Submissions to UN SOGI Mandate Holder

We support the protection of all fundamental human rights of all persons regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity. Your report, however, is clearly aimed at, among other things, advancing radical gender theories and ideologies that seek to erase all differences between men and women and undermine the hard-earned gains for women in the area of human rights.

The SOGI Independent Expert is attempting to establish as a protected class by force of law the controversial concept of "gender identity" (i.e., transgender identity).

We are greatly concerned that the UN-appointed Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) is now at the forefront of UN efforts to reinterpret the concepts of "gender" and "gender equality" beyond the longstanding understanding of male and female and equality between the sexes which would erase all sex-based rights and protections for women and girls.

The terms "gender" and "gender equality" are common terms used throughout the UN system and in multiple UN documents and resolutions adopted by consensus by UN Member States to advance the equality of women and girls and were never intended to advance highly controversial transgender polies.

We strongly oppose the Independent SOGI Expert's attempts to undermine the hard-won advancements of women and girls whose rights and private spaces are being violated by men who identify as women.

The best estimate on transgender people is that no more than 0.3 percent of the general population identifies as transgender. Yet this proposed "gender identity" policy can negatively affect the majority of the population, but especially women and girls.¹

There is no evidence to support claims that there is an epidemic of violence against biological males who want to appropriate womanhood, yet allowing biological males to opt in to the category of girls and women puts girls and women at an increased risk of harassment and violence.

Gender identity protection policies operate under the false assumption that people with gender confusion are better off being encouraged to identify as something other than their biological sex. The website SexChangeRegret.com has multiple testimonies from people who have strongly regretted their cross-sex surgeries and who are desperately trying to reintegrate with their biological sex, despite the altered conditions of their body. Some have even had their genitals or

¹ Gates, G. (2011). *How many people are lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender?* The Williams Institute. Retrieved from http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Gates-How-Many-People-LGBT-Apr-2011.pdf

breasts removed and become completely infertile in their attempt to become the opposite sex. This is why Dr. Paul McHugh, University Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins Medical School, who once supported and oversaw many cross-sex surgeries, after seeing the end results warned: "...policymakers and the media are doing no favors either to the public or the transgendered by treating their confusions as a right in need of defending rather than as a mental disorder that deserves understanding, treatment and prevention."

The American College of Pediatricians (ACPeds) warns: "A number of mental health professionals who have successfully treated gender dysphoria in youth stress that the 'affirmation' of children's gender confusion by allowing them to behave and be treated as the opposite sex reinforces this mental disorder and renders the success of therapy less likely." What we should be adopting is a policy calling upon medical and mental health professionals and school officials to assist children in resolving their gender dysphoria by accepting their permanent biological sex, not policies that affirm children in their confusion.

According to the World Health Organization's publication, "Sexual Health Human Rights and the Law," non-discrimination "gender identity" policies would require governments to provide cross-sex hormones and surgeries for children, therefore, we must oppose this term. We agree with Dr. Paul McHugh that "Sex change" is biologically impossible. Dr. McHugh has also stated that "People who undergo sex-reassignment surgery do not change from men to women or vice versa. Rather, they become feminized men or masculinized women ... encouraging surgical intervention is in reality to collaborate with and promote a mental disorder." Therefore, we believe adopting "gender identity policies can hurt people rather than help them.

The Independent Expert on SOGI is seeking to implement so-called "comprehensive sexuality education" (CSE) designed to indoctrinate children and mainstream queer theory, an unhealthy belief system that encourages children to disassociate from their biological sex in harmful ways. It should be noted the concepts of "comprehensive sexuality education" and "sexual orientation and gender identity" were specifically rejected from the 2030 Agenda by many UN Member States and that the establishment of this SOGI expert's mandate is a deliberate attempt to override the positions of States opposed to such and coerce them into accepting SOGI rights. This is a direct assault on the sovereignty of UN Member States and an abuse of the UN system.

"Gender identity" non-discrimination policies are one of the greatest threats to parental rights and are putting children and families at risk everywhere. Consider these troubling developments:

 CANADA: Canada's most populous province, Ontario, passed a law that could allow the government to remove children from their parents if the parents refuse to affirm their children in the opposite gender.

² McHugh, P. (2014, June 12). Transgender Surgery Isn't the Solution. *Wall Street Journal*. Retrieved from https://genderidentitywatch.files.wordpress.com/2014/06/paul-mchugh_-transgender-surgery-isnt-the-solution-wsj.pdf

- UNITED KINGDOM: Christian Concern in the UK is defending four sets of parents who are challenging actions taken by schools and social workers to enable their children to "transition" from female to male, or vice versa.
- CHILE: A law was passed allowing children as young as age 14 to identify as the opposite sex if only one parent consents.
- OUNITED STATES: In Minnesota a 16-year-old boy who was not living at home decided he was a girl. His school and medical providers began treatment to change his appearance from male to female without the mother's knowledge or consent. The county government even provided financial support for the boy without informing his mother. The mother's attorney calls this "a parent's worst nightmare."
- UNITED STATES: A 17-year-old girl in Ohio was taken from her parents and placed with her grandparents because her parents would not allow her to take transgender hormones. (Transgender hormones can render the girl infertile for life).⁴
- OUNITED STATES: The mother of a 7-year-old Texas boy decided to "transition" him to a girl against the father's wishes and sent him to school dressed as a girl and called him by a girl's name. It became a legal battle, and the jury determined the mother had the right to "change" the child's gender, even though the child had never expressed any interest in "transitioning" to a girl.5

We denounce in the strongest terms the Independent Expert on SOGI's attempts to redefine "gender," "gender equality" and other gender-based terms, especially in the UN 2030 Agenda to encompass radical and harmful concepts and gender ideologies that go beyond the concepts of male and female based on biological sex.

Cremona (Italy), 03/13/2021

Ass. Family Day - Difendiamo i Nostri Figli - sede di Cremona



³ Thomas More Society. (2017). Thomas More Society Seeks Vindication for De Facto Emancipation of Minor Son. Retrieved from https://www.thomasmoresociety.org/thomas-more-society-seeks-vindication-for-de-facto-emancipation-of-minor-son/

⁴ O'Neil, T. (2018, February 15). Ohio Christian Parents Lose Custody of 17-Year-Old Daughter for Refusing Her Transgender Drugs. *PJ Media*. Retrieved from https://pjmedia.com/faith/ohio-christian-parents-lose-custody-of-17-year-old-daughter-for-refusing-her-transgender-drugs/

⁵ Judge who ruled on 7-yr-old's gender 'transition' taken off case. (2019, December 6). Retrieved from https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/breaking-judge-who-ruled-on-7-yr-olds-gender-transition-taken-off-case