

February 23, 2021

Partners for Ethical Care is non-partisan and international. We are against damaging vulnerable children's bodies with cosmetic medical interventions based solely on a child's confusion about sex roles and stereotypes.

We are writing in response to your call for submissions to your thematic report: "Gender, sexual orientation and gender identity."

First, we would like to challenge assumptions in the call for submission; the first and most concerning, that gender should replace sex as a protected category.

The "gender framework" that is presented in the request for submissions radically alters the understood definition of gender as being a substitute for sex.

The UN has explicitly outlined rights and protections based on gender with the understanding that a woman is a biological female and a man is a biological male.

The gender framework which is presented by the Independent Expert is based on what is essentially a religious belief based on the idea that one's spirit being or "identity," which is never defined and which is not measurable or verifiable, can be different from an individual's biology.

In the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, New York, 18 December 1979, the UN correctly notes that women are females and that because of being biologically female, women face challenges in accessing food, heath care, education and employment opportunities.

Women's access to all of these and more is now threatened as a result of the acceptance of what you are calling a "gender framework" which is in essence, a belief system that accepts that a man can become a woman simply by claiming to be one.

This belief system is systematically erasing girl's and women's rights and protections that are explicitly granted by the UN to biological females.

Another assumption made in your call for submission is that LGB rights and protections should extend to those who identify as transgender and queer.

Since anyone can lay claim to any identity, allowing anyone to identify into categories such as gay and lesbian erases any rights and protections designed explicitly for those who are same-sex attracted.

The goal of your request for submissions is an attempt to bolster your belief system - a belief system that is inherently harmful to the rights and protections of girls, women, and the LGB community.

A fundamental principle of the United Nations Charter adopted by world leaders in 1945 is "equal rights of men and women", and protecting and promoting women's human rights is the responsibility of all States. As stated on the United Nations website, this principle is based on the following observations::

- Laws and policies in many countries prohibit women from equal access to land, property, and housing;
- Economic and social discrimination results in fewer and poorer life choices for women, rendering them vulnerable to trafficking;
- Gender-based violence affects at least 30% of women globally;
- Women are denied their sexual and reproductive health rights;
- Female human rights defenders are ostracized by their communities and seen as a threat to religion, honor or culture
- Women's crucial role in peace and security is often overlooked, as are the particular risks they face in conflict situations" 1

These challenges are faced by women based on their biology, not their identity. It is important to note that these protections are necessary because girls and women can not identify out of their oppression.

In the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, the UN explicitly recognizes that women are far more likely to suffer violence. This Declaration states that the cause of the violence is because of unequal power relations between men and women. Again, this is due to biology, not women's identity. ²

Because of the threat men pose to women, allowing men to identify as women and gain access to spaces where girls and women are vulnerable is a direct violation of these UN mandates.

Please see responses to each of the questions in your call for submissions below:

- We reject the idea that the gender framework you are advocating advances protections for girls, women, and those in the LGB community. In fact, evidence shows that the opposite is true.
 Girls and women are vulnerable when men are allowed to violate sex-segregated spaces such as bathrooms, homeless shelters, prisons, and bathrooms.
 - Lesbians are at an increased risk of violence if men who claim to identify as lesbians are allowed to impersonate women in lesbian spaces and dating apps.
- 2. Using a gender framework for protecting human rights is based on a belief system, one which forces individuals to accept someone's identity rather and ignore basic biology. When identity becomes the basis for protections, anyone can opt in to protections, thus eliminating the intent of the protections.
- 3. Intersectionality, gender theory, and queer theory are akin to religious beliefs. Based on Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, freedom of thought, belief and conscience is protected. The gender framework you are advocating undermines this important protection for those who don't accept the belief systems that underpin your gender framework.³
- 4. Incorporating gender identity into sexuality education is pushing a religious belief rather than information that children need to make healthy choices about engaging in sexual activity. This kind of educational indoctrination into a belief system is a direct violation of Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- 5. A policy that suggests that religions, traditions, values, or belief systems are promoting violence and discrimination if they do not advance your gender framework infringes on religious rights as well as personal rights of others.
- 6. The gender framework you are proposing does not protect girls, women or the LGB community from violence and discrimination. In fact, it does just the opposite. A gay man could be accused of discrimination for not accepting a biological woman as a suitable sexual partner. A lesbian could be accused of discrimination for not wanting to date a biological male who claims to be a lesbian. Girls and women are at risk from men as outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women.

