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## **Comments Received:**

Limiting passport name and sex to what was assigned at birth can put transgender and non-binary travelers at significant risk of discrimination, harassment, and even violence. A 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey found that 46% of transgender people who presented an ID with a name or gender marker that did not match their gender presentation experienced verbal harassment, denial of services, or physical assault. In international travel, mismatched documents can lead to invasive questioning, detainment, or denial of entry by border officials, as seen in cases where trans travelers have been refused visas or detained due to gender marker discrepancies. I have traveled abroad significantly and experienced firsthand the level of inspection border guards give to passports. Photos that were old or a different haircut almost denied me entry or put me into intensive questioning. Removing the passports ability to reflect the reality of how someone looks and presents themselves runs the risk of Americans abroad being put into unsafe and dangerous situations. These risks are exacerbated in countries with anti-LGBTQ+ laws, where authorities may use mismatched identification as grounds for legal action, imprisonment, or deportation. Therefore, policies that allow gender and name changes on passports are critical for ensuring the safety and dignity of trans and non-binary individuals while traveling.