

This comment is in regards to revisions of "Application for a U.S. Passport for Eligible Individuals: Correction, Name Change to Passport Issued 1 Year Ago or Less, and Limited Passport Replacement" which are direct threats to expression of the individual on a fundamental level and freedom of speech as well as set a dangerous precedent to the future of laws and executive orders. The changes purposed to comply with the "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government" executive order do not serve to benefit the American population nor government; they are not only undemocratic and open the constitution to risk of being rewritten entirely at the whim of religious and political opinions but, also, are based upon endangering misrepresentation of scientific information presenting itself as immutable when the very claimed source of said information only contradicts the basis of why said revisions have been deemed necessary. According to the National Library of Medicine (2001), phenotypically, all fetuses are female, it takes approximately 6 to 7 weeks for a y chromosome to begin any development of testes and 2 to 3 further weeks for testosterone to be formed and induce masculinizing developments. Additionally, one must acknowledge the population that is intersex of which counts for approximately 1 out of every 4,500 births as noted by Hughes (2007).Intersexuality further complicates the timeline of when a fetus diverts from phenotypically being female, making the term deceptively used term, conception, not actually the binary defining term it has been presented as in the executive order . American citizens also will be potentially endangered by these revisions when visiting other countries ie. individuals whom "appear" as a "sex" they are not or individuals which have acquired a "sex" marker which does not match their actual "sex" via mistake, which puts them at risk for violence or detainment for a designated label that misrepresents the aforementioned citizen. Incorrect markers have been assigned countless times to citizens who are not transgender, this is a well documented phenomenon. Said marker being made further difficult, if not outright impossible, to change will make corrections to social security numbers or state IDs or so on with contradictory "sex" labels to each other a further hassle to the mislabeled citizen and will revert many to an incorrect label which they had been wrongly assigned prior. This has already been an issue due to states, such as Montana and New Hampshire, determining an individual can change their gender marker on their driver's license not their birth certificate, inherently leaving the citizen with conflicting markers when the initial marker was an accident. Changes made to abide to the executive order will create countless problems beyond what is listed here. The implications of this change will not only make erroneous information "correct", they will also open the window of potential risk of defining human life as beginning at conception. Such will not only allow political opinion to reign above law, it will endanger many of the women it has set out to "protect" by jeopardizing their rights after retroactively defining reproductive care they have received in the past as potential murder charges. For every good this revision disguises itself as, it is fortyfold destructive to the autonomy of the population it is attempting to pull wool over the eyes of. Many American citizens, myself included, have family and friends whom these changes will directly negatively impact and are very aware a smaller percentage of the population will absolutely be harmed by this if not outright targeted by it. Transgender people are continuously pressured to either conform, change or die, this pressure has never ceased. Laws often are another tool to push this agenda on them, this revision is clearly no exemption. Those who perpetrate the erasing mentality often are the ones protected via means such as trans panic defense and fear mongering to justify seeing them as less dead when hateful violence is enacted upon them. If preventing violence against women was the motivation of this executive order, this change will do nothing to stop it other than make mislabeled women unable to fix their IDs and smaller groups of the population far more endangered. The choice of this comment being anonymous is due to the physical and verbal violence I have faced when raising my concerns on these revisions in public places. I am aware of others at risk for facing similar violence for expressing similar opinions to myself, many of which are women whom, again, are aware this change will not do anything to protect them. Please do not follow through with the purposed revisions, it will save everyone pointless paperwork and prevent money being wasted on a change for the worse.

National Library of Medicine, 2001

Sex begins in the womb

Hughes, I. A., 2007

Early management and gender assignment in disorders of sexual differentiation, 11