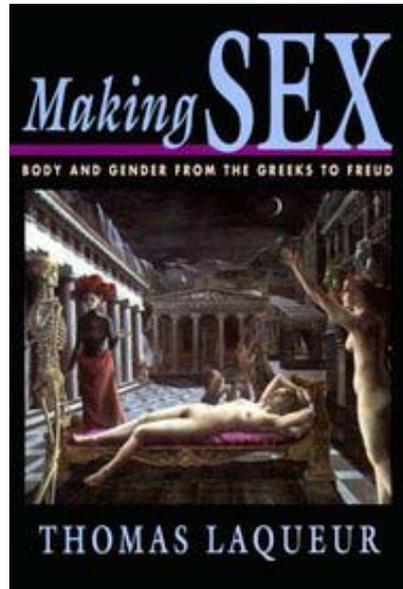


Books Recommended by the AIS Support Group (www.aiissg.org)

**Making Sex: Body and Gender from the Greeks to Freud - Thomas Laqueur.
(Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1990)**



This is a book about the making and unmaking of sex over the centuries. It tells the astonishing story of sex in the West from the ancients to the moderns in a precise account of developments in reproductive anatomy and physiology. We cannot fail to recognize the players in Thomas Laqueur's story--the human sexual organs and pleasures, food, blood, semen, egg, sperm--but we will be amazed at the plots into which they have been woven by scientists, political activists, literary figures, and theorists of every stripe.

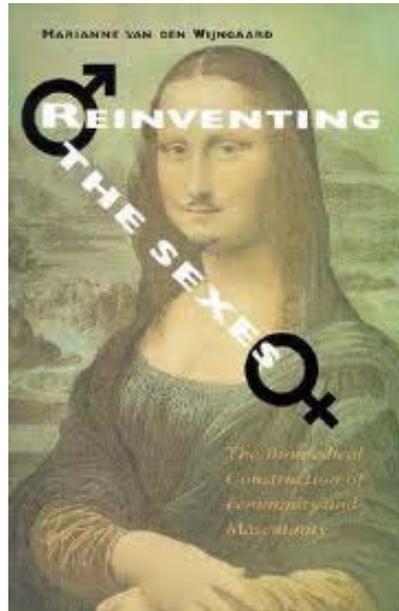
Laqueur begins with the question of why, in the late eighteenth century, woman's orgasm came to be regarded as irrelevant to conception, and he then proceeds to retrace the dramatic changes in Western views of sexual characteristics over two millennia. Along the way, two "masterplots" emerge.

In the one-sex story, woman is an imperfect version of man, and her anatomy and physiology are construed accordingly: the vagina is seen as an interior penis, the womb as a scrotum, the ovaries as testicles. The body is thus a representation, not the foundation, of social gender.

The second plot tends to dominate post-Enlightenment thinking while the one-sex model is firmly rooted in classical learning. The two-sex story says that the body determines gender differences, that woman is the opposite of man with incommensurably different organs, functions, and feelings.

The two plots overlap; neither ever holds a monopoly. Science may establish many new facts, but even so, Laqueur argues, science was only providing a new way of speaking, a rhetoric and not a key to female liberation or to social progress. Making Sex ends with Freud, who denied the neurological evidence to insist that, as a girl becomes a woman, the locus of her sexual pleasure shifts from the clitoris to the vagina; she becomes what culture demands despite, not because of, the body. Turning Freud's famous dictum around, Laqueur posits that destiny is anatomy. Sex, in other words, is an artifice.

Reinventing the Sexes: The Biomedical Construction of Femininity and Masculinity - Marianne Van Den Wijngaard (Indiana University Press, 1997)



"Reinventing the Sexes" reveals the influence of traditional perceptions of masculinity and femininity on investigations into sex differences in the brain. This book describes the history of scientific thought about sex differences and raises excellent grounds for questioning the results. John Money and Anke Ehrhardt's research on the long-term effects of prenatal hormones on the behavior of pseudo-hermaphrodites and DES children remains relevant for practicing psychologists and sexologists. The resulting treatments have turned traditional views of the sexes into self-fulfilling prophecies. The wave of popular scientific articles about these studies have convinced readers that male and female behavior arises from differences in the brain.

