

## Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022

**Submission No: Submitted** 196

**by: Publication:**



Making the submission public but withholding your name

**See attached:**

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10/01/2023

Committee Secretary  
Legal Affairs and Safety Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in response to the call for submissions by the Queensland Parliament regarding changes to the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2003.

I am a 42-year-old Queensland resident. I am a woman. I taught in public schools in both Queensland and New South Wales for 13 years. I am now disabled due to a life changing spinal injury in 2017.

I have grave concerns regarding this legislation negatively impacting on the rights of women and girls, it would unfairly remove the rights of women and girls to maintain single sex spaces. I will list my concerns in bullet points in order to be concise.

- I have suffered all my adult life with a condition called endometriosis. Due to this disease, I have unique issues such as incontinence, heavy bleeding that I need the privacy, dignity and safety of a single sex space to attend to. I would not feel at all comfortable in a public changeroom/restroom attending to my often messy 'accidents' if men were allowed in that space.
- I have a spinal injury and use my public pool often for my health. I would not at all feel comfortable if men began using our single sex space shower, toilet and changing area. There is only one entrance in and out of that space at the Burpengary Aquatic Centre and if a predatory male were to enter, I would have no way of escaping and would have an obvious disadvantage in fighting them off due to my sex and disability.
- I have not seen any evidence from the Queensland government that sexism, male pattern violence and predatory behavior ceases to exist once a Gender marker is changed on a birth certificate.

- I have not seen any evidence that the general population of Queensland have been polled on this issue and/or are on board with it and/or fully understand the implications of this legislation. Most don't fully understand that this legislation which seems to have been rushed through at the busiest time of year for most people. Most Queenslanders don't understand this legislation will give full bodies males legal rights to enter women's and girls change rooms and public toilets, be able to play sport in women's and girls' teams, apply for female-only accommodation, legal services, support and emergency services and government grants. Can the minister for Women show me where was the broad community consultation with stakeholders such as women's shelters, women centered business owner's, schools, churches, sports organizations', children's organizations, single sex service providers, rape crises centers ever happened? Has the minister for women or indeed her government conducted any risk or equality impact assessments regarding this legislation?
- I'd like to state that this legislation is regressive. Women exist and we have protection under the law, these needs were recognized and fought for decades ago. Where is the evidence from the Queensland government that women and girls are no longer in need of these specific sex-based protections?
- As a former teacher who underwent child protection training every single year of my 13-year career I can tell you from first hand lived experience that predators will use any opportunity to get access to women and girls. Have we forgotten our not so recent history? Men will join the priesthood, train for years to get teaching degrees, spend years trying to infiltrate children's organizations such as the scouts, girl guides, head up charity campaigns, train as nurses in order to gain access to vulnerable people. They will also spend years grooming children, often entire families to gain access. Does this change when a biological male changes his sex marker to female? Does men's much higher probability of committing violence and sexual violence simply go away once he identifies as female? Is the government that naive to think predatory men will not take advantage of this law to victimize women and girls?
- My final point is about validation. This legislation does not take into account those who simply do not believe that a man can become a woman and vice versa. I went to university, I read Queer Theory, I have both an undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications. I understand Gender Ideology, I am thoroughly informed on the issue and simply should not be forced into believing what it seems has now become a state sponsored religion. I am a gender atheist. I am not a cis woman, a menstruator or a uterus haver. I don't identify as a woman, I am a woman. I find the concept of female impersonators very offensive. I find that gender ideology is very dehumanizing and reductive to all people including men and children. People are not meat Legos. Being a woman isn't basic. It's unique and complex. Women's single sex spaces exist to exclude males not validate them. I should not be compelled by this legislation to agree that

Recipient Name

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women can have penises or that biological men can identify as lesbians or mothers. Those are our words. They are taken. I should not be compelled by law to use someone's false pronouns or validate their delusions about who they are. Women are not a sub-set of our own sex class. We are entitled to our sex-based rights. We should not be forced in any way to "Be Kind" to mentally ill males who wish to parade their sexual fetish in our spaces nor should girls.

Sincerely:

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[REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]  
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11/1/2023

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I am a 42-year-old Queensland resident. I am a woman. I taught in public schools in both Queensland and New South Wales for 13 years. I am now disabled due to a life changing spinal injury in 2017.

I have already submitted one document expressing my concerns but wanted to add some more thoughts.

- Because of my disability I have spent a lot of time in hospitals over the last four years. Has the government consulted hospitals, care homes, local GP surgeries about how this will impact women receiving any form of intimate care? If a woman requests female only care from a Dr, Nurse, carer or allied health professional is she entitled to receive it?
- I will give you a situation where this would be relevant. After my spinal surgery I required assistance toileting and bathing in the first week. If a man who 'identified' as a female was sent to look after me what right would I have in refusing that? Would I be forced to accept that this man is a woman? In the second week after my surgery I had to shower and clean myself in front of the hospital's Occupational Therapist to show that I could now do it on my own. What if the hospital's OT was a trans identifying male? Would I be forced to disrobe and shower completely naked in front of him? If I refused to acknowledge his 'womanhood', could I be charged with a hate crime/hate speech?
- My sister who is also disabled has sexual trauma in her past and prefers female carers to men because of her past sexual trauma. What right would she have in refusing a trans identified male carer showing up to assist her? Would she be shunned as transphobic for refusing this carer? Could she be charged with hateful conduct?
- Both my mother and my husband's mother are coming to an age where they will soon be requiring aged care. What right do they have in requesting female only care? Would they be forced to accept care from a male? Could they be charged with hate speech if they vocalize that they only wish to be cared for in intimate ways by women?
- I would also not feel comfortable sleeping near/next to men in a hospital ward. In my first week of recovery, I had to wear the hospital gown at all times so that the nurses and Dr's had access to my wounds, IV lines and catheter. We all know hospital gowns are not very modest. I would feel very uncomfortable if a male were to be sharing a room/bathroom with me in that very vulnerable state. Even once I was able to wear a nightgown, I would still feel uncomfortable around the male gaze if I were unable to still wear a bra for example. I was also heavily sedated at times and very vulnerable if a predatory male were to sexually attack me.

- I have not seen any consultation from the minister for women with the community or stakeholders on these issues.

Sincerely

[Redacted Signature]