

**From:** Cate  
**Sent:** Fri, 11 Jun 2021 14:51:13 +0000  
**To:** T9PublicHearing  
**Subject:** Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing

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I am writing in opposition to the proposed changes in Title IX policies that would elevate self-professed gender identity over sex-based legal protections, therefore giving natal males access to female only spaces (restrooms/changing rooms), or the creation of unisex/shared spaces, upon statement of a "gender identity" differing from one's biological sex. Girls' sports should remain available to biological females only, in the interest of safety and fairness. Males that have gone through male puberty have an unfair advantage over biological females, regardless of testosterone levels. The goal of inclusivity does not justify the means, if in doing so women are denied access to both fair competition and private restrooms and changing areas separate from male bodies. We teach our daughters to trust their instincts if something makes them uncomfortable, because it is a skill women learn as a means of survival, yet here we are teaching them to subvert their very real need for fairness, safety, and dignity for the feelings of others.

In many faith traditions, it is not acceptable for females to share private spaces with male-bodied people outside of their families. It is a violation of their freedom to exercise their religion without government interference. See the Canadian case of Jessica Yaniv as an example of what Muslim women suffered under such rules. As the U.S. grows more ethnically diverse, these kinds of conflicts will only become more frequent, and result in more polarization as ethnic and religious groups find their beliefs and traditions undermined in favor of gender identity. The paucity of examples showing concern about the inclusion of transmen in male sports, or in male restrooms/changing rooms, speaks

volumes on the undeniable need to uphold same-sex protections as they are observed in Title IX. Men have nothing to fear from women entering their private spaces, nothing to lose from women competing in male sports. That only women need special protection is the reason Title IX exists.

I strongly urge the Department of Education to respect the rights of girls/women to fair sporting, and private spaces for females.

Thank you.

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