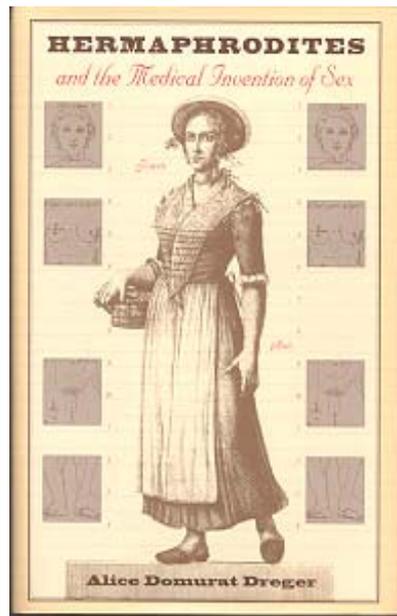
This archeological exploration of research on sex differences begins in 1959, before masculinity and femininity became controversial. Investigations into the biological underpinnings of homosexuality focused on identifying the causes of maleness in brains and sexual behavior. Central actors included hormones designated as androgens and estrogens, which were regarded as messengers of maleness and of femaleness, respectively.

In the 1970s, women researchers entered the field of behavioral neuro-endocrinology and made their male colleagues, such as Frank Beach, aware of the one-sided nature of their interest in male development. After 1975, researchers expanded their scope to include female sexual development. Simultaneously, the rise of feminism shifted the research focus from the causes of homosexuality to sex differences in behavior. Feminist researchers such as Eleanor MacCoby and Carol Jacklin participated in this effort.

Feminist intellectual thought generated a new vision of the relation between masculinity and femininity. The model that viewed masculinity and femininity as binary opposites made way for a research design that enabled such qualities to emerge independently in a single individual, a scenario that was hardly compatible with the organization theory that had guided all previous research.

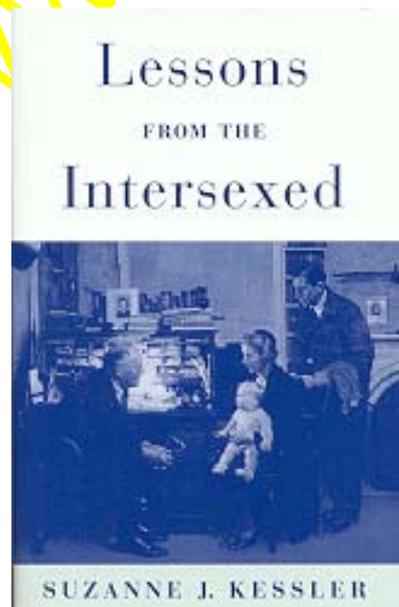
This book demonstrates the impact of changing ideas about the sexes on scientific practice and the resulting modifications of scientific truth. The actions take place in the gray area between sex and gender and questions modes of differentiation.

**Hermaphrodites and the Medical Invention of Sex - Alice Domurat Dreger
(Harvard University Press, 1998)**



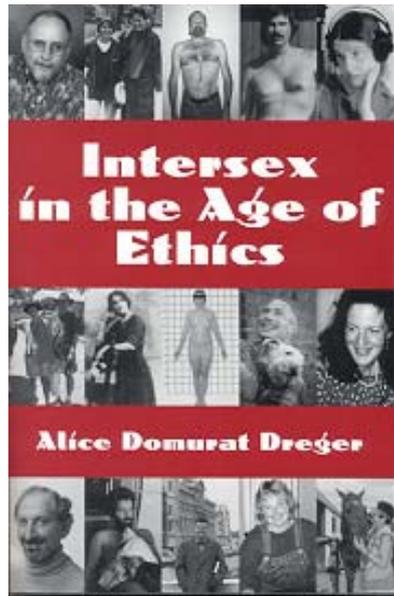
Alice Dreger is a medical historian who, in the latter part of this book, questions the protocols employed in the treatment of intersexuals. She discusses AIS and paternalism (truth withholding) using quotes from AIS Support Group members. www.hup.harvard.edu

**Lessons From the Intersexed - Suzanne J. Kessler
(Rutgers University Press, 1998)**



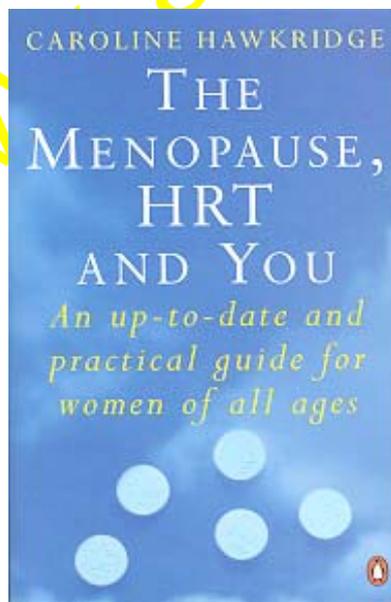
Suzanne Kessler, a professor of psychology at Purchase College, SUNY, has brought together the points of view of children, parents, physicians and psychologists. She mentions the AIS Support Group and uses quotes from its newsletter, ALIAS.

