

Annex to Individual Submission by Tina Minkowitz:

Report by Esther Vali

I live in Hungary, which is a small country in the middle of Europe. Transgender people living here can change their legal gender. They still have to get a diagnosis, but they don't have to go through hormone therapy or mandatory genital surgery. There is no bathroom bill in Hungary so transgender people are not allowed to use the other sex's bathroom. To be fair I'm not really concerned about what the government is doing regarding transgender rights (they're really conservative and I don't see that changing anytime soon - in fact I'd say it's just getting worse every single year). The obsession with gender identity has not really reached my country yet but I'm seeing a rapid increase in its promotion by the local LGBT rights organizations which really concerns me. I have not found a single organization so far which would oppose genderism.

I used to volunteer for one of the LGBT rights organizations for a little while back in my liberal feminist days (the organization is called Budapest Pride, I'd say they're the most well-known LGBT rights group in my country). They actively promote gender identity and they also believe that asexuals have a place in the movement, despite half of the organizers being lesbians. Let me also mention that since transwomen are included in their activism, most of the meetings were taken over by a transwoman who kept speaking over us (including the organizers), loudly declaring his (wrong) opinion about the female experience and constantly asking irrelevant questions, not being able to let go of a subject when everyone else was long ready to move on. I also reached out to the only lesbian organization in hopes of becoming a volunteer but had to withdraw my application after finding out that they're inclusive of transgender people and actively promote gender identity. They're known from hosting lesbian only events every month and a lesbian festival every year but lately they made a new habit of including males when these events were strictly female only before.¹ Not only have I seen transwomen attend lesbian only parties but I've also seen straight men lurk around and prey on lesbians. At one of the parties I went to I even had to witness a butch lesbian almost being kicked out of the women's bathroom for looking masculine (she had to lift up her shirt to prove she's female) while

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/events/650658471775147/>.

drag queens and transwomen continuously use the bathroom that doesn't correspond with their biological sex.

The exact same things would apply to basically the rest of the LGBT organizations and women's rights organizations in my country. They're all inclusive of transgender people, they all actively promote gender identity and support transition (in fact they encourage it). The most well-known women's rights organization is actually led by a liberal feminist woman who actively campaigns against "TERFS" (and unfortunately has a lot of supporters) while continuously supporting violent and abusive transwomen and finding excuses for their behaviour (she basically thinks their threats shouldn't be taken seriously because they are trans therefore it's not male violence). They even started several local facebook pages (along with several facebook groups) campaigning against TERFS, bullying us and threatening us with legal lawsuits, trying to ban us from joining legal organizations and participating in workshops / meetings / protests, trying to silence us whatever it takes. The local radical feminists are being stalked and harrassed, kicked out of female only circles and replaced by transwomen so we have no place to organize (while transwomen do have their own spaces).