



The Swedish National Council on
Medical Ethics

*Health care for children and
adolescents with gender
dysphoria: knowledge, ethics and
children's rights*

Report from Germany

Claudia Wiesemann
Vice-chair, German Ethics Council
Medical Ethics and History of Medicine
Goettingen University, Germany

Gender Incongruence in Minors

- the German Approach -



Claudia Wiesemann,
Goettingen, Germany

- Estimated cases per year: 300
- Estimated cases with surgical inventions: 120
- Current therapeutic approaches: de-pathologizing, de-stigmatizing
- Open societal and professional debates over:
 - How to identify potential desisters?
 - Is puberty a necessary condition for knowing one's gender identity?
 - At which age can competence be assumed?

German Ministry of Justice: Draft Act on Protecting Children Against Surgical Changes of Sex (2020)



Claudia Wiesemann,
Goettingen, Germany

- Children with Intersex/DSD and Trans-Identity/Gender Incongruence
- Any sex-changing surgical interventions are prohibited before the age of 14
- ≥ 14 : Competence of the child has to be assured
- Expert advice has to be obtained
- If child, parents, and expert agree, surgical interventions are permissible
- At all ages, puberty blocker and hormonal treatment are allowed if in the best interest of the child