



## Why I back Esther Rantzen's call for a debate on assisted dying — by SARAH VINE

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As ministers crack down on spread of gender ideology in schools...

# Kemi: Teaching children you can be born in the 'wrong' body is harmful

By **Martin Beckford**  
and **Connor Stringer**

**TEACHING** children they can be born in the wrong body is 'harmful', Kemi Badenoch warns today.

The Equalities Minister spoke out after the Government launched a long-awaited crackdown on the spread of 'contested and confused' gender ideology in schools.

She said the worst of the 'toxic' debate over trans rights has been played out in classrooms, with parents shut out as pupils have changed their names and uniforms.

Writing in the Daily Mail, Mrs Badenoch pledges that guidelines published yesterday will protect young people and provide teachers with much-needed clarity.

And she vows to fight for free speech, saying those who seek to 'force' terminology on others, compelling them to follow an ideology, show a lack of tolerance.

From now on, school staff will have to consider if a pupil asking to identify as the opposite sex has been influenced by social media or peer pressure – and must have their parents' consent before taking

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