**Intersex in the Age of Ethics - Alice Domurat Dreger
(University Press Group, 1999)**



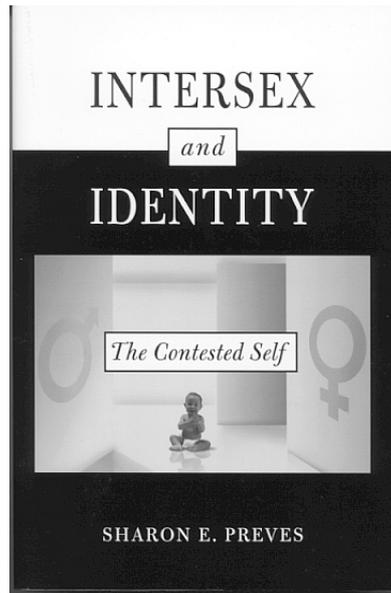
A collection of articles taken from the special intersex issue of the *Journal of Clinical Ethics* (Winter 1998 Issue, Vol. 9 No. 4) plus additional material. Includes a chapter by the founder of the USA chapter of the AIS Support Group. www.upgbooks.com.

**The Menopause, HRT and You - Caroline Hawkrige
(Penguin, 1999)**



Three of the 12 chapters are for younger women. Chapter 6, *Interrupted Sexual Development*, explains how conditions such as AIS occur and why these women take HRT. It contains a chart showing how the various conditions arise and ends with six personal stories. Caroline, a UK-based health education specialist and writer, worked with support groups, including AISSG, to develop this chapter and was determined to give such women a high profile in the book. It is almost as useful in explaining intersex conditions as it is in explaining HRT. The UK AISSG has copies available (see Group Literature page on www.aissg.org).

Intersex and Identity: The Contested Self - Sharon E. Preves
(Rutgers University Press, 2003)



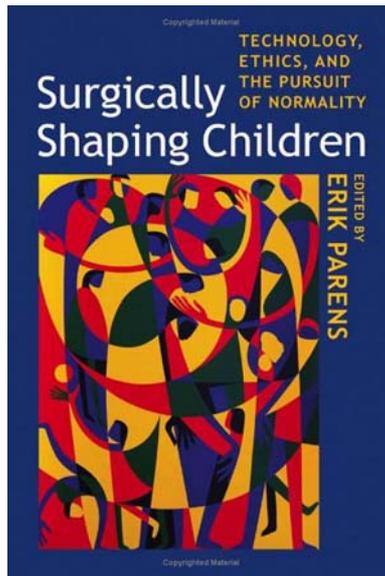
Sharon is an assistant professor of sociology who also wrote a chapter in *Intersex in the Age of Ethics* (previous page). Drawing on life history interviews with adults who were treated for intersexuality as children (including AISSG USA members), she explores how such individuals experience and cope with being labelled sexual deviants in a society that demands sexual conformity. By demonstrating how intersexed people manage and create their own identities, often in conflict with their medical diagnosis, Preves argues that medical intervention in intersexuality often creates, rather than mitigates, the stigma these people suffer.

Ethics and Intersex - Sharon Sytsma, Ed.
(Springer, 2006)



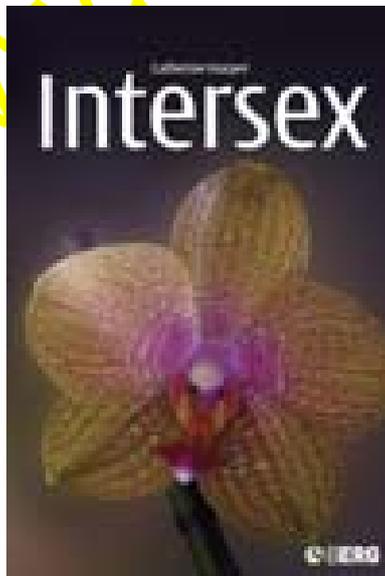
A state-of-the-art reference for intersexuals, their parents, health care professionals, ethics committee members, and anyone interested in intersexuality. An interdisciplinary effort, bringing together urologists, endocrinologists, gynaecologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, lawyers, theologians, gender theorists, medical historians, and philosophers from numerous countries. It refers to a number of personal stories on the AISSG website and to the famous stand-off with Germaine Greer. www.springeronline.com

