

Submitter: Frederick Allen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

Our daughter is in the midst of her third epidemic.

Her first epidemic was her depression and cutting. She found a community of supportive peers on the internet who empathized with her and also taught her what to do.

Her second epidemic was her eating disorder. She found a community of supportive peers on the internet who empathized with her and also taught her what to do. She was so savvy that she was able to not only convince her mother and me, but also an eating disorder specialist.

She is currently in her third epidemic. She has found a community of supportive kids who she learns from and who encourage her to go further and further. I am sure you are aware of the dramatic uptick in girls with rapid onset gender dysphoria.

In all of these cases our daughter has found a group to be with and traits to adopt. She is an (expert) chameleon trying to find herself in other peoples skins, getting encouragement and acceptance from an online group.

This is the third wave of self harm to hit our girls. We know It is fueled by social media, peer influence and affirmative care. Over the past 10 years depression rates for girls has gone through the roof.

Our daughter spent over two years in four facilities to address her self harm and depression, eating disorder and anxiety. She returned home December of 2022 and life was good for all of us. Wanting to keep her on good footing we got her a therapist, one that she had met in a former facility when our daughter was at her worst (including her tick that subsided when she left that facility). We had no idea that that same therapist would ignore her history and would lead her down the dark dangerous path of affirmative care.

She does not cut anymore and she no longer has an eating disorder and she is much better than her most depressed self.

Our daughter throughout her life has never expressed any discomfort with being a girl. She has seen many therapists and had many opportunities to express this discomfort.

Not once during these almost 3 years has she or any therapist said a thing about

gender dysphoria. She was only affirmed by one therapist, her most recent one.

This is happening now because there is a mass epidemic of gender dysphoria fueled by social media, peers and the dangerous affirmative approach. Let these kids be kids and figure out with time and therapy who they are. It is pure evil to send them down a path of permanent medicalization with experimental drugs and body destroying surgeries.

When these kids wake up from this Gender Cult they will have maimed themselves irreversibly and have permanently altered their bodies. Many will be sterile or simply do not have bodies that function properly.