

Gender Critics' Testimony
September 27, 2023
Seattle School Board Meeting

1. Statement of Carol Dansereau

My name is Carol Dansereau, and I am here to deliver a Demand for Action, to stop the promotion of Gender Identity Ideology in Seattle Schools.

Those fighting the imposition of that ideology on children, including those presenting this Demand, come from across the political spectrum. There are plenty of left-wingers like me.

It is not okay to present children with blatantly false information about biology. There is nothing acceptable about telling them that some people are born in the wrong body, sex has nothing to do with anatomy, and men give birth.

It is not okay to promote sexist stereotypes, undercut safeguarding, and encourage children to dissociate from their bodies.

We are outraged that Seattle schools force children to embrace Gender Identity's mystical mantras and absurd new meanings for key words. We are outraged that it forces them to disregard the evidence of their own eyes, engage in compelled speech, and forfeit their rights to sex-based privacy and female-only sports.

We are appalled that via misguided Affirmation Only policies, teachers are locking vulnerable children into dissociation from their bodies, leading skyrocketing numbers to medicalization. Multiple systematic reviews have firmly established that pediatric sex change is not evidence-based. There is no there, there, regarding supposed mental health benefits, but the harm to children is well-established and massive.

Seattle schools are complicit in one of the most horrific medical scandals of all time.

I've prepared packets for each of you that contain the Demand for Action, an Appendix that lays out what's being taught, and an Appendix that provides documentation for everything we say. The promotion of Gender Ideology in Seattle schools...the imposition of this belief system on Seattle's children.... Is hurting enrollment and creates major liability. The School Board needs to act immediately because of these realities, but more importantly, because children deserve better. Gender Ideology is an anti-science, child-harming, civil rights-destroying, homophobia-elevating deception. It is more than time to stop promoting it in our schools.

2. Bruce Lesnick

My name is Bruce Lesnick. I am one of the signers of the Demand for Action to get Gender Identity Ideology Out of Our Schools.

Schools should be teaching science, not religion. The sciences of biology and evolution are as relevant today as they were at the time of the 1925 Scopes “monkey” trial when schools were trying to introduce “creationism” and so-called “intelligent design” into the curriculum. There are only two sexes because there are only two types of gametes and two different body types that produce them.

The curriculum today lies to children, telling them that sex is not binary; that whether you are male or female is based on feelings rather than biology; that a boy who likes stereotypical “girl” things must actually be a girl; that hating your healthy body and attempting to alter it with harmful drugs and surgery is a way of being your true self.

As the governments and medical establishments of Finland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, the UK and others have attested, there is no science and there are no good studies supporting the precepts of gender ideology. And let’s be clear: Dogma without data is religion. No one is born in the wrong body. The board should immediately:

- Eliminate gender religion from the curriculum.
- Stop socially transitioning confused children.
- Drop the pronoun madness.
- Reaffirm your commitment to science, material reality and the teaching of biology and evolution.

I want to also point out that I was a witness to and participant in the [Million March for Children](#) up in Canada where thousands and thousands of people across Canada were marching for the same ideas that I just outlined. And that gives you a sense of where our continent really stands, I think.

3. Theresa Schrempp

My name is Theresa Schrempp. I am a retired attorney in Seattle and have three grandchildren in a Seattle Elementary school. I am also one of the signers of the Demand for Action which I really urge you to read carefully. There’s a lot more information in there than I can cover in two minutes.

I am begging you to stop the propagation of transgender ideology in the Seattle Public Schools.

At a very minimum, the materials taught are a waste of precious classroom time and resources in schools which are already underperforming academically.

More importantly, transgender indoctrination promotes unscientific and damaging information to young people by introducing them to the notion that something is wrong with them that can only be cured by gender reassignment.

Gender reassignment is not a cure for anything. On the contrary, invasive gender change procedures renders an individual infertile and risks lifelong sexual dysfunction. It results in a mutilated body that is neither truly male nor female. And it is irreversible.

There is no objective diagnosis for transgenderism. A diagnosis of transgenderism necessarily relies on self-identification, which is notoriously unreliable among children and adolescents. It can be confused and often is with underlying mental health issues.

