

From: Laura Daugherty
Sent: Fri, 11 Jun 2021 19:52:32 +0000 (UTC)
To: T9PublicHearing
Subject: Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing

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To Whom It May Concern,

I'm a parent of a high school student in (b)(6). While there have been significant positive changes in our national educational system, there needs to be a bolstering of protections for vulnerable populations. This must include a clear message: Abuse of and discrimination against women, girls and LGBTQ+ people, particularly in special education, will have consequences. We have sent this message to powerful and wealthy individuals in society, but it seems that "me, too" has passed our kids by. I have heard of male students watching porn in class with little to no consequence. Of trans students being dead-named and being punished for reacting negatively. Of young women being physically threatened by young men only to have to deal with that same individual day in and day out.

We still see a "boys will be boys" mentality in our many of our schools. Often children and youth in special education have a particularly difficult time navigating the social environment. I see a double standard occurring where girls and young women in special education are ordered to tolerate unacceptable behavior from boys and young men. The girls learn they don't matter, and the boys learn that their behavior has no consequence. Why does this still happen in 2021? Some educators see their primary mission as getting kids through with a diploma. Placements are inappropriate with children with ASD and/or ED lumped together with students that are disciplinary problems. This is especially prevalent in high school populations.

Please take a look at especially protecting our students with intersecting differences: Twice-exceptionalism, BIPOC, trans and gender non-conforming, mental illness, etc.

I'm sorry to not be more specific in my comments. I just saw this comment opportunity, and needed to respond quickly. Thank you for your time.

Laura Daugherty (she/her/hers)

(b)(6)

"There is no thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives."-- Audre Lorde