

From: Merritt Linden
Sent: Fri, 11 Jun 2021 14:47:14 -0700
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 am writing to urge you to preserve Title IX's sex-based protections for female people. Please do not allow 'gender identity' to override biological sex in sex-specific sports, locker rooms, bathrooms, and housing. All female people have the right to privacy and protection.

Allowing 'gender identity' to replace biological sex in Title IX will effectively undo the original intent of Title IX and will harm young female people who want to play sports, will harm young female people who need privacy when dealing with their menstrual cycle in schools, and will ultimately also harm young female people who do not conform to sex role stereotypes because when 'gender identity' stereotypes replace biological sex as a meaningful cultural signifier young females who do not conform to gendered norms are told to get out of the spaces specifically designed for us. Please do not put young females in the position of having to identify into femininity in order to use facilities and programs designed for women and girls. Gender non-conforming females should not be forced to identify with masculinity or femininity, we should have the right to the same protection afforded to all female people on the basis on our sex. Changing sex to 'gender identity' will result in young females be questioned about their gender presentation (or lack thereof). Vulnerability to male predation is based on sex, not on gender presentation. A female is just as vulnerable whether or not she conforms to sex role stereotypes. A male is just as likely to be dangerous to females regardless of his/her own gender expression. As a gender-nonconforming lesbian, as a female who benefitted from Title IX, I beg you to preserve single-sex protections in Title IX and resist the misguided push to redefine sex in terms of 'gender identity.'

Thank-you,
Merritt Linden