Gender Wars

IT'S MORE THAN A BATTLE OVER THE BATHROOM.

On May 13, the U.S. Department of Education, Civil Rights Division, issued a letter to schools, with a weight and consequence behind it that could change religious freedom and child safety in our nation. The "bathroom bill" started in North Carolina and became a line drawn in the sand by the brave North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory. It could be the "shot heard 'round the world" for this issue in our nation. Shortly after the bathroom bill stand-off began between the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the North Carolina governor, the Obama administration expanded its reach and battle to school administrators across the nation.

The <u>letter</u> cites **Title IX**, originally introduced to give girls and women equal treatment and access to sports in schools, but now being used by this administration to mandate equal treatment and access to facilities for transgender students. It states in part, "... a school's Title IX obligation to ensure nondiscrimination on the basis of sex requires schools to provide transgender students equal access to educational programs and activities even in circumstances in which other students, parents, or community members raise objections or concerns. **As is consistently recognized in civil rights cases, the desire to accommodate others' discomfort cannot justify a policy that singles out and disadvantages a particular class of students."**

By making this a "civil rights" issue, the government brings in a whole new classification of prosecution, enforcement, and consequence for those opposed to or not upholding the law. While the letter goes on to say that this is a recommended practice from the Department of Education, they later share a 25-page document indicating that federal school funding will be tied to compliance with this recommendation. The LGBT activists and the Obama administration just doubled down.



SPECIAL POINTS FOR PRAYER

Pray for Secretary of Education John B.

King who, along with the White House, is mandating



this action. Pray that they would see the harm to children and the confusion in schools.

Pray for protection for North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory as he currently



withstands legal battles against his state due to the current safe bathroom law.



Pray for the children of LGBT parents and any children being taught that gender is a choice. Pray, too, for those being encouraged to make gender choices at a young age.

IS IT REALLY CIVIL RIGHTS?

What are the consequences of activists arguing these issues as civil rights cases? How will this impact families and administrators who are trying to protect the children in their care from those who would impress transgender and whimsical identity confusion on so many who are completely satisfied with the Creator's original design and purpose? The answer is that any action in opposition to the government's mandates could be prosecuted as a hate crime. Where does that leave parents and grandparents who are concerned for the well-being of their children? Where does that leave pastors and Christian leaders who speak the

truth found in Scripture, and counselors who work from a biblical perspective? The fight on this issue alone is monumental. It is not just about **bathrooms.** It is not just about equal access for confused children who call themselves transgender. It is a religious freedom issue that threatens the very freedom of the Church to clearly speak what the Word of God says about issues in our culture. It essentially outlaws free speech by those who cite the Bible. This movement is both unholy and calculated. It is a narrow door to a broad field of implications for our nation.

By making it a civil rights issue, [the federal government] brings a whole new classification of prosecution, enforcement, and consequences for those opposed to or not upholding the law —it becomes a prosecutable hate crime.

WALT HEYER'S STORY

As a child, Walt Heyer was encouraged by his grandmother to dress like a girl, in private. In the confusion caused by his grandmother and the harsh treatment of his father, he became transgender as an adult. After finding he was not fulfilled as he thought he would be, he chose a surgical solution to a psychological problem. Subsequently, Heyer went under the knife again to try to restore his physical body to that of a man—his God-given sex. He has since devoted his life to cautioning others against making the choice to become transgender as a way to find peace. Pray for Walt Heyer and all those who have experienced the transgender lifestyle firsthand and are now speaking out against it.



It isn't just about being gay or lesbian anymore. People in the gender identity lifestyle don't want to be defined by a label, or even identified by one choice for a lifetime. They claim gender can change at their whim.

EVEN THE CDC IS INVOLVED

According to <u>The Witherspoon Institute's Public Discourse</u>, "On May 19, 2009, a few short months after his inauguration, President Obama gave **Secretary of Education Arne Duncan** the green light to appoint **Kevin Jennings** to a top position of influence in shaping school policy: the post of Assistant Deputy Secretary for the **Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools**. He was also known as the "Safe Schools Czar." **Jennings, a powerful LGBT rights activist who is himself a gay man, was the founder of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN). GLSEN is one of the largest LGBT activist organizations in the nation and is devoted to promoting homosexuality in K-12 schools. Jennings served as "Safe Schools Czar" from 2009-2011.**

Given Jennings' connection with the organization, we should not be shocked to discover that GLSEN received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 2011 for \$1.425 million over five years to promote the LGBT agenda in public schools at taxpayers' expense. Through these publicly funded in-school programs, kids are being bombarded with the message that same-sex attraction and gender-identity are innate and therefore not changeable. Those who design these programs probably believe they are offering hope to children who may feel different, flawed, or unlovable. They believe that if they affirm children's LGBT identities as something positive, something that makes up the core of who they are, the children will fare better. However, this is **not** the case. The messages these programs send do nothing to combat the tragically high suicide rates among the LGBT communities. Data indicate that kids are actually put at risk when schools encourage them to identify themselves as homosexual or transgender at an early age. For each year children delay labeling themselves as LGBT, their suicide risk is reduced by 20 percent.