We have a long legal tradition in this country of protecting children from activities that can result in harm. We do not allow children to engage in sexual activity with adults. We do not allow them to consume alcohol or cannabis or to marry. Why? Because children simply do not have the good judgment to engage in such life-changing decisions.

Sadly, transgenderism is promoted by some in the medical profession, all for the wrong reasons. Dr. Shane Taylor of Vanderbilt University Medical Center explained that [Ms. Schrempp did not say the rest of her statement because her two minutes was up. It appears here so readers can know what she intended to say) gender reassignment surgeries “are huge moneymakers” which could support an entire clinic. “Routine hormone treatment” she noted, can bring in thousands of dollars.

Washington state law, unfortunately, now allows unfettered access for children to obtain so-called gender-affirming chemical and surgical treatment without parental knowledge or consent.

It is unconscionable for schools to promote an ideology that encourages procedures which mutilates the child in the most extreme fashion imaginable. Please end this abomination in our public schools.

4. Beth Daranciang

Hello. My name is Beth Daranciang. I served four years on PTA and PTO Boards at Ingraham High School and Nathan Hale High School.

Chloe Cole, Layla Jane, and Luka Hein were all teenage girls struggling with serious mental health issues and were convinced by professionals that transitioning would solve their mental health problems. They were given puberty blockers, testosterone, and double mastectomies, but then realized that they had been led down a path that they deeply regret. They are left with lifelong harms and medical complications and are now suing the doctors and other professionals who deceived them with false promises.

Socially affirming children is a significant psychological intervention with the potential for lifelong results that many adults will regret bitterly.

Teachers and school administrators are not equipped to make consequential mental health diagnoses, but many are doing so through curriculum and practices promoted by the Seattle School District. One school district (Spreckels Union SD) recently settled with a mother after transitioning her daughter while keeping it secret. They had to pay her for harm they had done to the daughter. Don't put the school district at more liability by continuing these damaging policies.

No child is born in the wrong body. No child can consent to puberty blockers. Please protect kids.

For more information, check out Parents w/ Inconvenient Truth About Trans, genspect.org, and Abigail Shrier's book "Irreversible Damage: the Transgender Craze Seducing Our Daughters."

And as a final note, the suicide statistics that are often represented come from a deeply flawed study that has no basis in truth. There's no evidence to show that suicide decreases after transition. Actually the opposite is true. In Sweden, a very liberal country, they found that people who transition are 19 times more likely to commit suicide.

5. Jennifer, by phone

Hello. My name is Jennifer. I'm speaking today on behalf of parents who oppose gender belief systems being taught in schools. I'm in multiple support groups with 1000s of parents who are concerned about schools indoctrinating children with the confusing belief that they are born with an intangible internal essence called a "gender identity." Parents are witnessing children who were once stable and secure becoming confused and insecure when school personnel introduce the idea into their child's minds that they are "born in the wrong body."

Many parents in the Seattle Public School system are afraid to speak at this School Board meeting, publicly against this for fear of being alienated from their children. Why? Because schools are teaching children that anyone who questions opposite-sex declarations are automatically hateful, also because school personnel may call CPS and accuse them of abuse. In fact, these things have happened to many parents merely because they reject the dissociative belief that their child has a gendered soul.

The "gender identity" narrative is a belief system with no scientific proof. Belief systems should not be taught as fact in public schools. All other belief systems such as Christianity or astrology are left out of the public school system. From the Washington Office of Superintendent Public Instruction, I quote, "Teaching about religion must be clearly distinguished from teaching religion, which amounts to religious indoctrination and practice and is clearly prohibited in public schools. A program intended to teach religion, disguised as teaching about religion, will be found unconstitutional." End quote.

School-wide policies are in place that allow teachers and other personnel to hide from parents what's happening with their own child at school, to hide that the school is performing a powerful psychosocial treatment on their child without their consent or knowledge. When school's secretly baptize children with a new identity and pronouns and present themselves to the child as the child's "true ally" in opposition to their own parents, this directly functions to drive a wedge between parent and child. Further, it puts their child on a harmful and irreversible medical path in which the parents had no knowledge or input.

I now know many parents who have removed their confused children from school districts who affirm the delusion that their child was born in the wrong body and these children desist, become

comfortable and rooted in their healthy bodies. This alone should be a clue that Seattle Public Schools should not be teaching this potentially harmful belief system to their students.

Thank you.