

Transgendering Our Kids AN IFA SPECIAL REPORT

Made in God's image, altered by activists.

Pray. This is a hard, heart-wrenching, unthinkable topic. You will likely learn things you did not want to know. We are approaching this topic with a balance of careful words, yet with enough description to clearly share with you what is happening to our children. This issue needs much prayer, but also strong voices who can expose and stand against the abuse.

"We're ruining an entire generation of young people, and it's serious business....

That is child abuse...We need to be calling it what it is."

-Walter Heyer, former transgender

For decades, gay activists have promoted "born this way" to claim that they were born with the sexual attraction toward the same sex, contrary to the Bible. "It's who we are made to be," they would claim — adults choosing a lifestyle that is not God's design. Eventually letters and lifestyles were added to L and G to include BTQ and a growing number of choices, identities, and preferences. It seems that the 2015 Obergefell decision, nationally and legally requiring same-sex marriage, opened the floodgates for a rapid and exponential growth in sexual identity additions.

What happened next we were unprepared for and are shocked by — grooming and instructing young children in sexual interests and choices, and the transgendering of our children — both emotionally and physically. We are here. It is happening in every community, state, and in many schools and homes.

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:27

PRAY

for each person listed in this guide to understand that true identity is only found in knowing our Creator. Recent studies have shown that the number of transgender kids has <u>doubled</u> in the last five years. As of June 2022, an estimated <u>300,000 teenagers</u> in the U.S. identify as transgender, which is 1.4% of the population.

This trend surprises us, but it has not caught God unaware. As Creator and loving Father, surely His heart is breaking for these children and families. We can take comfort in the fact that He is able to change hearts and minds. We can join Him through prayer and action. **Pray for discernment and direction on this issue.**

PRAY

that light would shine on the practices that are already entrenched in schools and medical communities.

PRAY

for God's will to be done in our nation, for changed hearts and laws for the protection of our children.

Pray for health professionals.

Pray that today's health professionals understand the true science behind gender identity issues and not perpetuate the symptoms. Pray <u>Jeremiah 29:11</u>.

Gender Dysphoria is a thing. Gender Identity is not.

There is a legitimate mental health condition that leads people to believe that they are living in the wrong body—that they "feel" like the opposite sex. It is called Gender Dysphoria. What is interesting, however, that instead of treating the disorder, psychiatrists, plastic surgeons and counselors today have chosen to feed into the disorder. Most treatment plans propose a physical "solution" that actually perpetuates and affirms the wrong perceptions, the broken image, of the mental disorder.

Dr. Paul McHugh, psychiatrist and Director of the Department of Behavioral Science at Johns Hopkins Hospital likens it to treating someone with body dysmorphia or anorexia. It starts with an overvalued idea. In the case of anorexia, it is overvalued to be thin. Treatment for someone with anorexia isn't to join them in their overvalue of thinness, offering affirmation that they indeed should become thinner and lead them to physical treatment so as to validate their faulty thinking. Instead, clinical treatment for anorexia is to help change behavior and thinking, so that patients develop healthy and accurate views of themselves. Dr. McHugh says that gender dysphoria is similar and treatment should be too, but what is happening is the opposite. Instead, the current standard of care for gender dysphoria is "affirmative care" where the patient actually self-diagnoses, and the doctors "aid" them by affirming their thoughts, and providing encouragement, hormone therapy, even surgery to support their mental disorder. This departure in treatment is crazy, literally.



Photo Credit: John Hopkins Medicine

Many years ago, Dr. McHugh challenged psychiatry colleagues who were performing these kinds of surgeries on adults to conduct follow-up research to sex-change operations. The results were disturbing. Most "hadn't had any improvement in any of their psychosocial issues that were the whole reason for doing it in the first place," McHugh recalls. In fact, many of the patients had become suicidal and depressed and regretful of their surgery.

A <u>comprehensive, 30 year study</u> confirmed this in 2011, concluding that **patients who undergo sex reassignment** surgery are at higher risk for suicide, attempted suicide, and criminal behavior.

