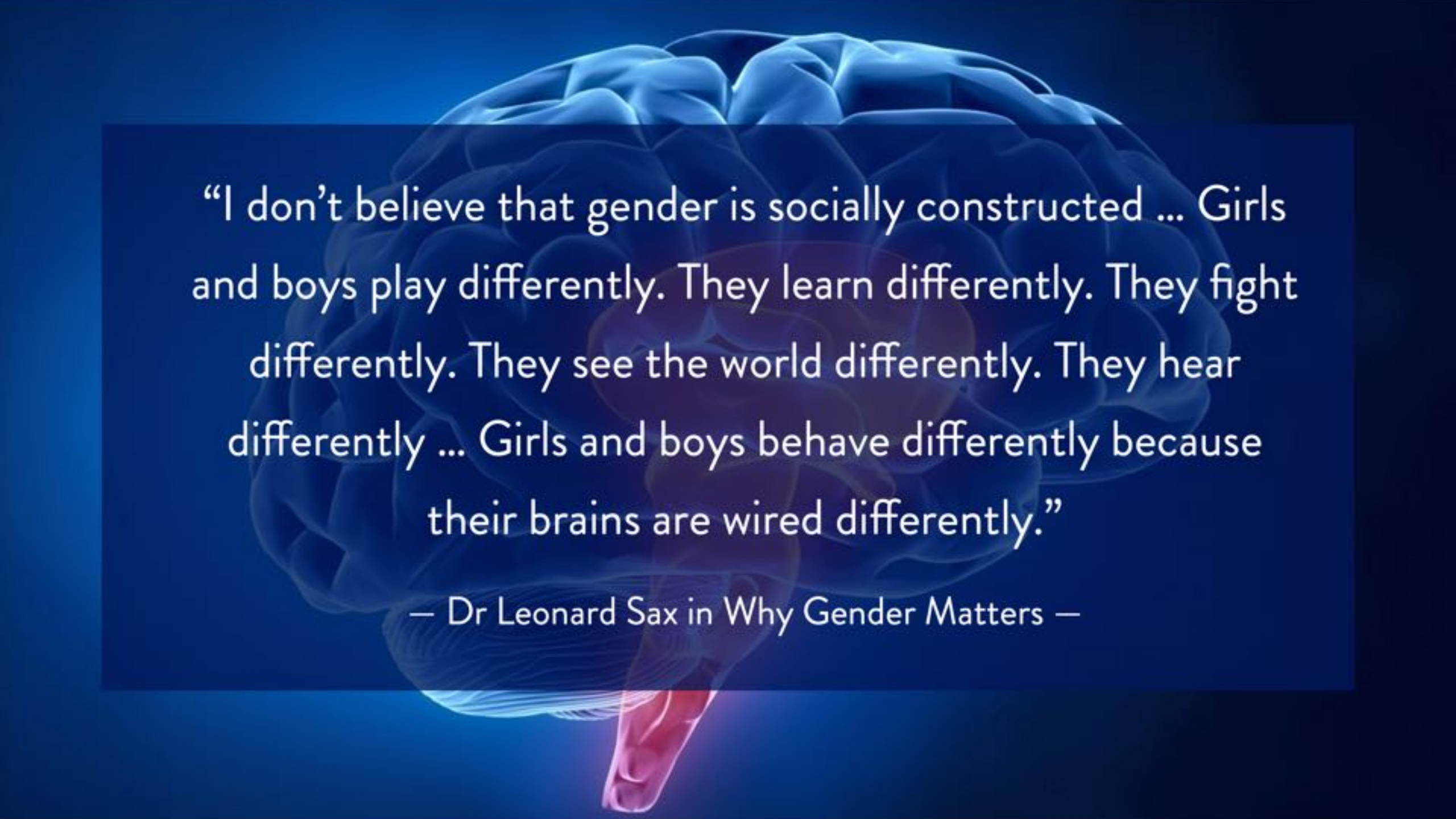


“Female brain tissue and male brain tissue are intrinsically different ... not one better than the other. Not one worse than the other. Just different.”

— Dr Leonard Sax in *Why Gender Matters* —







“I don’t believe that gender is socially constructed ... Girls and boys play differently. They learn differently. They fight differently. They see the world differently. They hear differently ... Girls and boys behave differently because their brains are wired differently.”