SPECIAL POINTS FOR PRAYER

Pray for **Kevin Jennings**, founder of



(GLSEN), that his eyes would be opened to the negative impact of his policies and activism.

Pray for protection for **Dr. Paul McHugh**, University Distinguished **Professor of Psychia-**



try at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, who is outspoken that homosexuality is a psychological disorder, and who is on the hit list of many LGBT activists.

Pray for strength and encouragement for Texas Governor **Greg Abbott,** who is



standing firm against the mandate by the federal government to allow students to choose which bathrooms and locker rooms best suit their declared gender.

Pray for protection for Texas Attorney **General Ken Paxton** and Gov. Abbott,



who have vowed to maintain resistance to the transgender mandate even if it means forfeiture of federal funds for Texas schools.

THREE CAUTIONARY LAWSUITS (AMONG MANY)

CASE #1: The New York City Commission on Human Rights issued official legal guidance saying employers can be fined up to \$250,000 for not addressing employees by the pronoun of their **choice**—including pronouns such as "ze" and "hir." As UCLA Professor of Law Eugene Volokh explains, this would require "employers and businesses to prevent [the use of "wrong" pronouns] by coworkers and patrons and not just by themselves or their

own employees." This means liability not only for corporations, where keeping track of people's desired pronoun would be difficult among so many employees, but also for small businesses, which could become bankrupt with one lawsuit-even if they are unaware of

the regulation.



Lawsuits are expected to rise with this new legislation mandating transgender access.

CASE #2: A public school district in Oregon paid a teacher \$60,000 because colleagues declined to use the pronoun "they" to describe the teacher. The teacher, Leo Soell, does "not identify as male or female but rather transmasculine and gender-queer, or androgynous." As Volokh explains: "Soell wants people to call Soell 'they.' and submitted a complaint to the school district objecting (in part) that other schoolteachers engaged in 'harassment' by, among other things, 'refusing to call me by my correct name and gender to me or among themselves."

CASE #3:

The 4th Circuit Court of Appeals has said a Virginia school district must allow bathroom access based on "gender identity" not biology. The school district created policy that says bathroom and locker room access is primarily based on biology, while also creating accommodations for transgender students: only biological girls can use the girls' room, only biological boys can use the boys' room, and any student can use one of the three single-occupancy bathrooms, which the school created specifically to accommodate transgender students. But the court said this commonsense policy was itself "discrimination" on the basis of "gender identity." (Source: http://dailysignal.com/2016/05/26/43-republicans-join -

democrats-to-support-obamas-transgender-agenda/?)

Schools have introduced transgender philosophies to children as young as 5, through books and classroom discussion.

GENDER IDEOLOGY FOUND TO HARM KIDS

Writer and theologian Michael Brown compiled <u>a list of findings</u> of the damage not only to those kids coerced into a transgender lifestyle, but also the damage to the culture around them. Here are the facts.

- Kids who identify as transgender represent the tiniest minority of the population, perhaps two or three out of a thousand.
- The great majority of kids who identify as transgender do not do so once they pass through puberty, so for most of them this is a temporary condition.
- Some parents of transgender-identified kids, along with LGBT activists, have rejected compassionate solutions for these kids such as letting them use a faculty, single-stall bathroom. Instead, they insist that the child's struggles be imposed on the rest of the students.
- Parents of transgenderidentified kids, along with LGBT activists, have also sought to introduce radical transgender curricula to students as young as 5.
- Schools are ignoring reports of other children feeling violated, embarrassed, and even traumatized by the presence of kids of the opposite biological sex in their bathrooms and locker rooms. The parents of those traumatized kids have been told that nothing can be done because of laws against discrimination based on gender identity.

- One university that introduced gender neutral shower stalls had to reevaluate its policy after heterosexual males were caught using cell phones to record the girls showering in the adjoining stalls.
- Children have admitted to using transgender identity as a way to push back against the "dominant society."
- The vast majority of cases do not involve children with biological or chromosomal abnormalities. Mental health professionals and brain scientists do not agree as to the exact nature of transgender identification. (Is it a mental disorder? Is perception now reality? Is it the best course of action to give hormone blockers to children, followed by sexchange surgery and then hormones for life?)

The American College of Pediatricians (branded a "hate group" by its critics) issued a documented statement urging "educators and legislators to reject all policies that condition children to accept as normal a life of chemical and surgical impersonation of the opposite sex. Facts — not ideology — determine reality." (The statement is titled, "Gender Ideology Harms Children.")



