

Integral Healing



Centre of Toronto

1352 Bathurst St. · Suite 102 · Toronto, Ontario · M5R 3H7

(416) 530-0673 www.integralhealingcentre.com

Are Boys and Girls Really Different? Exploring the Myths of Male and Female with Dr. Andrew Toplack

Interactive Talk and Discussion: Saturday, November 12, 2016, 3-6 PM

The first defining moment in a human being's life occurs within minutes of being born – it's called "the announcement" and it consists solely of gendering the infant's body. It goes on to have a huge effect on the shape of the being's life. But, is having a male or female body the most powerful predictor of how we will act, what we feel, and the life we shall live?

We are all born and raised in a gendered, dualistic society – indeed, every society in the world is gendered (though some have always existed with more than two gender options). Thus, no one is able to look at the question of gender free from the immense amount of projection and assumption that comes from being within such a society. There are no objective experts to whom we can go for clarity. We are all biased.

So how do we find the 'truth' about gender? And is it even possible?

Are men and women different, or the same? If we are different, by how much, and in what ways? What about the exceptions; those of us who don't fit into the accepted categories?

The talk will explore gender basics: the dualistic system in which we find ourselves, assumptions of 'maleness' and 'femaleness,' questions posed by transgender and intersex people, and the possibilities inherent in the concepts of 'masculine' and 'feminine.'

Using experiential exercises, small group work, and sharing of personal experience, we will explore the gender roles we all play, the gender messages with which we have been raised, and the possibility of 'gender independence' as it could apply to all of us.

Cost: \$20.00 (Please make cheques payable to the Integral Healing Centre)

Place: Integral Healing Centre of Toronto

Dr. Andrew Toplack has been a medical doctor for 40 years and a GP psychotherapist for over 30 years. During this time, he has accumulated significant experience with transgender clients and the transgender community in Toronto.