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My comment is in response to the proposal issued by the State Department on February 18, 2025, to update form DS-5504, "Application for a U.S. Passport for Eligible Individuals: Correction, Name Change to Passport Issued 1 Year Ago or Less, and Limited Passport Replacement" (OMB control #1405-0160).

Gender should be maintained and not replaced by sex determination at birth.

An individual is not a reproductive system made only of flesh and bones. Sex and gender are very complex. Science has demonstrated that a person's gender observed at birth does not always reflect the gender that the person is. Genetics and chemicals have a heavy weight on the individual's gender (Amanda Montanez, Beyond XX and XY and the extraordinary complexity of sex determination, September 1, 2017, [www.scientificamerican.com](http://www.scientificamerican.com)).

The lack of recognition of the individual's gender identity is a Human Rights Abuse (United Nations Human Rights, OHCHR and the Rights of LGBTI People). No American should be in a position of being abused because they are trans. LGBTQTI+ people who have been denied the right to identify themselves with their gender have a high rate of suicide and mental illnesses. That is called gender dysphoria.

Gender Dysphoria is the distress a person experiences due to a mismatch between their gender identity—their personal sense of their own gender—and their sex assigned at birth (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>, retrieved on 3.14.2025). Denying trans people the right to be true to their identity is discrimination. It creates a social environment with high suicidal rate, bullying and social rejection.

The American Psychological Association reports that trans people have a high rate of suicide and mental illness when they are denied their identity, in addition to the discrimination and bullying that they face. The report adds that the government, schools, and communities have an important role to play through legislation that does not discriminate and schools and communities that do not exclude. That would decrease the need for mental treatments ( A Scoping Review of Suicide Prevention Initiatives for Sexual and Gender Minority People, online posting, APA PsychNet-American Psychological Association, <https://psycnet.apa.org/fulltext/2024-80868-001.html>. retrieved on 3/14/2025). Trans people must be protected and not outcasted.

Respect and inclusion of trans into the social network has no impact on the safety and the dignity of women who identify their gender as fitting their sexual organs. Trans people are not predators and aggressors. They only want to be respected.

Respect and inclusion of trans into the social network has nothing to do with the American System, which is a federal economic policy from the 19th century.

If the government respects everybody, everyone will respect the government.