Surgically Shaping Children: Technology, Ethics, and the Pursuit of Normality - Erik Parens, ed. (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006)



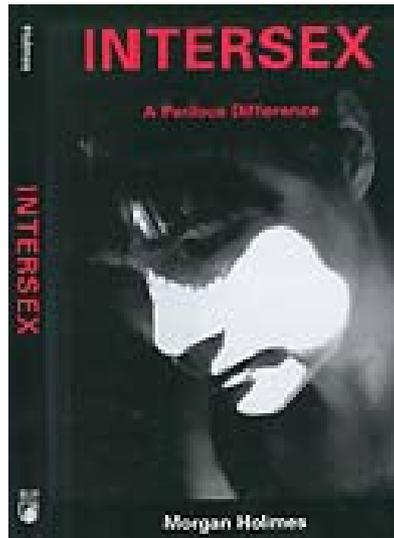
Explores the ethical and social issues raised by the recent proliferation of surgeries designed to make children born with physical differences look more normal. Using three cases - craniofacial abnormalities such as cleft lip and palate, ambiguous genitalia, and children born with dwarfism - the contributors consider the tensions parents experience when making such life-altering decisions on behalf of or with their children. Contains a chapter by the founder of AISSG USA.

Intersex - Catherine Harper (Berg, 2007)



Catherine Harper is a textiles practitioner and writer who has specialised in large-scale public art, speculative exhibition work, performance, and creative-critical text. She writes on craft, textiles, the body, gender and subjective narratives. She completed four years of a second PhD at Goldsmiths College, London, examining sex/gender, desire, and identity performativity, and chose to complete the project in book form. The book draws heavily on the personal testimony of intersexed individuals, their loved ones, and medical carers. A related book, *Sextiles*, is in progress.

Intersex: A Perilous Difference - Morgan Holmes
(Susquehanna University Press, 2008)



The author is an Assistant Professor at Wilfred Laurier University, Ontario, Canada.
For summary see www.susqu.edu/su_press/AboutTheBook/Intersex.html

Intersex (For Lack of a Better Word) -Thea Hillman
(Manic D Press Inc., 2008)



Intersex (For Lack of a Better Word) chronicles one person's search for self in a world obsessed with normal. What is "intersex"? According to the Intersex Society of North America, the word describes someone born with sex chromosomes, genitalia, or an internal reproductive system that are neither clearly male nor clearly female. In first-person prose as intimate as a diary, Thea Hillman redefines memoir in a series of compelling stories that take a no-holds-barred look at sex, gender, family, and community. Whether she's pondering quirky family tendencies ("Drag"), reflecting on "queerness" ("Another"), or recounting scintillating adventures in San Francisco's sex clubs, Hillman's brave and fierce vision for cultural and societal change shines through. <http://www.theahillman.com/depending.html>

'Intersex' Geschlechtsanpassung zum Wohl des Kindes? Erfahrungen und Analysen. Michael Groneberg / Kathrin Zehnder (Hrsg.). Paulusverlag Freiburg Schweiz, Editions Saint-Paul Fribourg, Academic Press Fribourg, 2008



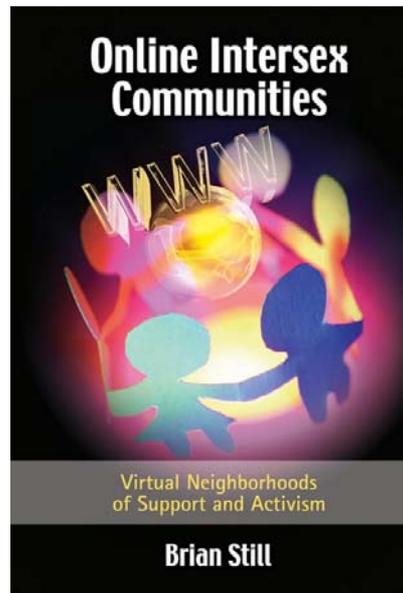
For info see www.paulusedition.ch/catalog/more_academic.php?id=P1164_0_2_0_C

Fixing Sex: Intersex, Medical Authority, and Lived Experience - Katrina Karkazis (Duke University Press, 2008)



