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Comments Received:

The proposed update is transphobic and based on false ideology that goes against scientific consensus as to the relationship between sex and gender. While sex and gender do correspond in the majority of individuals, this is not the case for many. A recent poll of 14,000 Americans across generations found that 1.3% identify as trans. Applied to the entire population of the US, that's almost 4.5 million, or almost the entire population of Kentucky. Forcing trans and nonbinary people to identify based on how a single doctor interpreted their genitals at birth misrepresents not only the complexity of human psychology and social behavior but also the complexity and diversity of human sexual biology. This diversity is and has been recognized around the world and throughout history, and can not be erased from existence just because a hateful minority of people claiming to be Christlike decided to ignore literally everything Christ ever did.

Let's suppose that I, a nonbinary person assigned female at birth, did identify as a cis woman. The proposed update would not protect me in any way, for three major reasons:

- 1) There is no verified or even officially documented instance of a cis man pretending to be a trans woman in order to enter woman-only spaces.
- 2) If a cis man wants to enter a woman-only space, he will. A single letter on a single document that one typically doesn't even carry will not create a physical or psychological barrier to him. Unlike point one, this does happen, frequently, and without any pretense of the offender being trans.
- 3) The areas where a passport are checked ARE NOT WOMAN-ONLY SPACES. They are public, all-gender spaces wherein the only reason to glance at the gender marker is to confirm the passport is real and belongs to the passenger presenting it. Forcing trans and nonbinary people to use the wrong gender marker (meaning, the SEX marker that does NOT correspond to their GENDER PRESENTATION) will only cause processing delays and waste resources while additional personnel are called to resolve the situation -- most likely invasively. Real threats will be missed while TSA officials police people's genitals for the sake of a threat that does not exist. Cis women who do not look cis enough will be subject to accusations because transphobic policies such as this one will have emboldened vigilantes. Imagine such a woman being confronted by strangers for using the appropriate restroom. SHE does not feel safe. She feels targeted and abused. She can't be sure she wasn't pulled from the boarding line simply because an officer wanted to grope her. Imagine a bearded trans man forced to enter the women's restroom. He is obeying the law, and in doing so, not only has HE been made to feel unsafe, his presence in the restroom has made WOMEN inside feel unsafe. The chaos, fear, and waste of resources will benefit no one, except those who simply want to watch the world burn.

Having said all that, I imagine part of the endgame of policies such as this are to force trans and nonbinary people to detransition out of fear. As a nonbinary person living in a thriving community of LGBTQIA+ peers, I can tell you this unequivocally: we shall not. Some of us, yes. But many of us have lived in the before times. Before the Pentagon lifted their military service ban; before "gender dysphoria" replaced "gender identity disorder;" before Renee Richards, Stonewall, Christine Jorgensen. We remember living our own lie. And we are never going back.