

From: N Corp
Sent: Fri, 11 Jun 2021 10:47:09 -0500
To: T9PublicHearing
Subject: Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing about discrimination on the basis of sex

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

The Department of Education,

I ask that you continue to uphold the incredibly significant Title IX of 1972 and the specific references to sex. Do not allow the conflation of sex with gender identity or the repealing of single sex accommodations.

Title IX was created with the understanding that women require their own sex based accommodations to have fair and equal access in society, It was fought for by women's rights activists with the understanding that co-ed sports are men's sports. These feminists were speaking about sex, not gender identity. This is a fact.

As a victim of misogyny and male violence, I've come to intimately understand the very specific nature of sex based violence and oppression and the absolute necessity of female only spaces.

Had I been denied the right to single sex accommodations like locker rooms, shelters, bathrooms or sex specific caregivers and nurses, I would not be living today. These sex based resources are essential for women to live and survive in a world where women are victims of the male sex at epidemic rates. The violence women face by the male sex is the longest running oppression known to human kind. That history and oppression is sex based. The disadvantages that come along with being female are rooted in sex. Gender is largely understood to be a social construct, but it too is inextricably connected to (and based around) sex.

Sex is an extremely essential category. It is the root identity in every society. To conflate gender identity and sex in legislation, particularly legislation created to protect the female sex, is extremely dangerous, as well as reductive. Sex is important to those who suffer the most from it: women. You cannot overlook and dismiss the voices of women and girls who are the most impacted by this re-interpreting of legislation that was supposed to be intended to create fairness on behalf of them.

Conflating sex and gender identity or disallowing sex based accommodations disproportionately negatively effects women and girls. This is a hard fact. Women and girls, who are already at a disadvantage, will suffer. Whether it be less scholarships, sports achievements, or just basic rights to dignity and privacy from males, women and girls will suffer.

I hope you will take a stand, as feminists did in 1972 when they fought for Title IX, and decide women's and girl's sex based accommodations are extremely essential for sex equality and should not be repealed or taken away from them.

Thank you,

K. Cohen

(b)(6)