

From: Gary & Wendy
Sent: Thu, 10 Jun 2021 03:19:47 +0000 (UTC)
To: T9PublicHearing
Subject: Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing

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As an educator, I have several concerns about the Biden administration's proposal to expand the definition of the word "sex" in Title IX to include "sexual orientation and gender identity". Childhood is a developing state. We must be careful not to define children, and even young adults, as anything more than what their biology encompasses. Doing such can and will alter the course of lives at a time when understanding of self is limited, and at times, even faulty. Bringing in questions of orientation is, at best, a confusion of what should be simple. At worst, it is asking a question that no one should answer, except the child themselves, when they are an adult and fully able to rationally decide for themselves who they chose to be. This should only be decided after they have had the freedom to express themselves during the years of personal development that is childhood.

I am also very concerned that girls are losing their right to a fair playing field in sports because they are being forced to compete against biological male athletes. If we believe in equal opportunities for women, that must include sports. Biological male athletes have physical performance advantages that propel them to outperform women athletes. The world's best female Olympic athletes would lose in competition to thousands of boys and men. These biological differences are why sports are separated by sex in the first place. Forcing girls to compete against boys removes equal opportunities, crushes female-made records, and takes away countless chances at scholarships and awards. We're seeing this unfair reality become increasingly prevalent throughout the nation.

My third concern is the effect this proposed change would have on religious schools. It would open the door to an attack on First Amendment rights that currently protect those schools - public and private - which adhere to Biblical teaching on gender and sexuality.

This legislation, designed to help treat everyone fairly, ends up harming children by placing definitions on them that they are not ready to wear. Also, let's keep a level playing field for all by ensuring girls are not forced to compete against biological boys.

Sincerely,
Wendy H.

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