Author Full Name: Jes Martinez-Hunt Received Date: 02/25/2025 04:20 PM

Comments Received:

I am writing as a parent of a transgender daughter who simply wants to be a kid, not a political statement. This executive order—and the proposed changes to DS-11—are stripping my child of her right to exist without constant scrutiny and barriers. A passport is a tool for travel and identity, not an ideological weapon. Forcing my child to disclose her sex assigned at birth serves no real purpose other than to make her life harder.

As a trans person myself, I know firsthand what it means to grow up without the ability to be who you are. I was denied that right, and I cannot describe the pain of watching my child face the same erasure. The world is already cruel enough to trans kids. The government should not be making it worse. When I was young, I had to fight just to be seen, and now, as a parent, I am fighting for my child to have the childhood that was stolen from me.

Beyond the personal harm, these changes violate my religious freedom. I am a Unitarian Universalist, and our faith upholds the inherent worth and dignity of every person. This executive order directly interferes with my ability to raise my child in accordance with my religious beliefs. It forces my child—and every other trans person—to conform to an outdated and scientifically inaccurate understanding of sex and gender. That is a direct attack on my family's faith and our freedom to live by it.

This policy does not reflect legal reality, scientific truth, or basic human decency. I urge the Department of State to respect the dignity of all people, honor the legal precedent set in Zzyym v. Blinken, and let my child grow up without being a political target.