

What Proponents of Gender Ideology Say About Gender Critics	What Gender Critics Actually Say
They are hateful.	We are motivated by love.
They want trans kids to be excluded, not accepted, and bullied.	<p>We believe that EVERY child must be accepted, included, respected, and loved.</p> <p>Bullying of any child must never be tolerated.</p> <p>Teaching the tenets of Gender Ideology as if they were facts, forcing students and staff to use the words and meanings of that ideology, & forcing people to forfeit sex-based rights---is not “acceptance.” It’s imposition. The schools are using a false meaning for “accept” with regard to gender identity, in contrast to the valid meaning used for other identities.</p>
They won’t let trans kids use the bathroom.	<p>We defend the rights of students to sex-based privacy in bathrooms and locker rooms. This does not mean that trans-identifying kids are barred from bathrooms and locker rooms. It means that they are not given an exemption from respecting the sex-based privacy rights of other students.</p> <p>Women fought for female-only bathrooms for many reasons, including but not limited to safety. For gender critical discussions of bathroom issues, see <i>Gender Neutral Toilets Don’t Work for Women</i>, https://womansplaceuk.org/2018/09/05/gender-neutral-toilets-dont-work-for-women/, Woman’s Place UK, 9/5/18. See also <i>Flushing Women’s Toilets down the Pan – a Backwards Step</i>, by Katie Barker, 6/18/19.</p>
They won’t let trans kids participate in sports.	<p>Or course, trans-identifying kids can and should participate in sports. Males must participate on male teams, however. Allowing them in female sports destroys the fair playing field women fought hard to create. Males have unfair physical advantage in most sports because of major differences in anatomy, as sports statistics make very clear. While some females are more athletically adept than some males, the top athletic performers in most sports are male. Girls forfeit trophies, records, fairness, and in some sports-safety, when some boys are allowed to violate the rules because of their gender identity beliefs.</p>

	<p>Because they do not create injustice for male athletes, females should be allowed to try out for and participate on male teams.</p> <p>When schools treat binders as a good idea, they actively undercut female participation in sports. By restricting breath, binders make it difficult for girls to engage in physically taxing activities. (Binders are also very harmful to girls in other ways.)</p>
<p>They are uncomfortable with gender non-conformity; they want to limit children's expression.</p>	<p>We oppose sexist stereotypes and do not want to force children to comply with them. Many of us are gender nonconforming ourselves. We believe there should be no limits on how boys, girls, men and women can express themselves. But non-stereotypical expression does not make one the opposite sex.</p>
<p>They don't support authenticity; they don't believe in letting kids be their true selves.</p>	<p>Lying to children about their bodies does not support authenticity. It promotes the opposite. True authenticity includes acknowledging and celebrating one's body. There is nothing authentic or self-accepting about rejecting it.</p>
<p>They deny the existence of trans kids. They want to erase, eradicate, end the existence of trans kids.</p>	<p>We do not deny the existence of any child, including those who are uncomfortable with their sex, and/or who believe themselves to be the other sex or nonbinary. Of course, they exist. They are precious human beings who deserve love. We do not wish to erase, eradicate, or otherwise render them non-existent.</p>
<p>They're responsible for trans kids dying. Trans kids commit suicide if not affirmed.</p>	<p>Systematic reviews of the evidence do not support the claim that trans-identifying kids commit suicide (or consider it) as the result of not being affirmed. Nor do they support other claims about affirmation and improved mental health. There is significant evidence, in fact, that affirmation—and in particular medical affirmation—increases suicidality and reduces mental health. Some sex change medicalization steps, like testosterone injection, may create short-term euphoria, like other drugs do. But that euphoria does not last. Some detransitioners have reported significant mental distress from taking testosterone.</p> <p>It is irresponsible for anyone to talk about suicide in the manner in which gender identity proponents often discuss it.</p>
<p>They don't want schools to be safe and welcoming for trans kids.</p>	<p>We want schools to be safe and welcoming for all children, including those who identify as trans or nonbinary as well as those who believe in biological reality.</p>

<p>They're against science.</p>	<p>Like Richard Dawkins, the signers of the Nettie Project proclamation, and countless other scientists, we oppose the teaching of Gender Identity Ideology, because it is anti-science.</p>
<p>They're bigots.</p>	<p>We are deeply informed and caring people eager to engage in fact-based discussions about science, children's health, and civil rights. We are not bigots.</p> <p>Bigotry is defined as "obstinate or unreasonable attachment to a belief, opinion, or faction, in particular prejudice against a person or people on the basis of their membership in a particular group." This meaning applies perfectly to gender ideologues who pre-judge gender critics, refuse to read our materials, get us canceled, and refuse to engage in fact-based discussions with us.</p>
<p>They're akin to racists.</p>	<p>Defending the free speech and sex-based rights of all children, and enabling them to live free from the imposition of Gender Identity beliefs is not akin to racism. Defending girls and women's sex-based rights is not akin to racism. Striving to protect children from harm is not akin to racism.</p> <p>Many victims of Gender Identity Ideology are black, such as black girls left in the dust by male athletes in female track sports in Connecticut high schools. Many staunch opponents of Gender Identity Ideology are black. For a discussion of these topics, see Part II of the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Transgender Galaxy. Scroll down to the section entitled "Appropriating Black, Brown, and Indigenous Struggles."</p>
<p>They don't understand intersex conditions, that sex is a spectrum, etc.</p>	<p>We do understand these things. Sex is clearly not a spectrum. It is binary. Intersex conditions exist but do not in any way undo that binary. Gender identity proponents have been misled about the definition of sex, the nature/prevalence/ relevance of intersex conditions, and more.</p> <p>Intersex conditions with any degree of sexual ambiguity are extremely rare. None result in a 3rd sex. Their existence does not make it logical to redefine male and female as based on feelings rather than anatomy. The overlap between trans-identifying people and those with intersex conditions is vanishingly small.</p> <p>Many people who have intersex conditions are angry at the appropriation, misrepresentation and</p>

	undercutting of their struggles by people who don't have those conditions, i.e. most trans-identifying people.
They want schools to promote homophobia.	It is Gender Identity Ideology that promotes homophobia and undercuts the rights of LGB people. See Part II of the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Transgender Galaxy. Those signing the Demand for Action include lesbians.
They're too controlling of children; they don't recognize that children know themselves and should lead us all forward.	<p>Children are not miniature adults. They need guidance and protection.</p> <p>Children learn through play and exploration. Adults must protect them as they play and explore, ensuring that they don't hurt themselves or others.</p>