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Passport application forms are being modified to comply with an executive order regarding gender identity. I disagree with this change for the reasons including, but not limited to, those listed below:

- This act violates the first amendment by banning a deeply personal form of self-expression. People have the right to identify themselves as they wish, provided no direct harm is caused or threatened to others. The existence of a trans or non-binary person is not inherently threatening to any individual's physical or emotional well-being.
- This act threatens the safety of American citizens travelling to other countries. A person having the appearance that is usually associated with one gender, but having a different gender marker on their passport, can put someone in a very dangerous situation if they are travelling to a place that is not welcoming of gender non-conforming people. This does not only affect trans or non-binary people, but cisgender people as well. A person through genetics, illness, or fashion choices can be incorrectly identified at first glance, even when the person identifies with the gender they were born with. Because there is a far greater percentage of cis people than trans people, this act actually endangers more cis people.
- Personal expression should not be decreed or denied by government officials. America has built itself on the promise of freedom, and it is hideous to deny that freedom to a small population of people who statistically are far less of a threat to the average fellow citizen than almost every other demographic in the country.
- It's a waste of time. The letter "X" does not affect a single soul except the person who willingly chooses to apply it to their passport. If a person is uncomfortable with a neutral gender marker, then they can simply not request that marker when applying for a passport.