

## Propositions (Stellingen)

1. Among late-identified patients with DSD in Indonesia a remarkable high percentage of adults changed gender from female to male (this thesis).
2. Puberty is critical period for development of gender dysphoria in patients with 46,XY DSD (this thesis).
3. Observable features of DSD, such as ambiguity of genitalia, body and gender role behavior, make Indonesian patients vulnerable for stigmatization (this thesis).
4. Prenatal exposure to androgens influence masculine gender role behavior later in life, as seen in girls with 46,XX CAH. Lack of androgens functioning influences feminine gender role behavior, as seen in patients with 46,XY CAIS (Melisa Hines, 2004, Brain gender). Similar findings were observed among Indonesian patients, living in the Javanese culture with well-defined social gender role norms. These observations support the importance of steroid action on gender role behavior (this thesis).
5. In Indonesia, neonates born with ambiguous genitalia should not be discharged from hospitals without gender assignment. These children and their parents should be referred to a hospital with a specialized team for a diagnostic work up. The involvement of a psychologist is essential as the psychologist contributes in the decision-making process and in supporting the parents to cope with a DSD condition (this thesis).
6. *Srikandhi* is a female figure with a masculine character and gender role behavior in the Javanese traditional puppet (*Wayang*) or in the Mahabharata epic. Nowadays, *Srikandhi* is used to symbolize women empowerment. This indicates that gender variances are accepted in the Javanese folklore.
7. The rich tales of traditional *Wayang* need to be preserved by transforming them into a modern format of education so that the wisdom can be transferred to young generations in Indonesia or even worldwide.
8. In Indonesia, a clinical psychologist is recognized but not as a medical psychologist. In 2008 the Indonesian government acknowledged the role of clinical psychologists as health-care professionals. Therefore, the magister clinical psychology curriculum needs to expand beyond mental health issues to include the psychological consequences of chronic disease or other illnesses.
9. In an orchestra, everybody is important. No matter what members of the orchestra play: the flute, the violin, the viola, the trombone or else, when they play together, music is a masterpiece of the heart.
10. "Health is a *modus vivendi* enabling imperfect men and women to achieve a rewarding and not too painful existence while they cope with an imperfect world" (Dubos, 1961, *Mirage of health*).
11. *Sapa temen, bakal tinemu* (Javanese). *Dimana ada kemauan, di sana ada jalan* (Indonesian). *Waar een wil is, is een weg* (Dutch). Where there's a will, there's a way.