



Kansas Chapter Gays Against Groomers

To those on the Health and Human Services Committee and others,

My name is Elaine, and I am the Kansas Chapter Leader for Gays Against Groomers. We are an organization of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans adults that all oppose the indoctrinating, sexualizing, and medicalizing of children under our community's name.

While we understand that our organization's name may seem to be an offensive phrase to some, our accumulation of peer-reviewed and internationally replicated research has supported that doing the medical procedures, that this legislation is in favor of preventing, is harmful to children. That is why our organization is supporting House Bills 2791.

Children are irreversibly affected by medications that interfere with the natural introduction of puberty in so many ways, whether it is their bone growth, fertility, and the effect it has on atrophying primary sex organs of these children. We have many medical studies that prove the harm is being done. There is even research that proves introducing these hormones into children, in levels their body does not naturally produce, negatively affects their cardiovascular systems.

While we falsely hear repeatedly that children are not receiving surgery to cut off healthy organs, it is shocking how many people think it is "hate" to have legislation that stops it. We ask, "If it is supposedly not happening, what harm is there in preventing *children* from having these surgeries?" There is no harm in letting children wait until they are adults to go through these types of surgeries without regret.

Many authentic studies found that children often outgrow their gender dysphoric symptoms by the time they complete puberty, and their prefrontal cortex develops enough to establish self-identity. What is so amazing about that is those children who previously identified as trans (in this current sense, before they would just be non-gender conforming normal kids) is that these children grow up to be amazing members of society who happen to be gay, lesbian or bisexual!

If these children can grow up and be gay or lesbian or bisexual, why is it not considered homophobic to try to interfere with these children figuring themselves out without external interference, exactly as we have all done for thousands of years?

There is no harm in letting children grow up first and then having those conversations with their trusted healthcare professionals who specialize in this type of medical care. However, there is substantial harm in not letting children wait for this type of care. There is also substantial and proven psychological harm in having children socially transition, which is the first step in medical transition.

We support any adult who wants to be trans and welcome them to grow into themselves. However, we ask that children be left alone to become who they want to be as adults. Why is that so controversial?

So, we ask that this bill be passed to help protect future gay, lesbian, and bisexual children and future trans adults.