

**From:** Xact Xact  
**Sent:** Fri, 11 Jun 2021 12:08:06 -0500  
**To:** T9PublicHearing  
**Subject:** Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing About Discrimination on the Basis of Sex

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To Whom It May Concern,

I urgently plead that you protect and uphold the single sex classifications created under Title IX and recognize it as a distinct characteristic from gender identity.

As a female, I owe my entire livelihood to the opportunities created for me under Title IX. As someone that came from poverty and a struggling single mother household, sports became my outlet for dealing with stress, finding companionship, building trust and learning teamwork in a world that seemed to lack so much of it in my surroundings. Before running track, I dealt with so much depression and insecurity and even suicidal thoughts, especially as a girl that developed early and had the burden of sexual harassment by boys that made me hate myself and my body. When I joined the track team, I started to slowly build up my confidence in myself and the power of my body and loving it for what it could accomplish with the time and work invested. The sense of accomplishment and strength this gives a girl can't be stressed enough. Having a space for biological girls only was very important to me, as we had a specific shared lived experience that allowed us to be each other's safe space where we could feel comfortable.

Not just the power of the competition itself, but the impact it had on my education was vital and indispensable. I was awarded a scholarship, something only 2 of my teammates received, which gave me access to put myself through college. I'm now training to become a business analyst for an IT firm. To think that a biological male could have competed with me, won my awards and my scholarship would have deprived me, a biological woman, of the things that changed the entire trajectory of my life, and perhaps for generations to come (when I eventually have children myself). I also think anytime a girl is deprived of an achievement, the world of female empowerment gets a little bit smaller.

I have raced with biological males, and the physical advantages are clear. It's like giving someone a head start. It's an unfair advantage. That is why Title IX was created in the first place, with the knowledge that biological men and women are distinctly different in terms of sports. According to stats, before Title IX, only 1 in 24 girls played sports. After Title IX, now 2 in 5 girls play sports. This biologically based legislation created to combat discrimination and inequality between the sexes opened up a whole world for women like me.

I hope that you will protect the original sex classifications and make distinctions between sex and gender identity so that every single girl can get every single opportunity possible. Biological girls are at a disadvantage and need all the opportunities they can get, and they deserve them. We need this. They need this. Empowered women and girls are the foundation to any great and equitable society.

Sincerely,

J. Cohen

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