 In addition, violence against women is overwhelmingly perpetrated by men, biological males. How they identify does not change the fact that biological males

present risks to girls and women. In fact, in the US, the overwhelming majority of murders 89.5% are committed by males. 4

- 7. There are numerous examples of how girls and women have suffered violence as a result of men who claim to identify as women. See sources cited below. In addition, your gender framework is actually regressive in that it creates categories based on antiquated, harmful stereotypes rather than biology.
- 8. Gender identity is as much of a religious and personal belief as any other belief system that is not empirically based. Allowing men to identify into the category of "woman" actually undermines the ability of girls, women, and the LGB community to enjoy their human rights because they lose all sex-based or sexual orientationbased rights and protections.
- Those who are insisting that biology matters are not "regressing" the rights of girls, women, and the LGB community; rather they are upholding the rights and protections of girls, women and the LGB community based on sex and sexual orientation.
- 10. Partners for Ethical Care has joined forces with other individuals and groups worldwide to fight for sex-based rights and protections for girls, women and the LGB community.
- 11. We insist on respecting the category of girls and women as being female, of lesbian as a female who is attracted to other females, and of gay as a male attracted to other males. These categories must be upheld and respected if the rights and protections of girls, women and the LGB community are to be maintained. Though there is a persistent myth that men who claim to believe they feel like women are at an increased risk for murder, the data shows that it is women, biological females who are at a far greater risk of murder.⁵

The Partners for Ethical Care rejects the underlying assumption that your gender framework will increase the protections and rights of girls, women, and the LGB community. We assert that your gender framework is a religion and not empirically grounded.

We are dismayed at the push to include puberty-blockers, wrong-sex hormones, and cosmetic surgeries to be accepted as medically necessary when it is well documented

that these interventions don't result in improved mental health outcomes. In addition, providing these expensive, harmful and experimental interventions diverts limited resources from those who are struggling to survive. ⁶

We demand that you follow UN mandates to protect women and children and the LGB community.

Thank you,

Alix Aharon Maria Keffler Martha Shoultz Jennifer Krohn Erin Brewer Jeannette Cooper Sheri Throckmorton

- 1. https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/ViolenceAgainstWomen.aspx
- 2. https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/ViolenceAgainstWomen.aspx



- 3. https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/WRGS/Pages/WRGSIndex.aspx
- 4. https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/htus8008.pdf5
- 5. https://4w.pub/the-epidemic-of-transgender-murder-victims-is-really-an-epidemic-of-misinformation/
- 6. Cecilia Dhejne, et al., "Long-Term Follow-Up of Transsexual Persons," supra n. 13., Mark Regnerus, "New Data Show "Gender-Affirming" Surgery Doesn't Really Improve Mental Health. So Why Are the Study's Authors Saying It Does?" Public Discourse (November 13, 2019)

https://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2019/11/58371/.

Rikke K. Simonsen, et al., "Long-Term Follow-Up of Individuals Undergoing Sex-Reassignment Surgery: Somatic Morbidity and Cause of Death" Sexual Medicine 4(1) (March, 2016), https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4822482/, Richard Bränströmand John E.Pachankis, "Reduction in mental health treatment utilization among trans- gender individuals after gender-affirming surgeries, a total population study," American Journal of Psychiatry (Oct. 4, 2019), https://gip.psychiatry.opline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.gip.2019.10010080

https://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.ajp.2019.19010080,

Ryan T. Anderson, "Transitioning procedures don't help mental health, largest dataset shows", The Daily Signal (August 3, 2020)

https://www.dailysignal.com/2020/08/03/transitioning-procedures-dont-help-mental-health-largest-data- set-shows/;

R. Bränström, J.E. Pachankis "Correction to Bränström and Pachankis, Reduction in Mental Health Treatment Utilization After Gender-Affirming Surgeries" Journal of American Psychiatry (August 1, 2020)

https://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.ajp.2020.1778 correction. Sven Roman, "Utredare forvanskar om konsdysfori" Svenska Dagbladet (Oct. 22, 2019), https://www.svd.se/utredare-forvanskar-om-konsdysfori.

