

# PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall wrote yesterday in support of banning transgender girls from girls' sports in [his latest Supreme Court amicus brief](#) — but he once again failed to recognize the secondary consequences of his actions. Supporting policies like the Idaho law discussed in the brief will ultimately result in all girls — transgender or not — being unjustly targeted and harassed simply for being good at sports.

It is not settled science that transgender girls (who Marshall's brief ignorantly and inaccurately refers to as "biological males") have an innate advantage in sports, especially those who have not been through a testosterone-based puberty. And trans girls [are not participating in girls' sports at any significant rate](#), nor are non-transgender boys trying to transition to dominate girls' sports. Trans girls and the struggles they go through to live as themselves are being willfully misunderstood by those who should be protecting them from discrimination at a vulnerable time in their lives.

Just this summer, we've seen that those who are looking to stoke fears and score political points with the conservative right will find any excuse to attack a woman they see as being too strong, too fast, or too good — transgender or not.

High-performing women athletes have been subject to invasive medical exams to "prove" they are women [for an entire century](#). In that time, [no athletics governing body \(including the International Olympic Committee\) has been able to develop a test that neatly categorizes athletes into two wholly distinct sexes](#). Indeed, the Idaho law supported by AG Marshall's brief [creates multiple sex tests](#) that can be at odds with each other ([common intersex conditions can give non-transgender girls XY chromosomes](#), and genetic testing to sequence chromosomes is one proposed test).

There is no end to the underlying misogyny of this movement and no women which it will not target. Imane Khelif, a non-transgender Olympic boxer from Algeria, is [still facing attacks from conservative politicians](#) questioning her participation in women's sports [despite being born a girl and raised as a woman](#) — because she is too strong to fit their limited understanding of femininity. Preventing gatekeeping in sports is a women's issue: further restricting girls' access to girls' sports (transgender or not) only serves to make all girls targets of scrutiny by adult men.

The future that AG Marshall's latest amicus brief is striding towards is a future where your daughter's sex can be called into question for any reason — even if just one other athlete feels like they should've won a race. If your daughter wants to keep playing sports after that, she'd need to submit to potentially extreme scrutiny — including blood tests and genital exams. Nobody wants school-aged girls to have to go through that just to play the sports they love.

The groups behind this push to allow for unnecessary medical exams on children are thinking exclusively of their conception of transgender kids. However, the shortsightedness of blindly putting trans kids onto a team they don't belong to is clear when we look at what happens when [trans boys \(assigned female at birth\) are forced onto girls' teams — they dominate](#). In Texas, after it became law that kids would play on

a team according to their birth certificate, wrestler Mack Beggs, a trans boy, went undefeated to win the girls' state championship for two consecutive seasons. [When interviewed](#) about the legislation that forced him onto the girls' team against his wishes, he said "These legislatures will only be doing more harm than good. ... they do not understand [trans athletes]."

The point of school sports is for kids to have fun and make friends. We shouldn't make kids paranoid about the gender of any girls who happen to be good at sports. We also don't need to give potential bullies a path to putting their classmates under investigation by the state. We need to keep our kids safe from violence and harassment — but AG Marshall's plan pushes the nation in the wrong direction.

This shouldn't be the most pressing issue for anyone who cares about education policy when [nearly 1 in 4 Alabama third graders aren't reading at grade level](#). It shouldn't be the most pressing issue for anyone who cares about children's health when [rural hospitals are closing because of our representatives' inaction on expanding Medicaid](#). It can't possibly be the most pressing issue for those truly concerned about children's safety, when [multiple school shootings have already happened in Alabama this year](#), and [at least nineteen K-12 students have been shot at school or school-sponsored events just since 2018](#).

The degree to which our state government mismanages resources in the pursuit of trivial culture war topics — when Alabama has real issues that need immediate attention — should be upsetting to everyone who calls Alabama home. Anyone who cares about actually solving problems should consider this while voting for their state representatives and governor in 2026.

Marshall's seat will be up for election then, too — so maybe he should change course, stop indulging in propaganda, and let kids be kids.