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June 15, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A comprehensive, first-of-its-kind guidebook for the unique challenges that thousands of families face raising children who step outside of the pink or blue box

The Transgender Child
A Handbook for Families and Professionals
by Stephanie Brill and Rachel Pepper

What will happen when your son insists on wearing a dress to school? What do you do when your toddler daughter's first sentence is that she's a boy? Is this ever just a phase? How can you explain your child to neighbors and family? How can you best raise your gender-variant or transgender child with love and compassion, even if you barely understand the issues ahead? Offering an extensive understanding of gender-variant and transgender youth, *The Transgender Child* answers these questions and more.

Providing extensive research and interviews as well as years of experience working in the field, authors Stephanie Brill and Rachel Pepper explore what is currently known and understood about gender. They describe the process that many families go through after learning that a child is transgender or gender variant and lay out strategies for parents to move from crisis to acceptance. Brill and Pepper cover developmental stages of the transgender child from birth to college, transition decisions, appropriate disclosure, and the educational, medical, and legal issues that parents and therapists need to know.

"Realistic and empowering." —*Library Journal*

"*The Transgender Child* is a ground-breaking book. It is a sophisticated and sympathetic look at a world unknown to many of us...This book opens a door and shines a light on members of society who deserve the compassion and understanding of us all."

—Peggy O'Mara, Editor and Publisher of *Mothering Magazine*

“A ‘must read’ for the families I see. I will suggest that parents provide copies to their school nurses and administrators. I will also recommend it to my colleagues in pediatrics and adolescent medicine. As a pediatrician, I find no greater pleasure than helping children grow and develop into happy, healthy, well-adjusted adults. This resource will help me in that goal for gender-variant and transgender youth.”

—Irene N. Sills, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, SUNY - Upstate Medical University, Joslin Center for Diabetes and Endocrinology

Chapters:

Forward by Dr. Norman Spack of Children’s Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School
Is My Child Transgender?
Family Acceptance: From Crisis to Empowerment
Developmental Stages and the Transgender Child
Start Where You Are: Moving from Damaging to Effective Parenting Practices
Transition Decisions: When Should I Let My Child Live as Their Preferred Gender?
Disclosure: Whom to Tell, How, Why, and When
The Educational System and Your Family
Medical Issues for Transgender Children
Legal Issues to Consider

About the authors:

STEPHANIE BRILL is the founder of Gender Spectrum Education and Training (genderspectrum.org), which provides education, resources and training to create a more gender-sensitive and supportive environment for all children. She founded and runs the Children’s Hospital Oakland Support Group for parents of gender-variant and transgender children and teens. She also co-produces a national conference, Gender Spectrum Family (genderspectrumfamily.org), for families with gender-variant and transgender children. Brill wrote *The Queer Parents Primer* (New Harbinger Press) and co-authored *The New Essential Guide to Lesbian Conception, Pregnancy, and Birth* (Alyson).

RACHEL PEPPER is the Coordinator of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies at Yale University. An award-winning journalist and an editor at *Curve Magazine*, she is the author of *The Ultimate Guide to Pregnancy for Lesbians* (Cleis Press) and co-author of *The Gay and Lesbian Guide to College Life* (Princeton Review).

The Transgender Child by Stephanie Brill and Rachel Pepper June 2008
\$16.95 Trade paper ISBN 978-1-57344-318-0 270pp 5.5 x 8.5”
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