



ON THE MEANING OF SEX

Thoughts about the New Definition of Woman

Kajsa Ekis Ekman

Translated by Kristina Mäki

A brilliant examination of the intellectually incoherent and anti-feminist character of gender identity theory

In this groundbreaking book, Swedish feminist and Marxist, Kajsa Ekis Ekman, traces the ideological roots of the new definition of woman. She shows how biological determinism is back – but minus the biology. So too are stereotypes: womanhood is no longer about having a vagina, but pink ribbons and dolls. Masculinity is no longer synonymous with having a penis but with war and machines. We are told being a woman is a gender identity that anyone can claim and that can only be determined by one’s own feelings.

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In countries such as Norway, Canada, Argentina, Australia and New Zealand, self-identity laws have already been enacted that give anyone the right to change his or her legal sex. At the same time, the industry for gender reassignment surgery is growing at an unprecedented pace. Seven out of ten teenagers who seek interventions are now girls.

The new definition of sex has been hailed as progressive. But is it really? What ideology is expressed by it? What consequences will it have? And for whom?

About the author

Kajsa Ekis Ekman is a Swedish author and journalist, born in 1980. She has written four books on women’s rights, capitalism and economic crisis. Her book *Being and Being Bought: Prostitution, Surrogacy and the Split Self* was published by Spinifex in 2013. She lectures internationally on trafficking and surrogacy and her Tedx talk ”Everyone talks about capitalism, but what is it?” has been seen by 250,000 people. She is a critic at the Swedish major daily *Aftonbladet* and the founder of the workers’ blog portal *arbetarbloggen.se*.



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