

**Testimonies in Opposition to HF 13**  
**Wednesday, February 20, 2019**  
**SOB room 10 9:45 A.M.**

**Barb Anderson--Child Protection League**

My name is Barb Anderson with the Child Protection League and I am testifying in opposition to HF 13. All across this state an aggressive gender ideology is already confusing children and their families by distorting language and the meaning of gender. Gender has become an elastic term that can mean any kind of identity depending on how you feel at any given time.

Two years ago Robin McHaelen, a gender equality trainer, came to our school district to teach our staff about gender equality. Parents were shocked at what she considered to be gender options.

Ms. McHaelen gave a fast recitation of the following types of gender choices deserving of equality: "Straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, two-spirit, same gender loving, pansexual, flexual, not straight, not labeling, straightish, straight so far, straight with obstacles, straight but stuff happens, gender bending, bigender, pangender, agender, asexual, and other...so many options." This is absolute nonsense. Equality, under the law, for made-up genders? And enshrine this in our MN Constitution? This would give full government legitimacy to the entire radical gender spectrum. Personally, as a woman and a former teacher, I find this to be insulting. This is an attack on common sense and an *assault* on the minds of our children. Please vote NO on HF13.

**Julie Quist--Child Protection League**

I am Julie Quist with the Child Protection League. This constitutional amendment is a fraud. It isn't an Equal Rights Amendment; it's a Gender Spectrum Equality Amendment. This is the most anti-woman legislation ever seen. This bill is male domination of women at its ultimate worse.

Men are now dominating women and girls in women's sports. Girls and women are now forced to shower with men and have their personal privacy violated in bathrooms and locker rooms. "Shall not be abridged in law" covers the spectrum of 87 genders in marriage, family, school, business, and sports. For the sake of girls' and women's rights, vote no!

**Cyndi Lemmon**

Due to the winter storm, I am unable to attend the committee hearing on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 concerning the proposed constitutional amendment HF 13, therefore, I wish to submit my testimony in opposition HF 13.

Honorable Representatives,

What you are proposing in this amendment is far from settled anything in our schools, communities, state and country. The separation of gender verses sex is a very new and fluid concept. At present, gender has 50+ definitions and growing and can mean just about anything except biological male and female.

As far as this being a women's right, what is that right? The right to allow men with male body parts to invade women's private spaces such as restrooms, locker rooms and so forth? With the rise in pedophilia and sex trafficking in our state and country, this a real and present danger to women and children when males can have access to spaces traditionally reserved for women only.

This constitutional amendment you propose opens the door to just about anything - lack of freedom, coerced regulations to an ideology not everyone embraces, law suits and who knows what more. The wording of this amendment is not very well thought out – or perhaps it is by those wishing to force all of us into this ideology. “Shall not be abridged” means that those who interpret this law will be able to make it whatever they choose with no choice of dissention.

To present this amendment to the voters, the true meaning is masked in legalize wording without specific definitions of what is meant by gender. The lobbying forces behind this amendment, such as the LGBT organizations, are strong, loud and powerful. You will hear from them. But what about us, average citizens, working to provide for our families, not able to follow every bill/amendment being presented in every committee during the legislative sessions and who, if they are able to follow, are not free to testify during a weekday hearing.

For your consideration,  
Cyndi Lemmon  
Ramsey, MN

### **Kelly Janssen**

I am writing as a woman born and raised in Minnesota, in the 1970s, I am disappointed in the unintended consequences of HF13 to further destroy the progress that has been made on behalf of women and girls in America in athletics.

I graduated with a degree in exercise science and the research scientists I learned from taught us about the biological differences in males and females. The differences are important, because having separate teams is what keeps women safe and reduces chance of injury by only competing against others of similar bone and muscular structure. Athletes are drug tested to make sure they are not taking hormones to give them a competitive advantage. No hormone treatment will change a person's DNA, which is what determines how much fast twitch muscle fiber someone will have and males naturally have more than females. Males are naturally bigger, faster and stronger than females, that's why it is important that girls and boys play on separate teams.