J. Michael Bailey & Ray Blanchard, "Suicide or Transition: The Only Options for Gender Dysphoric Kids?" 4th Wave Now (September 8, 2017), https://4thwavenow.com/2017/09/08/suicide-or-transi- tion-the-only-options-forgender-dysphoric-kids/.

Examples of those who identify as transgender committing violence against others

Texas woman punched, squeezed 1-year-old girl to death out of frustration, affidavit says



https://www.10tv.com/article/news/nation-world/texas-woman-punched-squeezed-1-year-old-girl-death-out-frustration-affidavit-says-2020-feb/530-5cf316e8-fe17-462f-b301-53da53099eb7

Transgender woman arrested accused of sexually assaulting teen in Walmart bathroom: https://www.kxii.com/content/news/Transgender-woman-allegedly-sexually-assaults-teen-in-walmart-

505820451.html?fbclid=IwAR3zKojfquGoCTS4ymibtHmKByu5oZ5W0aymMU7H5pLOV7pj2YAJZRaONoY

Dundee teen had explicit video of toddler and notes about 'baby torture' and 'toddler murder' on her phone: https://www.eveningtelegraph.co.uk/fp/denen-anderson-dundee-court/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social
https://transcrimeuk.com/2021/01/20/denen-anderson/?fbclid=lwAR2e5BHz47O-4ZukAj_8tYdxZb9tf R5W4CD1-4yJ4 zVWUeC5wNthspQog

Transgender Activist Ordered To Stand Trial For Oakland Triple Murder: https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2018/03/07/transgender-activist-trial-oakland-triple-murder/?fbclid=lwAR28VpGaZuVJMi_s54oWGa_rnXGPTm6G9Xvw9m_-knGw_xy-TFTHMV0Auy4

Houston Public Library admits registered child sex offender read to kids in Drag Queen Storytime: https://www.khou.com/article/news/local/houston-public-library-admits-registered-child-sex-offender-participated-in-drag-queen-storytime/285-becf3a0d-56c5-4f3c-96df-

<u>add07bbd002a?fbclid=lwAR0EfSmRKsPLlpx7evGZVSuSTrvMBXe21bRU8TIG6G8emhj-GmGbS6vcGgk</u>

Transgender Felon Who Killed Male Cellmate With Bare Hands Now Accused of Raping Female Inmate Continue reading Transgender Felon Who Killed Male Cellmate With Bare Hands Now Accused of Raping Female Inmate:

https://www.womenarehuman.com/transgender-felon-who-killed-male-cellmate-with-bare-hands-now-accused-of-raping-female-inmate-janiah-monroe-ne-andre-patterson/?fbclid=lwAR02u_NwYNnGYDFPJ-Mv2bxUI6-Nn2jEyZMyFClc-Rylbzz2NdC1Z37SvHchttps://www.womenarehuman.com/transgender-felon-who-killed-male-cellmate-with-bare-hands-now-accused-of-raping-female-inmate-janiah-monroe-ne-andre-patterson/?fbclid=lwAR02u_NwYNnGYDFPJ-Mv2bxUI6-Nn2jEyZMyFClc-Rylbzz2NdC1Z37SvHc



Trans woman jailed for 15 years for rape that still gives victim nightmares: https://metro.co.uk/2021/01/18/trans-woman-jailed-for-15-years-for-raping-another-woman-

<u>13921362/?ito=facebook%7Csocial%7Cmetroukfacebook&fbclid=lwAR36nh9UYuL2a</u>8nblhOvYePM KHq0j9 Ov2kLQLO0YQ9GCggBgFuLXEsX4?ito=cbshare

Transgender policy studied in Georgia school assault case https://apnews.com/article/4034184d18794baca3796dbf8e9ae49b

Sites with additional information about trans identified male violence

They Say This Never Happens:

https://theysaythisneverhappens.tumblr.com/?fbclid=lwAR1xiupvdNKvNSdlhV_rpx9fmQlP6bjzf8WyljYA9Uom5Dirwil5Mwdl848

Women are Human Crime News:

https://www.womenarehuman.com/category/crime/?fbclid=lwAR13mWRC6fD5WS0mHcihTD7d 5 HawKC6LXFaH2Tkkthj1XmJLT10z5MKmY

Trans Crime UK: https://transcrimeuk.com/

Fair Play for Women: https://fairplayforwomen.com/violence/

Decide For Yourself: Transgender Crimes:

https://youtu.be/XAFcYTwn33A