

CONCERNED WOMEN *for* AMERICA

How Gender Identity Policies Hurt the Progress of Women and Girls

Over the past decade, multiple U.S. federal and state agencies and organizations have worked with the support of outside interest groups to include “gender identity” within non-discrimination policies in state and federal law as well as foreign policy, allowing biological males who “identify as women” or “gender-nonconforming” to access public funds, services, opportunities and facilities intended for women. While the idea of “rights for all” may sound good, the impact of these policies that displace biological reality with self-perceived identity remove vital protections for women.

Gender Identity policies threaten gains women have made in law, programs, and policy reforms

- In 1972, Title IX broke a glass ceiling for women by requiring equality of opportunity and benefits in education programs and activities, including sports, on the basis of sex. Today, biological males who identify as transgender are competing in sports designated for women and girls, erasing the purpose of Title IX for women’s progress and denying female athletes equal rights under the law.
- Women have been the main recipients of Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funds since 1994 based on overwhelming statistical evidence that women are the victims of violence at disproportionately higher rates than men.¹ However, the interpretation of “gender identity”² in VAWA allows a biological male who “identifies as a woman” to join either a female or male program, as he chooses, leaving women without the right to privacy in sleeping, living, or showering arrangements. Women and children seeking shelters need sex-segregated spaces to physically and mentally heal from the trauma of abuse, which in the vast majority of situations is perpetrated by males.³ Case in point: Downtown Hope Center, Anchorage, Alaska.⁴
- “Gender” funding, which was designed for programs to decrease inequalities between men and women, now focuses on transgender “socialization” in foreign assistance programs.

Gender Identity policies violate the privacy, safety, and dignity of women and girls

These terms allow biological males who “identify as females” to access women-only safe spaces such as domestic violence shelters, locker rooms, and bathrooms. This threatens the safety and privacy of women and girls and their right not to be seen in a vulnerable state of undress by a biological male. It opens wide the door to sexual predators searching for victims.

Science does not support assertions that men can become biological women

Scientific evidence cannot support claims that men who identify as women are biological females. The results of sex reassignment surgery, cosmetic surgeries, and cross-sex hormone treatment “don’t change the deeper biological reality, which begins with our DNA and fetal development, unfolding in every bodily system.”^{5,6} The current focus on transgender, fluid, and multiple gender identities “were not initiated through the result of scientific information but (are) the result of cultural changes fueling political interest groups within professional organizations.”⁶

¹ National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey. Data Report 2015. (P. 7).

² DOJ, Frequently Asked Questions, April 9, 2014, Nondiscrimination Grant Condition in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

³ CDC National Intimate Partner and Sexual Orientation Survey 2010.(p. 27).

⁴ <https://firstliberty.org/cases/clarkson/> and <https://www.heritage.org/gender/commentary/voters-anchorage-can-protect-womens-privacy-ballot-initiative>

⁵ Anderson, Ryan (2018) *When Harry Became Sally*. Encounter Books. New York, NY., p.99.

⁶ In Anderson (2018) p. 108, taken from Lawrence S. Mayer and McHugh, Paul. (2016) “Sexuality and Gender Findings from the Biological, Psychological, and Social Sciences” Special Report, *New Atlantis* 50 (Fall 2016):8.