

**From:** John Edmonds  
**Sent:** Fri, 11 Jun 2021 10:46:13 -0400  
**To:** T9PublicHearing  
**Subject:** Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing

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June 11, 2021

Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona

Ms. Suzanne Goldberg

U.S. Department of Education

Submitted to: [T9PublicHearing@ed.gov](mailto:T9PublicHearing@ed.gov)

RE: Notice for Public Hearing; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Invitation for Written Comments

Federal Registry No: 2021-10629

Dear Secretary Cardona and Ms. Goldberg:

I am pleased to submit these public comments on behalf of Veritas Baptist College (Veritas) regarding the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights "Announcement of Public Hearing; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972."

Veritas is an online Bible college that trains Christians for ministry, believing that Christians are to speak and live the absolute truth of God's Word in love. Veritas and other Christian institutions of education have helped many people, often the underprivileged, to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as they have contributed positively to their families and communities. The religious freedom guaranteed under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is important to us as we seek to continue to make a positive difference, helping people not only in our institutions but also those who are around us.

Depending on our natural rights and the protections of the First Amendment, we assert that President Biden's executive orders on "Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual

Orientation” (EO 13988) and “Guaranteeing an Educational Environment Free from Discrimination on the Basis of Sex, Including Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity” (EO 14021) threaten the ability of religious institutions in general to practice our faith without government interference. Freedom of religion, the ability to live according to the dictates of one’s conscience informed by reason and revelation from God, is one of the key concepts in our Constitution. The federal government historically has defended this fundamental right.

The positions regarding sexuality and gender identity that are being taken by the Biden administration are contrary to the perspectives of millions of Americans and are antithetical to the clear teaching of the Bible, the rule of faith and practice for Christianity. Genesis 1:27 states, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” The Bible also states in Genesis 19:4, “And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female.” Furthermore Mark 10:6 reads, “But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female.” I urge the Department of Education to reject the idea that the Court’s decision in *Bostock* has any application to Title IX or can in any way be applied in an educational context.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this essential issue. I ask that the Department of Education support and maintain the religious freedoms of educational institutions and the conscience rights of every American.

Sincerely,

John Edmonds, President  
**Veritas Baptist College**  
[johnedmonds@vbc.edu](mailto:johnedmonds@vbc.edu)