

**From:** Julie  
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My name is Julie DeLisle, (b)(6)

**I am writing in opposition to including "gender identity" in Title IX.** Human beings have bodies, like other animals, and those bodies fit into a binary 99.8% of the time. A gender identity is akin to a nationality or religion, which may be of importance to some people, and not to others, it makes no sense to organize sports to align with it--we use our bodies to play sports, not our feelings. Science, common sense, and the whole of recorded history informs us of the fairness of single sex sporting categories.

**This change would greatly affect women and girls, reversing all the benefits of Title IX.** If female bodies could compete and win against male bodies then there would have been no need for Title IX. It has provided an invaluable service, to give women and girls the chance to participate in sports with all the accompanying benefits of being on a team--camaraderie, achievement, physical well-being, etc. I know this personally--I was on my high school's first girls' soccer team. Allowing boys to self-identify as girls means every one of them robs girls of spots on the bench. Over the past few years two such students in Connecticut broke 15 state records in high school track which had been held by nine different girls. They took numerous state titles, moving every female competitor back a few spaces, and off of podiums. The unfairness of this should not be replicated.

Surgeons can make cosmetic changes to bodies, but they don't reduce male bone size, muscle mass, lung capacity, or the ability of blood to carry more oxygen. There are differences between men and women, and our laws must recognize this. Please don't throw 50 years of progress for women and girls into the trash.