— Dr Leonard Sax in *Why Gender Matters* —



LOVE REQUIRES TRUTH

“Every step of the process for me, every step I took toward affirming that trans identity — life got worse ... The longer I chased that disassociation, the more I asked people to call me special pronouns, the more I tried to change my body, the more I ensconced myself in a community that would affirm a trans identity — the worse I felt.

If I could get it wrong at thirty, then a nine-year old for sure can get it wrong. A thirteen-year-old for sure can get it wrong. Absolutely I think an eighteen-year-old can get it wrong.”

—Carey, de-transitioning back to female —

“I know she [my doctor] was trying to help me and other suffering people ... the way she treated us with understanding and respect meant a lot to me and other trans people. But she hurt me. She helped me hurt myself. That definitely wasn't her intention but that's still what happened. This contradiction is difficult to face and understand. She treated me like I wanted to be treated at the time ...

There's something disturbing about doing something you think is good for yourself but that turns out to be really self-destructive, and it's even worse when so many other people were helping you and making it easier for you to do.”

—Crash, de-transitioning back to female —

“Hidden deep underneath the make-up and female clothing was the little boy carrying the hurts from traumatic childhood events, and he was making himself known. Being a female turned out to be only a cover-up, not healing.

I was told that my transgender feelings were permanent, immutable, physically deep-seated in my brain and could NEVER change, and that the only way I would ever find peace was to become female. The problem is, I don't have those feelings anymore.

Saddest of all, I can never have children, and I pray God will give me the strength to withstand that sadness.”

—Walt, de-transitioning back to male —

“I was so focused on trying to change my gender, I never stopped to think about what gender meant.”

— Ria, de-transitioning back to female —

“Transition didn’t really make my dysphoria better, it just kind of kept moving the goalposts, so I felt like I was making progress, but I never got any closer to where I wanted to be or where I thought I wanted to be ...

I encourage people not to take their feelings and urges entirely at face value, to be critical, to really think about where those thoughts are coming from.”

—Cari, de-transitioning back to female —

“When you go to a therapist and tell them you have those kinds of feelings, they don’t tell you that it’s okay to be butch, to be gender nonconforming, to not like men, to not like the way men treat you ... they tell you about testosterone.

I want to ask you, how many other medical conditions are there where you can walk into the doctor’s office, tell them you have a certain condition, which has no objective test, which can be caused by trauma or mental health issues or societal factors, and receive life-altering medications on your say-so?”

—Cari, de-transitioning back to female —

“I’m a real life 22 year old women with a scarred chest and a broken voice and 5 o’clock shadow because I couldn’t face the idea of growing up to be a woman. That’s my reality.”

—Cari, de-transitioning back to female —

Does love mean that we always trust and follow our feelings?

What does it mean to really love transgender people?