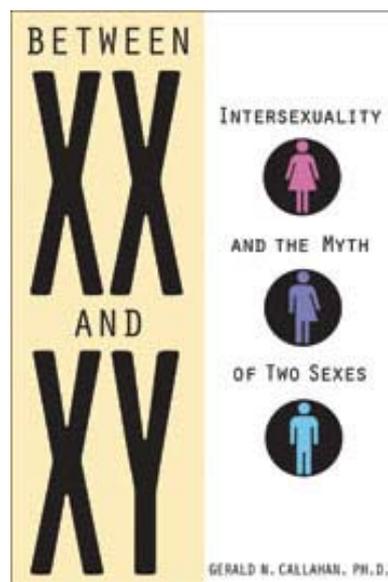
Karkazis conducted interviews with all three groups [patients, doctors, parents], the first time anyone had done so. Previously, researchers focused on the biology of intersex and on how intersex informed theories of gender identity development. "I hoped to move away from the polarizing debates, stir up thinking, and really humanize the perspective of each group," Karkazis said... ..She has emerged with the conviction that more attention needs to be paid to intersex individuals as complete people, rather than as specimens of unusual biology. (Above adapted from http://med.stanford.edu/news_releases/2008/november/intersex.html)

Online Intersex Communities: Virtual Neighborhoods of Support and Activism - Brian Still (Cambria Press, 2008)



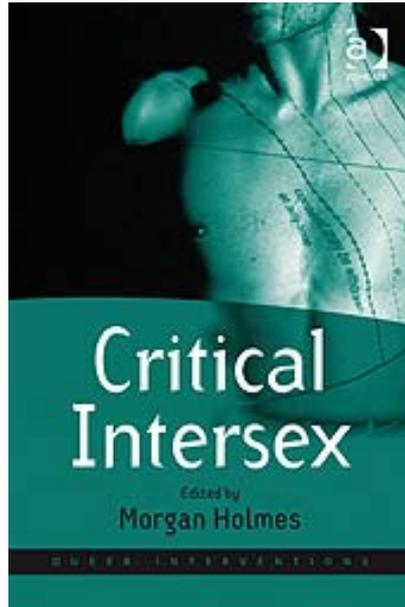
Brian Still's rhetorical analysis of a number of key intersex web sites, supplemented with interviews of leading intersex activists and scholars, allows us to take a previously unexplored critical approach to comprehending the medicalization of intersexuality as well as the online communities that have, in the ongoing production of themselves, shaped productive resistance to it. Drawing on the ideas of Arjun Appadurai, Michel Foucault, Judith Butler, and also Stuart Hall and Paul du Gay, Still points out that because society values (perhaps now more than before) the words of "wounded storytellers," or those who have been treated (and in many cases traumatized), then intersex activists can speak with a measure of newfound authority, taking advantage of a media capable of disseminating the meanings they create so that they are more accessible and, consequently, more influential in re-shaping what it means to be normal. (from www.cambriapress.com/cambriapress.cfm?template=4&bid=287)

Between XX and XY: Intersexuality and the Myth of Two Sexes - Gerald N. Callahan (Chicago Review Press, 2009)



The author is an Associate Professor of Immunology and the Public Understanding of Science at Colorado State University. For details see www.chicagoreviewpress.com/catalog/showBook.cfm?ISBN=1556527853

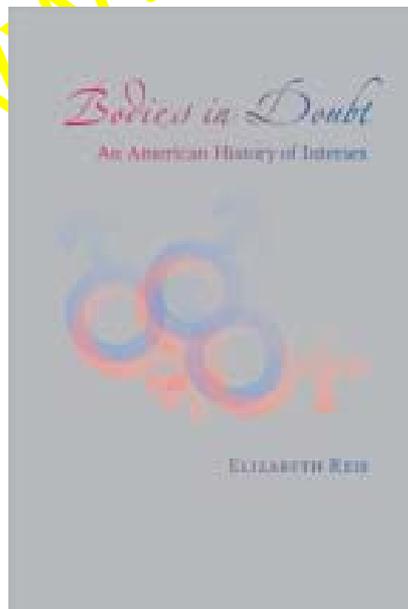
Critical Intersex - Morgan Holmes (ed) (Ashgate Press, 2009)



