

Submission to
Queensland Government
The Legal Affairs &
Safety Committee

Gender Self ID

From

Phillip Dye

Teacher, neuroscience educator and Host of the **Marking the Role** podcast for Australian teachers. 25% of our listeners, approximately 2,700, are from Queensland.

Dear Committee

I write this as the Host of a National podcast for teachers (Marking the Role), an ex-teacher and a neuroscience educator previously in the School of Medical Sciences at the University of NSW.

The current inquiry into self-ID for transgender people is a topic receiving international attention and is being closely watched by Queensland teachers. I hear their voices daily. I'll be very brief.

Teachers are very concerned about students self-identifying as it will mean:

1. Self-ID'd individuals will use the toilet and change-room facilities of their desired gender. This will cause immense anxiety to those using the facilities of their birth gender.

It runs the risk of abusive incidents at a time when schools are already in difficult times. The incidence of gender transitioning is **VERY** small, and it is unreasonable to put the vast majority of citizens at risk to appease the wishes of very, very few.

2. It will increase gender dysphoria as an '**Label Option**' for students with childhood trauma backgrounds. According to the 2021 Westmead Childrens' Hospital Gender Service study, 95% of all children who want to gender transition come from childhood trauma backgrounds. This includes sexual abuse, neglect, a parent in prison or a parent with mental illness.



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The source of trauma needs to be fixed, rather than lead a child down the road of puberty blockers, hormones and possible surgery.

3. Puberty blockers also have a large negative effect on the brain of an adolescent. Any law that promotes gender dysphoria and associated puberty blocker use with young people is disastrous. They impact learning and retention. My interview with Professor John Whitehall, a paediatrician with over 30 years experience sadly outlines the effects. The Interview can be heard at <https://markingtherole.com.au/2022/11/09/episode-20-the-rise-of-gender-dysphoria-in-australian-schools/>
4. The World Health Organisation defines sex as biologically defined, while gender is based on socially constructed features. The toilet facilities in schools, sports grounds and public places are built around sex, not gender. The facilities cater to the biology of the individual, not to the way a person feels on any given day.

If a person has proof of sex-reassignment, visiting the facilities of their reassignment is OK. To allow an individual to choose their facility on the way they feel, is beyond unreasonable.

Overall, most Australians would be amazed to think an Australian State was investigating such an idea. We only have to see events unfold in Scotland to see what can happen on this slippery slope.

The way 0.05% of the population feels about themselves is not a reason to change things and create anxiety for the rest.

For the sake of 99.95% of Australians, I hope the concept of self identification is dismissed so that the Queensland Parliament can look at more pressing issues.

Regards

Phillip Dye

22/2/2023

