

From: Michelle Krueger
Sent: Sat, 29 May 2021 19:43:18 -0500
To: T9PublicHearing
Subject: Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing: Maintain Scientific Definition of Sex

Hello,

I want to write to make expressly clear that the definition of biological sex should be based on science, not religion, not ideology. There are two sexes, female and male. In sports, women and girls, as a sex class, are physically disadvantaged against men and boys, as a sex (not gender) class.

Sex, as defined by Merriam Webster, is:

1a: either of the two major forms of individuals that occur in many species and that are distinguished respectively as female or male especially on the basis of their reproductive organs and structures **b:** the sum of the structural, functional, and sometimes behavioral characteristics of organisms that distinguish males and females **c:** the state of being male or female **d:** males or females considered as a group

Unlike sex, gender and/or gender identity is not an observable material condition that impacts the physical advantages or disadvantages of sports. Like religion or creed, I do not think anyone should be discriminated against based on their gender identity, however, having a gender identity of woman/girl while still being a male should not qualify a person to play sports on a woman or girls' team.

For example, trans people, like the rest of us, should play on sports teams based on their sex, not gender identity. While boys and men are not disadvantaged if a transman or transboy plays on their team, girls and women are most certainly disadvantaged if any male, regardless of gender identity (such as transwomen or transgirls or non-binary), plays on theirs.

Keeping sports segregated by sex ensures women and girls play sports and have opportunities on an equal playing field, based on their material bodies, not their gender identities. This is the intent behind Title IX and I hope it remains so.

Thank you,

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Michelle Krueger

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