Dr. McHugh has long been vocal about the dangers of "collaborating with madness" instead of studying, curing, and ultimately preventing it. McHugh doesn't doubt that many doctors are motivated by economic and political factors instead of scientific evidence. Instead of using the clinical term "gender dysphoria" now doctors are using the term "transgender," indicating that they have bought into the delusion. Planned Parenthood has joined in "treatment" for gender dysphoria, offering hormone therapy as a new service.

There are 215 doctor residency programs in pediatric gender affirmation therapies across the nation, training new pediatricians in gender transition as if it is medical science.

Pray about the forces behind it.

Pray for the spirit behind the movement, contributing to the crisis of identity in our nation and the destruction of the family. Pray Romans 9:20.

What is behind the move to transgender kids?

The transgender movement is the newest installment in the push to derail our Judeo-Christian culture through social engineering.



One group that is behind such activity is the <u>Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)</u>. This group promotes understanding, happiness, discovery, and interpersonal harmony. This could be a good thing, but in practice it becomes a means of reforming children's values, ideas, and relationships. Parents are relegated to the sidelines, rather than staying at the center of a child's life. By taking it upon themselves to shape a young child's social values, these learning systems actually purposely undermine the family.

There are three phases of moving toward collectivism (Stella Morabito, Senior Writer at the Federalist and former intelligence professional):

Phase 1: Propaganda (tell people how to think, feel, and believe)

Phase 2: Agitation (work to make it universal)

Phase 3: Compliance and Conformity (ensure that all are in line).

All three phases are present right now in the transgender movement.

Propaganda is telling us that we should accept transgenderism as legitimate. Our media are saturated with positive depictions of gender transitioning. **Agitation** is the public shaming of anyone who questions or opposes transgenderism. Books, media, stories, curricula, and speakers positively portray transgenderism and its acceptance as normal by society while demonizing Christians and others who believe differently. **Compliance and Conformity** is what we see with laws that are being proposed (such as HR5) and passed on national and state levels promoting and protecting the acceptance of transgenderism.

Indoctrination of young children to accept and embrace the normalcy of transgenderism is happening from early elementary age on. School boards are increasingly pushing books, curricula, and programs in our schools that contribute to the destruction of the traditional family and the discarding of scientific and biblical identity.

By isolating and labeling those who are hesitant or disagree as bigots, it is easier for their message to permeate the schools. It seems kind and accepting, but it is actually controlling and narrow-minded.

What is the end goal in all of this? Our battle is not against flesh and blood, or its humanistic agenda, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:12). Satan is out to destroy the binary human identity God has created and replace it with gender fluidity.

And what better way for Satan to accomplish that than to force his lies into our schools where kids' thinking is shaped during their most impressionable years?

Pray about the influence. Activist groups, pop culture in our schools, and medical practices all are pushing transgender ideas. Pray Romans 1:21-22.

How are our children so greatly influenced?

Children as young as 4 are being transitioned to the opposite sex by their parents and doctors. What is shocking is that no long-term studies have addressed the physical effects of taking hormone-altering drugs such as Lupron, especially in children. Still, clinics, hospitals, and counselors advocate for this extreme method of treatment, with dangerous side-effects for adults and children.

The seed of gender questioning is being planted through <u>children's books</u>, all kinds of media, including all streaming and social media, especially TikTok, Instagram, YouTube, and peer influence. In fact, a <u>Brown University study</u> found that peer influence (the study author called it social contagion) can be a large factor in explaining gender dysphoria in some children. (However, Brown has removed the study and all references to it because transgender advocates said it was anti-transgender.) Schools are also teaching stories of gender transition, often without parents' prior knowledge.

Normal play that crosses traditional gender roles is now an indicators of gender identity! Add some encouragement from a teacher, or counselor, or a parent, and virtually **any child can be directed to embrace transgenderism**.

The Kelsey Coalition has <u>video testimonies</u> of parents whose rights have been violated by "the system" because they did not embrace their kid's gender changes, that were led by an intervening adult. These parents feel powerless.

"We are manufacturing transgender kids. We are manufacturing their depression, their anxiety, and it has turned into a huge industry that people are profiting from after kids' lives are completely torn apart."

