

## **Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022**

**Submission No:** 57  
**Submitted by:** Emma Baillie  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public

**See attached:**

I write to object to the provisions of Part 5 of the Births Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022 concerning the ability for Queenslanders to change the sex on their birth certificate by declaration of intent to live as that sex.

The word sex refers to the classification of people or animals by their reproductive systems. Male people have male reproductive systems, and female people have female reproductive systems.

Therefore, when a person with a male reproductive system obtains a government document claiming that they are of female sex, that document is false.

Likewise, when a person with a female reproductive system obtains a government document claiming that they are of male sex, that document is also false.

My characterisation of these documents as false is by no means mitigated by the legal fiction of "living as" the other sex, because there is no mandated way that people in Australia live differently as males and females. Both men and women are legally allowed to wear the clothes they please, have what jobs they please, marry who they please. The only legal distinctions which are made are those in situations where the body is actually significant - sports, health, and situations of physical vulnerability. A legal fiction does not change one's body. Having a "gender identity" does not change one's body.

I am aware that many other jurisdictions have implemented policies which allow people to misstate their sex on official documents, that legislators are strongly lobbied to pass such laws, and that the existence of such laws have not, so far, caused social unrest in other jurisdictions, such as Victoria

I am also aware that the lack of social unrest is related to a common policy among many mainstream news organisations, including the ABC, of not reporting on people negatively impacted by the phenomenon of other people misstating their sex.

This media taboo is certainly able to slow the process of social unrest, but can never stop it.

The first thing that will happen as a result of a policy change allowing people to officially misstate their sex on official documents, is that people will use it to misstate their sex on official documents. They will then go out into the world where they will negatively impact other people - mostly women.

Men will, more and more frequently, enter sports competitions "as women", using their inequitable advantage in muscular power to disadvantage every other competitor. Women will enter men's toilets "as men", embarrassing every man who doesn't want to be seen at a urinal by the opposite sex. Male rapists will be put in female prisons "as women", terrorising the actual female population there, as has already happened in Victoria.

You can certainly reduce the number of people who know about these things by means of a taboo on reporting these issues in newspapers. But nobody can prevent the actual people who are impacted - mostly women - from telling other people, or from setting up their own organisations and sources of information. This process has already begun in Australia with the creation of groups such as Womens' Forum, LGB Alliance Australia, ROGD parent groups and many others.

In the UK, the time between the (much more limited) first implementation of a policy of allowing people legal documents claiming to be of the opposite sex and serious social consequences seems to have been around 15 years.

- The UK Gender Recognition Act was passed in 2004.
- The exponential increase in the number of children believing themselves to "really" be of the opposite sex (which some call "gender") began in the late '00s, leading to Keira Bell's successful lawsuit in 2018.
- The UK organisation "Standing for Women" also began in 2018, and now runs events all over the UK, despite the frequent presence of masked thugs threatening attendees with physical violence.
- The LGB Alliance, formed to protect the rights of same-sex-attracted people against a movement that insists that same-sex attraction is "bigotry" and that people are really "same-gender attracted" (that is, attracted to a person on the basis that they perform male or female stereotypes, not on the basis of their bodies) was founded in 2019.
- Maya Forstater's discrimination case against her employer for penalising her biological-reality-based beliefs was won by her in 2021, leading to the creation of the organisation "Sex Matters".
- Allison Bailey's case against her legal chambers for discriminating against her right as a lesbian to reject the proposition that lesbians should date male people was won by her in 2022.

The "law passed -> social unrest" pipeline will move much more quickly in Australian society, with UK examples available to us to follow. Many representatives who are putting their names to laws like this in the 2020s will still be in politics when womens' groups yet to form come asking in 2025 or 2030 why you passed a law allowing people to falsify their sex on government records. Children who currently consider themselves "trans" will be asking you, as detransitioners, why you didn't honestly tell them that nobody can actually change their sex, thus leaving them prey to unscrupulous medical providers substituting drugs and surgery for proper mental health care.

The taboo on talking about detransition, sexual assault in "women only" facilities and the decimation of women and girls' sporting hopes does not mean that those things aren't happening. It only means that you have no means of telling how many Australians are already impacted and already aware, and how fast our population is growing.

“Gender” is a social fiction. It should never be used to override the concept of sex, which is real and does not change.

Emma Baillie