SPECIAL POINTS FOR PRAYER

Pray for protection for Dr. Michelle Cretella, President of the American College of Pediatricians, an association of conservative pediatricians who consort and report findings on medical issues relating



to children. The association's statement on the transgender ideology's harm to children received much hate and scorn from LGBT activists and their sympathizers.

Pray for God's truth to be revealed to Eliza Byard, Executive Director of Gay, Lesbi-



an and Straight Education Network (GLSEN). This organization infiltrates schools to create materials for teachers labeled "antibullying," as well as other pro-gay resources aimed at schools and school-aged children.

Pray also the same for Riki Wilchins, writer,



LGBT activist, and founder of **GenderPAC**, who champions "binary abolishment" or the erasure of any title of acknowledgment of the sexes and therefore family.

PRAYING THE WORD OF GOD OVER THESE ISSUES:

"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy— meditate on these things."

-Philippians 4:8

"And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."

-2 Corinthians 11:14-15

"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us...."

-Hebrews 12:1

"Therefore, putting away lying, 'Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,' for we are members of one another." $-Ephesians\ 4:25$

"Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all."

-Colossians 3:9-11

"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

-Genesis 1:27

"Woe unto those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness."

-Isaiah 5:20

A HILL TO DIE ON

The values of conservative Christians are being pushed aside in America on multiple issues, such as abortion, limiting religious freedom and speech in schools, and gay marriage. Many conservative leaders are calling for Christians to stand firm on the gender identity issue—it is critical. "We see this as 'a hill to die on," proclaimed conservative writer David Limbaugh. Many governors and state attorneys general are

drawing a line in the sand to stop this legislation. At the time of this report, there are 11 states joining Texas in a lawsuit against the administration with regard to this mandate. These states include Texas, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Utah, and Georgia, plus the Arizona Department of Education and Maine's Governor Paul LePage.



"Across the nation, parents, school boards, principles, administrators and teachers must say no to President Obama and his administration. They must do it for the sake of the children. They must do it for the sake of moral sanity. They must do it to honor the Lord." - Dr. Michael Brown

OTHERS STANDING FIRM FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM:

Alan Sears, President, CEO, and General Counsel of **Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF)**. ADF is litigating cases at the state and federal levels regarding transgender policies, as well as protecting teachers, administrators, and business owners who are targeted by those pushing the mandate.

Phil Bryant, Governor of Mississippi. Gov. Bryant has been speaking out and legislating in favor of traditional family values his entire term and has now joined the lawsuit with 11 other states against the administration's mandate of transgender preference. In 2014, he signed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act into law, making it more difficult for the federal government to inhibit the free exercise of religion in Mississippi.

U.S. Representative Mark Walker, of North Carolina is leading an effort with other members of congress to push back on the mandate that was sent directly to schools, administrators, and school board members.

SPECIAL POINTS FOR PRAYER

Pray for protection and strength for **Mat Staver**, founding member and **Chairman of Liberty**



Counsel, a non-profit litigation, education, and policy organization advocating for religious liberty, pro-life and profamily causes.

Pray for wisdom for teachers and administrators who are forced to deal with this mandate. Surely Kindergarten



teachers never thought they would be required to introduce gender fluidity to their class of innocent little ones. Many good men and women are facing the reality of these hideous distortions that will require-them to be the conduit for the message of the federal government and the LGBT agenda.

Pray for protection and spiritual discernment for administrators whose moral standards will compel them to push back against the mandate.

Pray that school board members will stand firm and refuse to let the federal government's decree infiltrate their school district.

Pray that parents would speak out against this indoctrination masked as anti-bullying education.

HOW SCHOOLS ARE IMPLEMENTING THE MANDATE

Do you think the mandate will not really make much of a change? According to reporting by *The Daily Caller*, the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction will implement a new curriculum in 2016-2017 that **requires** students to learn the following:

- Kindergarteners will be taught about the many ways to express gender. Gender expression education will include information about the manifestations of traits that are typically associated with one gender, and crossdressing as one form of gender expression.
- **Third graders** will be introduced to the concept of gender identity. These children will be taught that they can choose their own gender.
- **Fourth graders** will be expected to "define sexual orientation," which refers to whether a person identifies as heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual; they will also be taught about HIV prevention.
- **Fourth and fifth graders** will learn about the relativity of gender roles and that such roles are social constructs, not inherent to who we are as male or female human beings.
- **Seventh graders** will be expected to "distinguish between biological sex, gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation."
- **High school students** will critically "evaluate how culture, media, society, and other people influence our perceptions of gender roles, sexuality, relationships, and sexual orientation."

