

Submitter: Noelle Lamberton Gaskill  
On Behalf Of: Concerned mother  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure: HB2656

I oppose this survey for several reasons:

1. My child last year (who is gender divergent was given this survey without our parental consent at Ida B Wells High School in Portland, Or. My child was upset and confused by the questions and I was surprised we as parents we NOT notified about this survey, (which asks invasive, personal questions about students' gender identifies, etc which is NOT the State of Oregon's business).

2. Did anyone ask if this survey upsets students or are they just wanting to push an agenda? Bc high schoolers don't need to be asked about all kind of detailed gender identities or questions about sexuality at such young ages and schools need to be diligent in telling parents that they are giving this survey to their kids and include the survey questions before they administer it to minors.

3. The Department of Education should know that anonymous survey data from the Trevor Project is not robust science. You do realize that anonymous survey is considered the weakest data of all.

4. Why isn't the DOE questioning 8% of Oregon students are now gender divergent, that is very large size and almost triple the amount Black students (less than 3%) and almost the same amount of non-white students combined. Please read the studies and understand that most of the gender-diverse students are biological girls...why isn't the DOE concerned that they are recommending serious medical interventions that do include possibly sterilization (this increase of post covid students seeking gender-affirmative medical care at gender clinics which include testosterone and a double mastectomies for biological girls) went up 70% from 2020-2021. See Reuters investigative journalism pieces with real American data.

Is anyone wondering why there was such a significant increase in one year? Is no one at the DOE concerned that some of these gender divergent kids are following a trend bc anyone in education knows there is huge cohort of trans ID'd kids post Covid and OHSU adolescent gender clinic confirmed that they don't understand why so many more are kids seeking medical interventions Post Covid.

4. Dr. Laura Edwards-Leeper is an expert on this topic and is from Oregon you could have asked her about this. Don't gender diverse kids deserve to be seen an individuals and not part of a giant cohort?

5. The DOE definitely should have run their ideas by Dr. Erica Anderson who Co-

wrote WPATH 8 adolescent chapter and in it said that clinicians need to proceed with caution considering other more progressive countries have started using more caution (Sweden, UK, Finland, France) bc the research supporting medical transitions for a pediatric population is of lowest quality (see the Trevor Project anonymous survey data as an example).

6. This questionnaire is also anonymous survey data and to be honest teachers are not trained or qualified to determine if a kid self ID's as trans it doesn't mean that is a congruent identity. This should not be part of a teacher's job. It's too much responsibility to be part of social transitions particularly when leave parents in the dark. Legally the DOE is setting itself up for lawsuits.

7. Leaving parents out of important conversations about our children and their gender is not a good idea and the guidelines from the DOE in fact encourage schools to hide a gender identity change from parents if students say they don't want their parents to know.

8. The DOE needs to read up on a social transition which is considered to be a serious psycho-social intervention should only be done in a clinical setting with experts bc the positive and negative outcomes are unknown and a social transition is not a neutral act. Public schools need to proceed with extreme caution and DOE needs to read up on the latest research, particularly the Cass Report (out of England) and talk to Dr. Erica Anderson Phd before following up on this personally invasive student survey. Vote no please.