

Submission to UN SOGI Mandate Holder

Thank you for the opportunity to express my understanding of the issue of adding a SOGI qualification to multiple UN policies and treaties which did not at their conception or at time of signing acknowledge any SOGI ideology

We support the protection of all fundamental human rights of all persons regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity. That is not the issue.

But UN social policies with regard to gender equality were specifically designed to protect sex-based rights, based on the traditional view of sex as a term describing the observed binary biological states of male and female, as is necessary for reproduction. Gender is therefore equated with biological sex.

What sex you imagine or feel that you are (*gender identity*) is a *learned* subjective aspect of human psychology. What sexual orientation a person exhibits is a behavioral preference not limited by biological gender but in reality self-limiting as to one's ability to reproduce biologically. Both sexual preference and gender identity (SOGI) thus belong in the field of psychology, not biology.

UN policy should support the physical safety of all individuals. Yet the unscientific ideology of SOGI puts girls and women at physical risk.

With two sex chromosomes in each of the 30 trillion cells in the human body, the only two choices that have ever been found are X or Y—the X sex chromosome coming from the mother, and either an X sex chromosome or a Y sex chromosome coming from the father. At the moment of conception, 99.98% of all babies are thus sexed either XX or XY, with females having an XX sex chromosome pair in every cell. If the initial cell at fertilization has a XY chromosome pair, the newly formed baby is a male.¹

These are the only two kinds of sex chromosomes we see in human beings.

There are also only two kinds of gonads in humans—testes for males and ovaries for females. Two kind of gonads—two biological sexes.

People become confused if various societal expectations or cultural norms claim that females only like this kind of thing, or only feel like this, or males only do such and such.

¹ The 0.02% --that's 0.0002 or 2 out of 10,000—babies who are born with some variation on the XY or XX sex chromosome pair in every human cell are not "intersex"—there is no "in between" with sex. Genetic or hormonal mistakes at fertilization or in utero development may cause *Disorders of Sex Development* for a tiny minority of babies—genetic errors half as common as spina bifida. But each of these DSD babies is still fully a male or a female, whether an XXY or whatever variation. There is no Q or P or M sex chromosome, etc—there is only X or Y.

These are false statements leading to false conclusions, like the common claim that a person can be “part male and part female,” or that a person may “be in the wrong body.”

The confusion stems from conflating two terms: gender (biological sex as male or female) and *gender expression*. Gender is a biological fact, observed pre-birth on a sonogram or observed and noted at birth.² But *gender expression* can be as varied as human nature.

Some males are quiet, studious, maybe even timid. Others are boisterous or active or recklessly brave. Some are quiet and recklessly brave. There is an infinite range or *spectrum* of behavior, likes, and abilities *within* the category “male”—but all these boys or men have a Y chromosome in each of their cells.

Similarly for females, some are talented athletes while other prefer to sew or paint. Some are bossy and others are followers. Some are clumsy bossy painters. Again, you name a characteristic and you will find that activity or preference across the range or *spectrum* of female characteristics and likes, *within* the biological category called female.

But there is *no spectrum* of gender *between* male and female. This confusion arises only if either sex is denied the free expression of abilities and interests without restrictions from societal expectations.

It is not what you feel or like that determines your gender. Your gender (biological sex) is determined by the sex chromosomes (XX or XY) in every one of your 30 trillion cells.³

But *gender expression* absolutely may depend on what you understand your *culture says* males or females like or do—or are permitted to like or do. This varies in different parts of the world and in different eras. For example, in the 1920s only females in the United States wore earrings, but now some men also wear earrings. *Wearing earrings* does not determine one’s sex or gender—it is related to how gender is *expressed* at various times and in various locales. This is not a biological trait. It is a societal or cultural notion.

Similarly, your *gender identity* may depend on what you have been *taught* that men or women do or do not do. For example, if a girl is taught that females do not like tackle football but she does like tackle football, she may assume she is not truly or fully female, even if she has female physiology. This false premise (that females do not like tackle football) may lead her to think she is in the wrong body—that is, to adopt a transgender ideology. If on the other hand she realizes that liking tackle football is something *some* females do, there is no reason for her to question her gender based on her preference.

But non-rigorous reasoning coupled with a distortion of modern science (which is supposed to be based on observation and replicability) can lead to an ideological acceptance of many genders or transgenderism. The definitions of this ideology are based on subjectivism or feelings, not physiology.

² Sex is not “assigned at birth,” it is determined at conception and observed at birth (or before, by sonogram).

³Except the few enucleated cells in your body like red blood cells.

In order to support true gender equality the UN must adhere to the traditional definition of gender as a biological reality. The implication of this is that biological males, with their longer and heavier bones as well as other skeletal advantages that allow for heavier muscle attachment (and which are not reduced by artificially reducing testosterone count with cross-sex hormones), are at a distinct advantage over females in physical sports—and in almost any situation where a male is pitted against a female physically. This is the reason for limiting girls' sports teams to biological females. It is also the reason for separate bathrooms, for the safety of girls and women.

The job of the UN in supporting gender equality should be to protect all people based on observable biological characteristics that may put them at risk in physical confrontations.

Giving individuals who claim multiple additional categories of gender or transgender status *special rights* over the basic safety rights of biological girls and women is not social justice, it is social injustice.

The insertion of SOGI ideology into UN policy does not promote social justice or gender equality. Rather, it is a step backward, taking away protections that girls and women deserve based on the hard facts of biology.

Submitted by Ellie Klipp
ellie.klipp@yahoo.com
Texas, United States