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Thank you for taking the time to read this note. I am in total disagreement with these changes, and very alarmed by the language used in the President's "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government" executive order. I'd like to argue against these changes, first by examining the premise of the executive order.

On the basis of biological "truth", the language is simply scientifically inaccurate. Strictly binary XX / XY to women / men chromosomal understandings of biological sex is a formative idea from the 1890s. Since then, science has moved forward. Innumerate edge cases have been found to summarily disprove this simple binary; XY people who develop totally normal "female" primary and secondary sex characteristics, and the vice versa. Additionally, somewhere between 1%-2% of the population (~5 million people) are also intersex; people with unique and complicated medical situations regarding their sex. Chromosomal testing is also prohibitively expensive, and physical examination would be alarmingly intrusive for the State to complete. Even if we were to exclude all transgender people, there is scientifically no way to categorize every citizen as only "male" or "female", using science, in a thorough and accurate manner.

The language in the aforementioned executive order also has a glaring mistake: "Female" means a person belonging, at conception, to the sex that produces the large reproductive cell.' Biologically, every single human person produces the large reproductive cell at conception. Sex does not differentiate until later in fetal development. If we are to take this executive order as it is written, it implies that the entire United States population is biologically female. The fact that this order was passed without this being noticed suggests a cavalier and destructive approach to a deeply personal and sensitive issue to every citizen.

Moreover, it would be one thing to disagree with the aforementioned executive order if it had no impact on our shared freedoms. But a passport, although the property of the federal government, is an extremely literal manifestation of any citizen's human rights. Government ID is used in many places to facilitate travel, both domestically and abroad. Any attempt to limit, control, or reduce access to passports is a very serious matter for us all. Although I am making the case here that sex and gender are complicated, I want to be clear that the solutions are very simple. Your sex is a matter between you and your doctor, period. It is not reasonable to make sweeping policy surrounding the individual medical sex of every citizen, disrupting scientific consensus, and compromising the freedom of citizens to travel in the process. And if we are to change passport procedure, thereby legitimizing this unscientific and authoritarian executive order, a very intrusive culture of sexual interrogation is sure to follow. It is already beginning where armed male police officers are entering women's toilets to confront women about their genitals. The existing processes around IDs and sex are much preferable to these changes, and I urge whoever has the power to resist this to consider what we all have to lose.