Dear Acting Director Goldberg,

I am writing to you regarding the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announcement of a virtual public hearing. The purpose of the hearing is to gather information regarding improving enforcement of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX).

At issue is a directive allowing men/boys to compete in women's/girls' sports events.

There is no scientific support for the confusion of the two sexes, male and female, of our species (Homo Sapiens). There is also no consensus or even any serious position that females and males, in general and by nature, have the same innate physical abilities. Their different attributes of strength, size, etc. make it inappropriate for instance for males to compete with females in feats of strength and endurance. While certain females can clearly compete and win against certain males, we can easily observe that generally allowing males to compete against females will result in the females losing.

Even top female Olympic athletes cannot compete against today's biological male high school athletes! The fastest woman of all time, Florence Griffith Joyner, still holds Olympic records she set over 30 years ago. Even the most accomplished female runners have been unable to dethrone her. But almost a hundred high school boys beat Flo-Jo's records in 2019. How many girls are going to look at that situation and simply hang up their cleats? The answer is, almost certainly, a great many.

Another example: When Venus and Serena Williams claimed they could beat any male tennis player ranked outside of the top 200, a male tennis player ranked 203rd took them up on their challenge. It did not go as the Williams' had anticipated. He beat both Williams sisters decisively, 6-1 over Serena and 6-2 over Venus. "I didn't know it would be that difficult," said Serena afterwards. "I played shots that would have been winners on the women's circuit, and he got to them very easily."

What about girls who are playing their hearts out but losing scouting opportunities and college scholarships, such as we have seen happen in Connecticut? What about girls who are excited about competing but take one look at their odds and don't even bother to try out for the team? The eventual inevitable result is "girls" sports leagues composed entirely of biological males, with the girls left to watch from the grandstands and never explore or enjoy or wow us with their gifts and drive to stretch their own limits of performance.

This denying of female athletes their chance to compete and excel is wrong on any level, but beyond the moral injustice of the situation, we must acknowledge that political positions and actions by the federal government have no place in this discussion. Education is not an
enumerated power of the federal government and thus such policies, good or bad, are to be left up to the States and the People (local governments, in this case).

I hope you keep these thoughts and suggestions at the forefront of your mind and allow them to guide your actions as you review Title IX.

Thank you!
Mr. Neville Newman

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