A Note on Names and Pronouns

Throughout this text, we refer to Brandon Teena as “Brandon” and use he/him pronouns. In life, Brandon did not use the formation “Brandon Teena” – a name given to him post-mortem by activists from Transexual Menace. We elect not to follow traditional protocols of using his surname, as continually invoking “Teena” to refer to Brandon unnecessarily confuses sentences and would not recognize him as he wanted to be known. When speaking about other trans-identified people in the past, we default to the names and pronouns we understand them to use – or have used – for themselves (such as zie/hir for Leslie Feinberg), all the while recognizing that understandings change, and that our text might soon fall out of date. We have also chosen to distinguish the film characters John and Tom from their real-life counterparts, whom we refer to as Lotter and Nissen, respectively.