

Hi Johnnie. Thanks again for your comments. I think perhaps you're attributing things to me I have not done. The whole point of my essay was to basically highlight the fact that biological sex is unambiguous for over 99.98% of people, and this includes the vast majority of trans people. Intersex has absolutely nothing to do with being trans. I am objecting to the claim that identifying with a sex makes you that sex. Sex is not dependent on how one identifies, and this is an important fact to acknowledge because sex differences matter a lot in certain contexts. I then highlighted many areas where acknowledging the reality of biological sex matters.

I must object to you dismissing the website Hunt linked to because you saw the title of an article you didn't like. I admit the title was bad, but if you had actually read the article you would have discovered that the piece in no way advocated conversion therapy. Quite the opposite. What the article highlighted was the fact that recently "gender identity" had been added to the wording that had previously outlawed it in the context "sexual orientation." The thing the article highlighted was the fact that homosexuality and transgenderism are different, and that "affirmation therapy" may not be the best course of action for trans youths since, unlike, homosexuality, a common pathway for gender dysphoric children frequently leads to administering puberty blockers (which have no long term data on safety and appear to only solidify feelings of dysphoria), cross-sex hormones (which lead to permanent infertility), and in many cases invasive surgical intervention.

It may be appropriate to attempt other therapeutic methods that encourage a child to be comfortable in their own bodies and manage dysphoria rather than fast-track them to life-long medical dependency and irreversible procedures. And there's good evidence that these methods, such as "watchful waiting" work. This is in line with the Hippocratic oath to "First, do no harm." I am not opposed to people transitioning, but we need to be very cautious with our willingness to transition children who may not have a full understanding about sex, gender, sexuality, and the permanency of their decisions.

Let me now go through and address some of your other points.

"Colin's paper remains silent about what to do with those he has rounded up and pronounced a danger to women, gays, and children."

This is a very inaccurate portrayal of what I have said, Johnnie. I have never advocated "rounding up" anyone. Your word choice invokes images of concentration camps, and I'd ask you please refrain from such hyperbolic re-framing of my views. Something that you need to understand is that I am 100% NOT claiming that transgender people are a threat to anyone. I don't believe that for a second. I am claiming that a certain kind of ideology that has sprung up around the trans movement that suggests biological sex is a matter of subjective identity as opposed to objective biology is harmful. I am attacking ideas here, not people. Please understand that.

"Gay men (who were grouped with trans women) wore pink triangles in the Nazi Holocaust and lesbians (grouped with trans men) wore black triangles. When you plant your flag in the name of "biological reality" you aren't doing anything new, you are dangerously right wing and being naive or culturally ignorant about those you deem unreal is no excuse."

We don't need to bring up Nazis here. This is hyperbolic and doesn't address the substance of any of my claims. There is such a thing as biological reality Johnnie. Over 99.98% of people are unambiguously male or female. I'm a male, you're a male. These are undeniable facts.

Also, you again claim that I am saying that some people are "unreal." Please, if you are going to attribute such things to me, then directly quote me. This is simply not true. I have never denied the existence of anyone. Some people have gender dysphoria. They exist. Some people are intersex. They exist too. Some people are unambiguously male or female. They also exist. I am not denying anyone's existence whatsoever, so please stop insisting that I am.

"Atascadero State Hospital was the place where LGBT people were institutionalized as criminally insane, often against their will, declared unnatural, not normal and sick. There they performed lobotomies, used pharmacological water boarding and performed castrations to fix those deemed "unreal" and sick."

I am of course against institutionalizing trans and intersex people. I've never called for such things and I would be appalled to see this happen to anyone. Again, I am not claiming anybody is "unreal."

"Colin, your rhetoric points a finger at trans persons and declares them dangerous to women, gays and children."

Absolutely not. Read my essay again. I do not believe, and I have never once said, that transgender people are dangerous to anyone. I don't believe that to be true for a second. I am saying that the ideology that tells people biological sex isn't real, or that it's simply a matter of identity, is harmful and dangerous. Again, I am attacking ideas/ideologies, not people. This is a vitally important distinction.

"Scientists have made the mistake of thinking they pronounce the pure truth, Uncorrupted by politics and culture before."

I have never said I or science can pronounce Absolute Truth. But we don't need Absolute Truth in order to make confident claims. Again, the earth orbits the sun. Gravity is real. Evolution happens. Male and female are real biological categories that apply to many organisms from humans to asparagus.

"Again, Transpersons pose no threat to me as a gay man, calling a transphobic lesbian a bigot is a far distance from dangerous."

Again, I never said trans people pose a threat to you. I think an ideology rooted in sex denialism does, however, harm some groups, and my essay addresses that. Also, a lesbian who refuses to data a biological male who identifies as a woman is not a bigot. They're just a lesbian.

"Again, your rhetoric is inflaming, they are published in a context, we have a hostile LGBT President and your intentions will not save you. I write this as much for your future conscience as for the well-being of those you describe as dangerous, confused and unreal."

My essay was anything but inflaming. I refuse to not speak what I see as true because some theoretical bad actor might use my arguments to further their agenda. I am speaking out against a harm I see as very real. I will denounce any bigot who would twist my words. But I will not censor myself. And again, I have never described transgender people as “dangerous, confused, or unreal.”

Stop putting words in my mouth and please address my actual claims if you would actually like to have a discussion. This is not an even discussion. I am hearing you out and assuming the most charitable interpretations of your views as possible. You appear to be assuming the absolute least charitable interpretations of mine. You’re my friend Johnnie, and I assure you I am coming from a place of complete compassion. I have no animosity towards the LGBT+ community at all. Please understand that.