

Travis Rymer

Concerning: House Bill 5604

Position: Against

To: RI House Committee on Education

I am writing to voice my opposition to House Bill 5604 amending current curriculum in RI schools grades 6-12 regarding sex education. The current state of the bill already meets the needs of RI schools and should not be amended for several reasons.

1. Given the overall lack of educational health in Rhode Island, this amendment does not meet a tangible need in the education of our children. Our children are failing at the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic. This is a distraction from fixing the real problems in RI.
2. This amendment shuts down continued study and scientific based data around issues like gender-dysphoria adopting instead a dogmatic approach. The adoption of these measures will shut out true educational study and discovery for a modern theory of gender. "As such, "inclusive" is actually "exclusive" to any historic understanding of gender and sexuality. A recent example would be [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)'s delisting of Ryan Anderson's book, *When Harry Became Sally* after three (3) years on sale with no issues. The reason? It is critical of the "science" behind transgenderism. This amendment will inhibit education.
3. Related to #3 above the theory of gender and sexuality herein presented is opposed to the reproductive continuance of our species by embracing a philosophical understanding of self-expression over against biology. This undermines what is taught in the hard sciences in the rest of the educational process.
4. Advocating for a "pleasure based" approach to sexual expression is undefined and potentially dangerous. Would not a pedophile advocate for pleasure-based sexual expression? Where does this stop? What is the need for this teaching in our schools?
5. This amendment will promote gender fluidity and gender-dysphoria effectively increasing its presence in our schools and society through encouragement for exploration - A phenomena known as "rapid-onset gender dysphoria." A recent Brown University paper by professor Lisa Littman documented this phenomena and received much negative attention for her observations precisely because it did not align with the current gender-dogma. The effect of a bill like this is to promote this exact phenomena.
6. The advocacy of this bill goes against nature and nature's Creator. We cannot pretend to try and bend nature without negative consequences on our whole society and in particular our children.

The amendment is clearly politically driven with a sexual agenda. I call on the House Committee to take a strong stand against politicizing our children's education in the name of pseudo-science.

Thank you for your time,

Travis Rymer