I was in college in the 90s when colleges started to get rid of non-revenue men's athletic programs to make sure there were equal scholarship opportunities for men and women in accordance with Title IX. It did not seem like a great solution, but because of finances, that was the route most colleges had to take instead of just adding women's sports.

This is a ridiculous bill, women and girls have fought so hard to have equal access to athletics as their male counterparts, why is there a bill that would undo all of that progress?

Thank you for voting NO on HF 13.

Thank you for your service to MN,  
Kelly Janssen

### **Bonnie Gasper**

This bill is a real and present danger to women and children. It will be misrepresented as being 'against' women's 'equality' but the language and intent of the bill will enshrine into law acceptance and equal 'rights' for people who are suffering from gender dysphoria.

Rather than preventing the real consequences of allowing biological males to share private and intimate spaces with biological females this bill will force women and vulnerable children to endanger themselves.

It is seriously twisted 'logic.' If you're sincerely FOR "women's rights" then protect us. Protect our right to bodily privacy. Protect our right to emotional and physical safety. Protect our right to compete in athletics against only biological females too because this will surely open the floodgates to destroying women's sports as we know them.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Gasper  
Eden Prairie, MN

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### **Bonnie Gasper's return response to Rep Pryor**

Dear Representative Pryor:

Thank you for your response to my concerns regarding HF13. I appreciate your taking the time.

However, I stand by my concerns that HF13 will destroy women's sports (among other things) and here's why:

1. 'Gender' is a self-described fluid term not rooted in biological reality or scientific fact. Gender is whatever one 'thinks' they are. It is an identity created in the mind, based upon feelings not DNA. Which is why there are upwards of 53 genders on the spectrum and counting. Many advocates call gender 'fluid' as well...meaning gender can change day to day, month to month, year to year. This is nonsense and should not be enshrined in law.

2. Biological men competing as women is a growing reality in high school and NCAA sports.

And they are consistently winning due to their physical advantages. 17 states already allow biological men to compete as women. Not only that, the Olympics has changed their policy.

<https://www.sacbee.com/sports/college/article226719779.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2018/apr/09/transgender-weightlifter-laurel-hubbards-eligibility-under-scrutiny>

<https://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2018/october/transgender-man-who-says-hes-a-woman-wins-womens-cycling-race>

<https://www.breitbart.com/sports/2017/08/24/olympics-will-allow-transgender-competitors-2018-winter-games>

<https://www.nationalreview.com/2019/02/womens-sports-transgender-athletes-controversy-martina-navratilova/>

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3412969/Olympics-change-policies-allow-transgender-athletes-compete-without-having-gender-reassignment-surgery.html?fbclid=IwAR1bZBLmUX8PE\\_oBEvtpwKovWfDGNK3HBkWWMiaYIVlyeXrgO9tGyX8xMR4](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3412969/Olympics-change-policies-allow-transgender-athletes-compete-without-having-gender-reassignment-surgery.html?fbclid=IwAR1bZBLmUX8PE_oBEvtpwKovWfDGNK3HBkWWMiaYIVlyeXrgO9tGyX8xMR4)

I was an athlete myself. All of my children were athletes. One went on to play DII soccer. You better believe there is a physical difference between boys and girls.

You state you are committed to 'equality'. How will you protect equality and protection for women and girls in private spaces, restrooms, dorms, hotel rooms (high school traveling teams will allow boys who identify as girls to share rooms with girls unbeknownst to parents) when in the same sentence you say you will prohibit discrimination based on 'gender'.....which as already discussed can literally be anything one believes they are and NOT rooted in SCIENCE?

You can't have it both ways.

I beseech you to watch this panel of self identified rad fems who totally understand what this advocacy for transgenderism and all things 'gender' means for women and girls. How sad, they have been silenced by their own political party and are only provided a voice by a conservative political group.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HMj9MOuRswc&feature=youtu.be>

So, your position that this bill won't destroy women's sports is utterly false and not rooted in fact (or the news!)

If you are truly committed to protecting the equal rights of women and girls then you would not be championing a bill that is certain to destroy them.

Thank you.

**Bonnie Gasper**