—Walter Heyer, founder of Sex Change Regret

Walt Heyer, founder of Sex Change Regret, was a victim of sex identity abuse— his grandmother dressed him as a girl from a young age. It was confusing for him and led to questioning his sexuality and eventually a sex change surgery. He regretted it later and transitioned back to a man after years of living as a woman, and now helps others "de-transition." Speaking about the current trend of child transitioning, Heyer pulls no punches. "That is child abuse. We need to be calling it what it is. It's not affirming a child. It's causing them to be depressed and anxious about who they are." Heyer has been outspoken as an opponent of chemical and surgical sex changes as a way of "dealing" with gender dysphoria.

"It's really beyond my understanding why we are even having this discussion because it shouldn't be happening. I don't believe any doctor who injects a young person with hormone blockers should have a license to do so," Heyer declares.

Drag Queen Story Hour at libraries and schools across the nation are admittedly a grooming exercise tor kids to accept the LGBTQ+ lifestyle. Drag Queen Story Times are approved by the American Library Association.

Pray for the trend to reverse. There are "transgender" children in every state and likely every community in our nation. Pray Matthew 24:4.

Transgendering children is happening across the nation, and yes, even in the heartland and Bible belt.

According to a <u>comprehensive study by the UCLA School of Law Williams Institute</u>, there are more transgender youth in the Southeast (including Texas) than any other region. However, the highest concentration as a percentage of age group is the Northeast, followed by the Southeast.

A searchable database with <u>transhealthcare.org</u> includes clinics and "gender affirming" surgeons in every state and in 48 participating nations. There are currently <u>215 residencies</u> for pediatricians in transgender protocol and therapies. However, there may be a silent majority who are afraid to speak out. Fortunately, there are also some brave physicians and medical experts who are speaking out against the trend of disfiguring children for the sake of feelings.

Dr. Michael Laidlaw, an endocrinologist from California, is one who is bucking the trend, and loudly. He shared at a recent panel discussion hosted by The Heritage Foundation, that "**there is no objective test to diagnose this**, yet we are giving very harmful therapies on the basis of no objective diagnosis." That means there is no blood test, no brain scan, no genetic testing that is done before choosing to declare a child "transgender" and begin physical treatment, as reported by Brandon Showalter of <u>The Christian Post</u>.

To "treat" these children, doctors intervene. Such interventions can include puberty blockers (which disrupt the natural maturation of the body), cross-sex hormones (which flood the body with hormones natural to the opposite sex), and surgery to remove healthy but unwanted reproductive organs and perhaps to craft faux organs natural to the opposite sex. Girls as young as tweens have gotten double mastectomies. Later, as they get older, they can choose the surgery to fashion a male organ from a skin graft from their forearm, which results in an organ for show —no function.

Two doctors prominent in medically transitioning children are **Ileana Sherer** and **Johanna Olson-Kennedy**. These two doctors and promoters of child transgenderism, are flippant about the treatments they perform, as seen in this <u>video</u>, Johanna Olson- Kennedy explains that life-altering decisions are solid in the hands of adolescents. According to reporting from Christian Post, Ileana Sherer tells about giving puberty blockers to 8 and 9 year-olds without hesitation. Olson-Kennedy's <u>youngest patient</u> is 3 years old.

There is big money in it for them and the other surgeons who are taking these cases. The U.S. sex reassignment surgery market size <u>was valued</u> at **USD 1.9 billion** in 2021 and is expected to expand at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 11.23% from 2022 to 2030. The rising incidences of gender dysphoria and the increasing number of people opting for gender confirmation surgeries are expected to boost the growth during the forecast period.

Endocrinologist Laidlaw disagrees with selling these surgeries as low-risk and refers to puberty blockers as a form of "chemical conversion therapy." Speaking out as a medical professional of any kind can get you in hot water. Laidlaw tells <u>Christian Post</u>, "I have been told by a Kaiser doctor: 'Well, I can't say anything about this or I may lose my job. I have a family to feed . . . "

Pray for trans movement leaders. People embracing this lifestyle need a touch from God to have their eyes opened to the truth of identity in

There are multiple groups who are enabling and championing child transgendering.



Melanie Willingham-Jaggers, Executive Director of GLSEN

GLSEN's profile in schools has skyrocketed in recent years, partnering with retailers such as Target and the National Education Association. The goal that founder Kevin Jennings outlined in his book, Queering Elementary Education, has come to fruition with GLSEN curriculum used as a part of Common Core education modules in public schools from K-12.