For details see

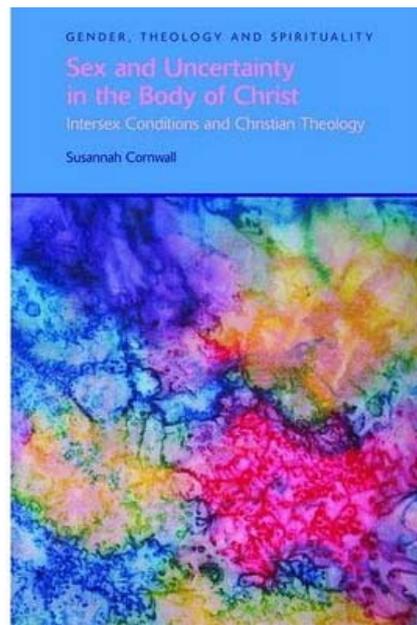
www.ashgate.com/default.aspx?page=637&calcTitle=1&title_id=8941&edition_id=11106

Bodies in Doubt - An American History of Intersex - Elizabeth Reis
(Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009)



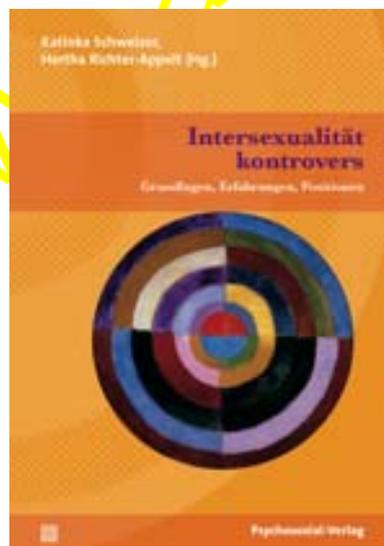
For details see <http://jhupbooks.press.jhu.edu/>

Sex and Uncertainty in the Body of Christ: Intersex Conditions and Christian Theology - Susannah Cornwall (Equinox Press UK, 2010)



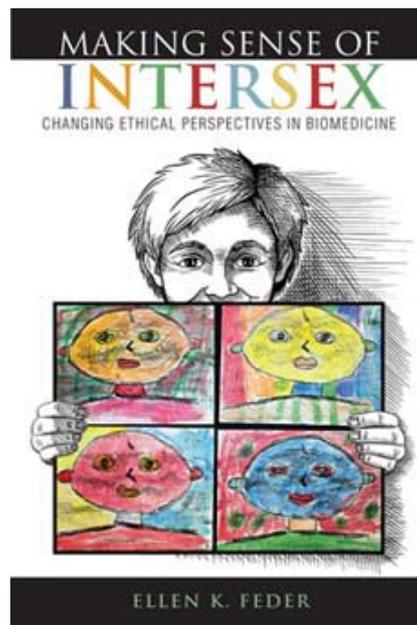
The book provides the first full-length examination of the theological implications of physical intersex conditions and their medical treatment. For details see: <http://www.equinoxpub.com/equinox/books/showbook.asp?bkid=413&keyword=cornwall>

Intersexualität Kontrovers: Grundlagen, Erfahrungen, Positionen- Katinka Schweizer & Hertha Richter-Appelt (Hg.) (Psychosozial-Verlag, 2012)



There are numerous people that are not unique to a biological sex world - they are intersex. The examination of the phenomenon of intersexuality raises questions of border crossing and the responsibility for decision-making in the medical field. Not only different treatment measures can cause distress for those affected, but also confidentiality, discrimination and exclusion. This volume brings together current knowledge base for a deeper understanding of the taboo phenomenon and its various manifestations. International researchers, practitioners and experts provide, in trans- and interdisciplinary contributions, a differentiated insight into the controversial positions in the medical, psychosocial and social attitudes to intersexuality. An informative appendix with important addresses, literary and film references complements the clear and comprehensive technical discussion. http://web.psychosozial-verlag.de/psychosozial/details.php?catp=&p_id=2188

Making Sense of Intersex: Changing Ethical Perspectives in Biomedicine-
Ellen K. Feder (Indiana University Press, forthcoming 2014)



Putting the ethical tools of philosophy to work, Ellen K. Feder seeks to clarify how we should understand “the problem” of intersex. Adults often report that medical interventions they underwent as children to “correct” atypical sex anatomies caused them physical and psychological harm. Proposing a philosophical framework for the treatment of children with intersex conditions—one that acknowledges the intertwined identities of parents, children, and their doctors—Feder presents a persuasive moral argument for collective responsibility to these children and their families.

http://www.iupress.indiana.edu/product_info.php?products_id=807166

Contesting Intersex: The Dubious Diagnosis - Georgiann Davis (in production at New York University Press)

