

My name is Dawn. I am transgender. I live most of my life as a male. Occasionally I live as a in the persona of a female. If I had my preference it would be full time as a female. I can not remember a time that I did not feel this was so. Even now as I approach 60.

I also, as a teen was an athlete. A runner in track and cross country, I was ok, but not great. I ran with the girls as well as the boys during our work outs. I wish it wasn't true, but the girls had nothing for us guys. We would even run backwards so we could talk to them and they could keep up. When we turned around, we left them behind, a lot. The girls were good runners compared to other girls, but not to boys.

I had those feeling in which I referred to earlier even then. If I were to have had the opportunity to change back then like some do now, I might have. If given the chance to compete against those girls, would I? I would like to think, NO. Why? Because I know what's right and wrong. My muscle density was greater, my heart was much larger, and my lungs were much larger than theirs. No hormone was going to change that. Muscle density slightly. But the others were already built that size. And, It would just not have been fair to those girls who worked so hard side by side with us. With the same dreams of winning their race as we did. I can remember cheering them on as they raced. Seeing them putting everything they had into their effort. To run in their race with the ability to out due their abilities with ease would have broken my heart. I just could not do that to them.

Some don't have that sense of conscience and would compete with those ladies and destroy their dreams and not have a second thought of what they have taken from them. That is what laws are for, to protect those from the others that would exploit an advantage.

I have read, and I can't find the reference, that a ten year old male has a heart that is 25% larger than a ten year old female. And the lungs can be as much as 50% larger. The heart and lungs are the power plant of performance. That is before puberty. Which there has been claims that it's only about hormone levels. This would suggest a genetic answer.

Being transgender means giving some things up. Giving up a normal life. Sometimes giving up family. Giving up a career. Giving up safety. Giving up friends that don't understand. Maybe even giving up the ability to have children. I don't think it's to much, if following your true feeling means that much, to give up an athletic pursuit. Those who would selfishly force someone else to give up their pursuit because they cannot compete with your advantage, have no conscience, no moral compass and should not be allowed to use the law to do so.

In conclusion it is my firm belief that we have women sports to give women a level competitive field. To take that away would be using the law to commit an egregious injustice.

Thank you for hearing me. Dawn H.