

Author Full Name : Paula Goldman**Received Date :** 02/20/2025 10:21 AM**Comments Received :**

I am a straight, white, heterosexual person with a decent knowledge of biology. The proposed guidance that requires passports to list the sex assigned at birth to individuals flies in the face of actual science as there are multiple genetic conditions that cause external genitalia to not match a person's biological sex. See, for example,

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/sex-redefined-the-idea-of-2-sexes-is-overly-simplistic1/>

There can be, and are, people whose sex assigned at birth is simply WRONG. There are over 30 genetic mutations that can cause individuals to resemble the other sex at birth. Congenital adrenal hyperplasia, for example, causes the body to produce excessive amounts of male sex hormones; XX individuals with this condition are born with ambiguous genitalia (an enlarged clitoris and fused labia that resemble a scrotum). There are also people who carry an extra sex gene - there are XXY or XYY people. Moreover, research has shown that the brains of transgender persons often resemble the brains of people of their chosen gender, rather than their sex assigned at birth.

Rather than erase or humiliate people who have these intersex conditions or people who are transgender, there is a simple answer: Remove the sex marker entirely. Our President loves to speak about US golden ages - the 1950's and 1890's. In both of those golden ages, US Passports had no sex marker. They didn't have one until 1977. So let's get rid of it now and stop worrying about other people's genitals.