「
TOGETHER
CHURCH
」





MALE AND FEMALE



EQUAL BUT
DIFFERENT



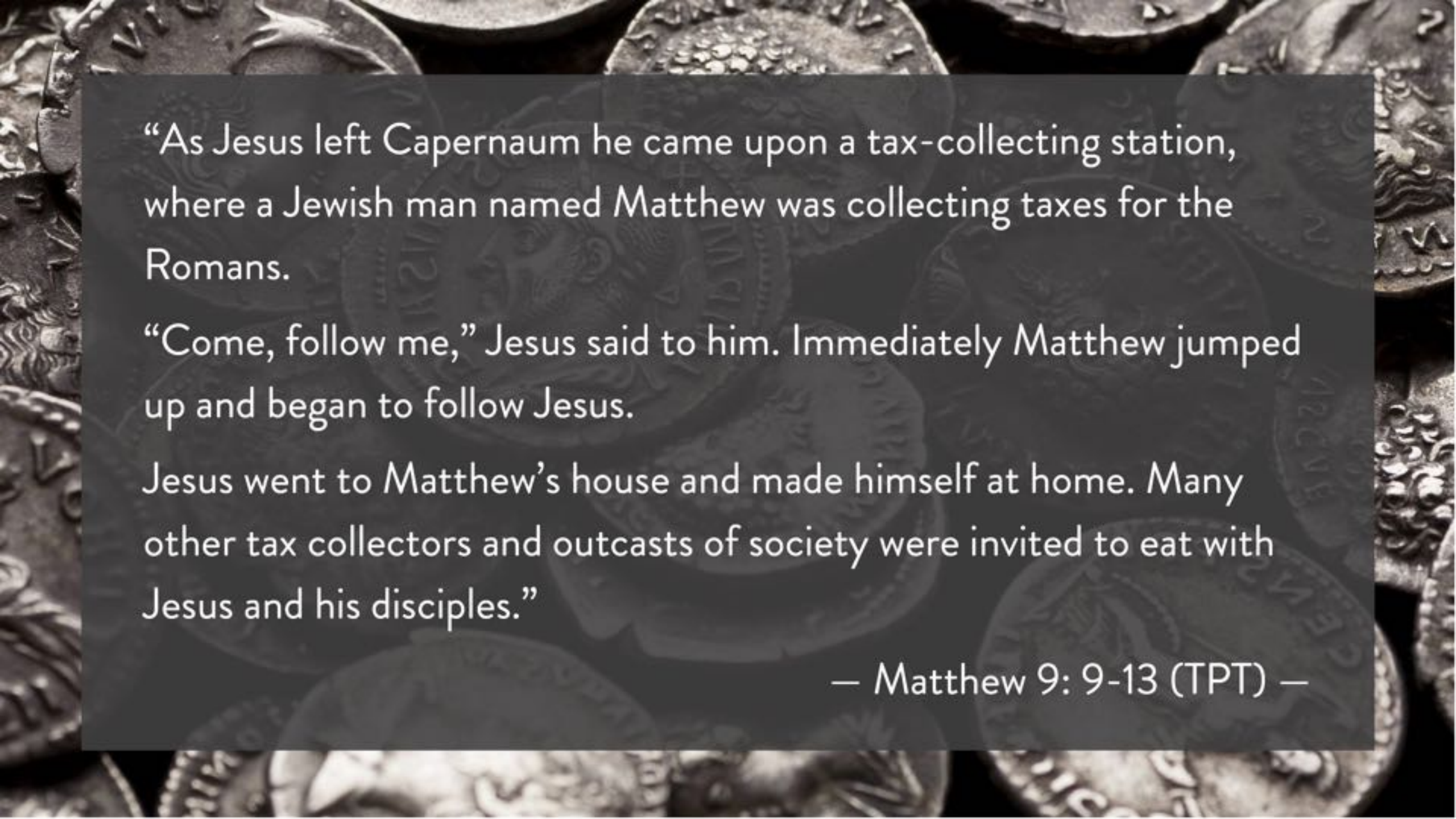
MADE IN THE IMAGE
OF GOD





**BEAUTIFULLY
BINARY**



The background of the image is a close-up, high-contrast photograph of numerous coins and medals. The coins are of various denominations and designs, some showing profiles of figures and others with intricate patterns or text. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures and details of the metal surfaces. A semi-transparent dark grey rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing white text.

“As Jesus left Capernaum he came upon a tax-collecting station, where a Jewish man named Matthew was collecting taxes for the Romans.

“Come, follow me,” Jesus said to him. Immediately Matthew jumped up and began to follow Jesus.

Jesus went to Matthew’s house and made himself at home. Many other tax collectors and outcasts of society were invited to eat with Jesus and his disciples.”

— Matthew 9: 9-13 (TPT) —

“When those known as the Pharisees saw what was happening, they were indignant, and they kept asking Jesus’ disciples, “Why would your Master dine with such lowlifes?”

When Jesus overheard this, he spoke up and said, “Healthy people don’t need to see a doctor, but the sick will go for treatment.” Then he added, “Now you should go and study the meaning of the verse:

I want you to show mercy, not just offer me a sacrifice.

For I have come to invite the outcasts of society and sinners, not those who think they are already on the right path.”

— Matthew 9: 9-13 (TPT) —





“When those known as the Pharisees saw what was happening, they were indignant, and they kept asking Jesus’ disciples, “Why would your Master dine with such lowlifes?”

When Jesus overheard this, he spoke up and said, “**Healthy people don’t need to see a doctor, but the sick will go for treatment.**” Then he added, “Now you should go and study the meaning of the verse:

I want you to show mercy, not just offer me a sacrifice.

For I have come to invite the outcasts of society and sinners, not those who think they are already on the right path.”

— Matthew 9: 9-13 (TPT) —



