

Author Full Name : Sara Schneidman**Received Date :** 02/19/2025 09:36 PM**Comments Received :**

As a woman assigned female at birth, I feel compelled to comment on the directives of E.O. 14168 that would affect information on passports and that purport to be protecting me as a cisgender woman. The purpose of a passport, according to the US State Department (<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/about-us.html>), is a ticket and identification card for international travel, indicating the traveler's identity and nationality. The identification information provided on the card includes the traveler's legal name as well as their state of residence (as in the USA), and the traveler's date of birth. All of these identification markers should be sufficient for identifying a traveler. The incorporation of the individual's gender does not add significant differentiation the way a date of birth or full name would.

Furthermore, the inclusion of gender/sex markers on a passport may result in an invasive, violating, and unscientific examination of the persons of those who may not appear "female" or "male" enough to the agent reviewing their passport.

Additionally, Real IDs follow state jurisdictions and some states may allow for transgender identity or "x" gender on their identification, which creates a discord between passports and state documents. The potential conflict of information will require additional procedures to resolve conflicts between documentation.

E.O. 14168 states a directive to return to "ordinary and longstanding" truths about assigned sex at birth, limited to male and female, which does not reflect actual scientific understanding of genetics, chromosomes, and internal sense of gender. The American Psychological Association acknowledges the biological basis of intersex and transgender identities, as well as the existence of identities outside of the male/female binary across time periods and cultures. Furthermore, labeling sex as limited to male and female leaves out intersex individuals and completely negates their biological and genetic reality.

The only time an individual's assigned sex at birth is relevant is in the presence of a medical professional and as such the sex notation on a passport should be removed entirely.