Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022

Submission No:242Submitted by:Image: Comparison of the submission public but withholding your namePublication:Making the submission public but withholding your name

See attached:

I'm submitting my concerns about the proposal to allow any Queensland resident to alter their legal sex, simply by filling in an application and providing a statutory declaration. If passed, this legislation will have major implications for women's dignity, privacy and safety.

According to AG Shannon Fentiman, 210 Queenslanders have legally changed the sex on their birth record using the current process. This legislation will give 100% of the population that ability, with the only requirement being a self-declared 'inner feeling' of being a different sex from the one observed at birth. Biological sex is the determinant of so many aspects of our lives, yet a legal fiction is being created where 'feeling' one is the opposite sex is sufficient to gain the right to be treated as that sex in all situations.

My personal concerns are around men who identify as women. Contrary to the disgusting slur from the QLD Attorney General, that people who object to this legislation are merely transphobes, I don't believe that trans women are in general a threat. I do fear that men who wish women harm (or just want to perve on them) will use this change to gain access to women's spaces such as toilets, change rooms and even traditional clothing-optional single-sex spas such as the one I go to in inner Brisbane. This has already happened overseas.

It won't be possible to challenge any man who enters a women's single-sex space and indeed a woman will likely be hauled into court for doing so (this is already happening: https://www.qhrc.qld.gov.au/resources/case-studies/gender-identity). Thus I will see a man with my two eyes but be gaslit/forced by government order and cowed by the threat of the law, into considering him to be a woman. There will be no more women-only or men-only spaces, just mixed ones.

Many women have been assaulted by men, who commit 97% of sexual assaults. Although the vast majority of men are not a threat to women, unfortunately there is no way to differentiate on sight the ones that are. How can we tell if a man, in a dress or not, means us harm? Having women-only single-sex spaces is the only way to ameliorate the risk.

Women fought for decades for the single-sex spaces we're now on the brink of losing. Why am I (and women in general, half the population) being made to give up our peace of mind and sense of security to assuage the feelings of the small number of men who identify as women? Many of us, (including some Muslim women and others from certain religious or cultural backgrounds) will simply self-exclude from places we fear entitled males may enter, missing out on exercise, social events and health investigations where we can't be certain of a single-sex space or female health practitioner.

Predatory men are known to become teachers, priests, sports coaches and scout leaders in order to access victims, so when presented with an easy opportunity i.e. gaining a female birth certificate without any medical requirement whatsoever, why would a such a man not take it? It's already happening around the world in woman's toilets, hospital wards and prisons despite the cries of 'that never happens' from gender identity lobbyists. It won't be possible to deny female-identifying men from attending to the intimate needs of the most vulnerable such as the elderly with dementia and the disabled of any age (think Jimmy Saville), as the bill states that once a birth certificate is altered a person is deemed to be of the acquired sex.

Minors aged between 16 & 18 who can't yet vote, or drink alcohol will be able to 'change' their sex without reference to parents or guardians. This potentially puts a young person on the pathway to hormones, surgery and lifelong medicalisation as they may feel unable to turn back after making such a public statement. Countries around the world such as the UK and Sweden are starting to realise the dangers of immediately affirming a child's belief that they are 'in the wrong body' in their vulnerable teenage years. In Queensland it seems the government will be aiding and abetting trans activists in their quest to convince say, a girl who wants short hair, doesn't like dresses and is attracted to other girls that she has a 'boy brain' in a 'girl body' and it's the body that must be fixed.

It takes courage to speak up on this issue. All over the world women who believe in biological reality are terrorised online (just ask J K Rowling) and physically threatened and abused when they try to exercise their right to speak out in public, often by men in black masks who are both physically stronger and too cowardly to let the world know who they are. Women who are speaking up on the other hand don't hide their identities, and despite the risks continue to protest.

How did we get to a point where it's considered controversial and wrong to espouse the reality that biological sex is important, determined on conception, observed at birth and cannot be altered? That a man in a dress with no medical diagnosis or intervention can demand the right to invade female spaces at will?

Humans can't actually change their sex. 'Genders' such as non-binary, agender and genderqueer are nonsense descriptors that will be allowed on the new, falsified Queensland birth certificates. Crime statistics will become meaningless when crimes perpetrated by a man are recorded as being committed by a 'woman', especially as men are responsible for the vast majority of violent & sexual crimes.

AG Fentiman consulted multiple lobby groups for the trans industry about this legislation and zero women or women's groups who have concerns about its implications, refusing to even meet with them. Please consider the valid concerns of women and abandon this dangerous legislation. If passed it will be very hard to undo.

Sincerely,

10 January 2022