

CONCERNED WOMEN *for* AMERICA

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EO 12866 Meeting – RIN: 1870-AA16

Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance

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As National Director of Young Women for America, I represent hundreds of females across this country who are bearing the burden of protecting their rights as women under Title IX – a job that should be shouldered by our federal government but instead is left to high school and collegiate athletes.

Young Women for America is made up of these brave women in high school, college, and young professionals. Each group is directly impacted by a refusal to uphold Title IX.

Our Young Women for America leaders have stepped up to the plate to do their part to protect women's sports and are begging that you respect reality and basic biology by rejecting any proposed rule which would include gender identity. Gender identity is not sex.

We are in an unfortunate situation when high school and college-age females are having to uphold reality while government entities seem bent on undermining Title IX at every turn. Our leaders have asked for excused absences, covered their work shifts, and taken tests early so they can show up and fight for their rights by testifying in committee hearings and press conferences. They understand it is not just their rights but the rights of all women who are coming behind us.

You may not be hearing these tragic stories – but sadly, I hear them too often.

I want to highlight one of our leaders, Macy Petty, an NCAA scholarship volleyball athlete in Tennessee.

“Men are born naturally more athletic, and their sports reflect this. Men's volleyball nets are seven inches higher than women's nets. The difference in height between the nets is not due to sexuality, identity, or anything else except for biological truth. If you are born male, you have

the genetic advantages that come with being male. These advantages do not change with personality. These advantages do not change with identity. These advantages are carried with them to the opposite playing field against the women fighting for a chance to play.

“I would like to tell you about the time in high school my club team played against a women’s team with a male athlete. Yes, we were forced to play against a team with a boy as a member, and he was the star of the game.

“He ran the court and had college recruiters from all over watching him slam the ball in our faces. He was playing on a net seven inches shorter than it should have been for him as a male and against girls with an average height of 5’4.” This was unfair and unjust. I did not sign up to be in a co-ed league.”

The mental trauma these female athletes are facing is insurmountable. They know they have lost before they even approach the court, pool, or field.

One Young Women for America leader, a current freshman at Georgia Tech, shared her experience as a varsity athlete in tennis.

“In my senior year of high school, I competed against a freshman male athlete who identified as a female. And even though I had gone through years and years of expensive coaching and performance training, I lost. Not because this athlete had trained longer or had a better strategy, but because of inherent biological speed, strength, and stamina. The playing field, or court, in this case, was uneven, and I was the clear loser.”

These girls have been training their entire lives to win, and under this proposed rule, when the day comes, they stand no chance. Winning is no longer an option for female athletes, and they must mentally deal with that trauma and disappointment.

I personally stood outside the Georgia Tech Aquatic center during the 2022 NCAA Division 1 Women’s Swimming and Diving championships. I watched as female athletes walked inside looking completely devastated and dejected. They knew they were walking into defeat and disappointment before they had even begun. Thankfully, on that same day, Concerned Women for America filed a formal complaint with the Department of Education against the University of Pennsylvania. We will not stand by as Title IX is undermined the very year it is supposed to hit a 50-year milestone. We should be celebrating how far women have come instead of stripping them of titles and accomplishments.

Do not forget this is also larger than sports competitions. Sports have opened the door for women beyond the playing field, including education and financial opportunities.

Devastatingly, girls are also being subjected by force to what can only be called sexual harassment. If there was a man who continued to reveal his genitals to a woman under any other circumstance, the police would be called. Young female athletes are being forced to

change and shower in locker rooms with males, and when they feel justifiably uncomfortable, they are being told to suck it up and deal with it.

We are living in a country where teenage girls are fearful to call boys boys. They are being bullied by coaches, school administrations, and government officials so that they feel silenced as they watch boys take their spots, their trophies, their scholastic opportunities, and financial assistance.

Young Women for America leaders are not advocating that anyone be barred from competing or playing a sport that brings them joy. However, we are saying that it will absolutely not be at the cost of women.

The disparate impact this has on women is undeniable.

You can make every claim you want to try to justify this travesty, but you cannot get away from this fact – males are displacing females.

It is reprehensible to sacrifice women on the altar of politically correct shenanigans which fly in the face of biological truth and reality. This proposed rule does exactly that, and we ask you to remember all those women who came before us and fought for Title IX 50 years ago.