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Facts—Not Ideology, Determine Reality

The American College of Pediatricians issues a call to educators and legislators

And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; --Romans 1:28

Earlier this week, baseball legend Curt Schilling expressed his views on his personal *Facebook* page regarding the ongoing public restroom battles resulting in his immediate dismissal from ESPN, the Disney-owned sports network. In a statement announcing its decision, ESPN bizarrely claimed that it was "an inclusive organization."

"That Orwellian statement," says Gary Bauer, a former deputy secretary at the U.S. Department of Education under Ronald Reagan, "is clearly contradicted by reality. ESPN is not 'inclusive' when it comes to mainstream opinions about men using women's restrooms. Most Americans share Schilling's views. But ESPN apparently has a zero tolerance policy when it comes to common sense."¹

Schilling's offending *Facebook* "meme," reportedly showed a picture of a male character wearing a wig and women's clothing, with the caption, "Let him in to the restroom with your daughter or else you're a narrow minded, judgmental, unloving, racist bigot who needs to die!!!" Schilling is said to have added the comments, "A man is a man no matter what they call themselves" and "Now you need laws telling us differently? Pathetic."

Bauer agrees. He asks, "... isn't it amazing how anti-science the left has become? Anyone who has a high school textbook can look up how sex is biologically defined. It's not just being born with certain organs. Every cell has a chromosome that determines your gender. You can remove certain body parts and wear different clothing. But you can also give a cell from your body to a scientist and he can determine your gender at birth without ever looking at you. Having surgery will not make you a woman any more than grafting a horn on your head will make you a unicorn."

But, while ESPN and other fellow entertainers are imploring the public to disregard that which is clearly made plain, more than a few professional organizations are lining up on the other side.

In a preliminary white paper titled "[Gender Ideology Harms Children](#),"² released in early February, The American College of Pediatricians says that "Facts—not ideology—determine reality." The brief specifically urges educators and lawmakers to reject all policies, especially where children are concerned, that conditions one to accept as normal a life of chemical and surgical impersonation of the opposite sex. According to CNS News, a peer-review statement is expected to be released this summer which will include the following eight points:

First, "Human sexuality is an objective biological binary trait: 'XY' and 'XX' are genetic markers of health—not genetic markers of a disorder, with the purpose of male and female being the reproduction and flourishing of our species. (It notes exceedingly rare exceptions of sexual differentiation, which are disorders but do not represent a third sex)."

“Second, no one is born with a gender. Everyone is born with a biological sex. Gender (an awareness and sense of oneself as male or female) is a sociological and psychological concept; not an objective biological one.

(The statement added that self-awareness develops over time and can be ‘derailed’ by the experiences and information a child receives from infancy forward. Further, no matter what sex a person imagines themselves to be, they remain either a biological male or a biological female).

Third, a person’s belief that he or she is something they are not is, at best, a sign of confused thinking or the child could suffer from gender dysphoria—an objective psychological problem ... that lies in the mind not the body, and it should be treated as such.

Fourth, puberty is not a disease and puberty-blocking hormones can be dangerous by inhibiting growth and fertility, according to the position statement.

Fifth, (according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders), the statement says, ‘as many as 98 percent of gender confused boys and 88 percent of gender confused girls eventually accept their biological sex after naturally passing through puberty.’

The sixth point is that children who use puberty blockers to impersonate the opposite sex will require cross-sex hormones in late adolescence. Cross-sex hormones are associated with dangerous health risks including but not limited to high blood pressure, blood clots, stroke and cancer.

The seventh point states, ‘Rates of suicide are 20 times greater among adults who use cross-sex hormones and undergo sex reassignment surgery, even in Sweden which is among the most LGBTQ-affirming countries.’

The eighth point calls chemical and surgical treatment of children based on ‘gender ideology’ child abuse. ‘Endorsing gender discordance as normal via public education and legal policies will confuse children and parents, leading more children to *gender clinics* where they will be given puberty-blocking drugs. This, in turn, virtually ensures that they will ‘choose’ a lifetime of carcinogenic and otherwise toxic cross-sex hormones, and likely consider unnecessary surgical mutilation of their healthy body parts as young adults.’”³

Unfortunately, what is obvious to even a child, and moreover, confirmed by modern scientific research and medical practice, sometimes isn’t enough. Some are determined to exchange the truth for a lie.

In December, the Washington State Human Rights Commission slithered into previously uncharted waters, demanding that all male and female group locker rooms and bathrooms be opened to any who “identify” with the opposite sex—no questions asked. The new ruling (WAC 162-32) makes it illegal for schools and businesses with eight or more employees to bar a man from entering a women's restroom, locker room, shower or sauna. **Even questioning an individual as to his or her sexual “identity” invites stiff penalties.**

During the recently concluded legislative session, a Republican-sponsored Senate measure (SB 6443) that would repeal the ill-advised bathroom ruling, failed 24-25, with two Democrats (Hargrove and Sheldon) voting with Republicans and three Republicans voting with Democrats. The three are King County senators Joe Fain (R-Auburn), Andy Hill (R-Redmond), and Steve Litzow (R-Bellevue).

One thing we have learned. Elected officials have never feared the great “silent majority.” But, they do pay careful attention to the messages you leave at 800-562-6000.

Rick Forcier

¹ Gary Bauer, *American Values*, “ESPN—Shilling for the Left,” 4/21/2016

² The statement – written by Dr. Michelle A. Cretella, president of the American College of Pediatricians, Dr. Quentin Van Meter, vice president of the American College of Pediatricians and a pediatric endocrinologist, and Dr. Paul McHugh, university distinguished service professor of psychiatry at Johns Hopkins Medical School and the former psychiatrist in chief at Johns Hopkins Hospital – cites eight reasons why “gender ideology” instead of treatment based on biological facts is harmful to children.

³ Source URL: <http://cnsnews.com/news/article/penny-starr/american-college-pediatricians-gender-ideology-harms-children>