

American College of Pediatricians The Best for Children

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Banning psychotherapy for non-conforming youth is child abuse

The American College of Pediatricians is increasingly being contacted by mental health professionals, primary care providers, surgeons and even ob/gyns who are horrified by the conditioning of confused children into a life of chemically and surgically impersonating the opposite sex. Facts define reality. Those who wish to ban therapy for these children make a "disease of biological sex and puberty" turn reality on its head:

- 1. Conditioning children into a lifetime of chemical and surgical impersonation of the opposite sex is child abuse. A legal ban on therapy will result in these children being put on puberty blocking drugs. This in turn will virtually ensure that all pre-pubertal children under the care of "gender clinics" will "choose" a lifetime of carcinogenic and otherwise toxic cross-sex hormones, and also consider unnecessary surgical mutilation of healthy body parts as young adults.
- 2. Human sexuality is binary: "XY" and "XX" are genetic markers of health not markers of disease.

The norm for human design is to be conceived either male or female. Human sexuality is binary by design with the obvious purpose being the flourishing of our species. This is self-evident. The exceedingly rare disorders of sexual differentiation (DSDs), including but not limited to testicular feminization and congenital adrenal hyperplasia, are all medically identifiable deviations from the sexual binary norm, and therefore, rightly recognized as disorders of human design.

3. Gender is a sociological and psychological concept; not a biological one. No one is born with an awareness of themselves as male or female; this awareness develops over time, and like all developmental processes, may be derailed. Despite its disappearance from the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, DSM-V, the psychodynamic and social learning theories of Gender Identity Disorder of Childhood have not been disproven.

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- **4. Believing one is something or someone he or she is not, is at best, a sign of confused thinking.** If an otherwise healthy biological boy believes he is a girl, or an otherwise healthy biological girl believes she is a boy, this is an objective psychological problem that lies in the mind not the body, and it should be treated as such.
- 5. Puberty is not a disease. Puberty blocking hormones are not benign; they inhibit growth and fertility. Reversible or not, puberty blocking hormones induce a state of disease the absence of puberty in a previously physically healthy child.
- 6. Cross-sex hormones are associated with dangerous side-effects including but not limited to high blood pressure, blood clots, stroke and cancer.
- 7. According to the latest edition of the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, DSM-V, up to nearly 98% of boys and 88% of girls accept their biological sex after puberty.
- 8. Rates of suicide are twenty times greater among adults who use cross-sex hormones and undergo sex reassignment surgery. What compassionate and thinking person would condemn young children to this fate as adults when up to 88% of girls and nearly 98% of boys will accept reality and achieve a state of mental and physical health if they pass through puberty?

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