Medical Associations

The following professional medical associations have embraced the transgender trend for children. Their influence is great due to their professional association authority:

American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association, The Endocrine Society



Photo Credit: Getty Images

Government Officials

President Biden appointed Dr. Rachel Levine (pictured) to fill the role of the Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services. Levine is a transgender "woman." His radical beliefs include that children can and should undergo surgery and hormone treatments.



Photo Credit: Wikimedia

The Pritzker Family

Prominent in influencing, supporting, and donating to causes that support the transgender agenda, the billionaire family includes Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker, former Obama Administration Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker, and pictured here James (now transitioned to Jennifer) Pritzker.



Photo Credit: <u>Steven Pisano,</u> CC BY 2.0, <u>Wikimedia</u>

Jazz Jennings & TransKids Purple Rainbow Foundation

Jazz Jennings is a transgender celebrity. A TCL show chronicles Jazz's journey, which began at age 5. Terrible surgical complications related to the puberty-blocking drugs that were prescribed for years. In March 2023, Jazz said on the show, "I just want to feel like myself, like that's it. I don't care," he said. "All I want is to be happy and feel like me, and I don't feel like me, ever."

Doctors

These are the leading doctors who are performing therapies and surgeries on children and promoting trans philosophy at seminars and conferences.

Michelle Forcier, MD Hasbro Children's Hospital Providence, RI

Ilana Sherer, MD Sutter Health Dublin, CA

Norman Spack, MD Children's Hospital Boston, MA

Johanna Olson-Kennedy, MD Keck School of Medicine University of SoCal

Pray for those speaking truth. More and more experts are exposing and cautioning the public. Pray Ephesians 4:15.

There are brave people who are speaking our about the transgender issue, many at great risk to their own careers.



Dr. Michael Laidlaw, **Endocrinologist, Sutter Health** Laidlaw is a vocal voice of reason within the medical community, exposing the untested medical therapies given to children.



on the Family

Walt Heyer, Former Transgender Heyer lived for over 20 years as a transitioned female. He has founded the group Sex Change Regret.



Photo Credit: GoLocalProv

Dr. Michelle Cretella, **Executive Director, American College of Pediatricians** Cretella has been relentlessly vocal about the harm of the transgender issue.



Dr. Quentin Van Meter, Ped. **Endocrinologist** After studying with one of the foremost early transsexual proponents

at Johns Hopkins, Van Meter calls the



Dr. William Malone, **Endocrinologist** Co-author of the rebuttal to the Endocrine Society's gender affirmative treatment" (GAT) which approves treatment for children, which is untested.



Hopkins Medicine

Dr. Paul McHugh, Psychiatrist, **Johns Hopkins**

transgender epidemic "a cult."

He shut down the Hopkins gender transition clinic in the 70s (it has reopened). He has cautioned about the dangers of accepted treatments for gender dysphoria.

Pro-Family Policy and Professional Organizations

The following groups are speaking out about the harm, danger, and immorality of transgendering our children: American College of Pediatrics, Family Research Council, The Heritage Foundation

Iournalists

The following journalists have been covering the sobering reality of the transgender movement for children, telling stories the mainstream media will not. Pray that their platform would continue and that their work would be impactful to expose the harm of the children's transgender movement.

Jennifer Bilek (The Federalist), Brandon Showalter (Christian Post), Michael Gryboski (Christian Post), Abigail Shrier (Wall Street Journal), Madeleine Kearns (National Review)

Christian Ministries

Transgender To Transformed, Changed Movement, Living Stones Ministries, Sex Change Regret

Pray for hope and healing. There is hope in Christ for any and everyone. Pray Isaiah 56:4-5.

Recent whistleblower reports have decried pediatric transgender treatment as child abuse.

Several news outlets have drawn attention to what they call "appalling practices" in one of the Pediatric Gender Clinics in the U.S. <u>The Daily Caller News Foundation</u> announced that Missouri Senator Josh Hawley [R] pledged to launch an investigation into the Washington University Transgender Center at St. Louis Children's Hospital following a damaging whistleblower's report of how children there are treated. The Washington University Center is one of 100 such clinics currently around the nation. Fifteen years ago, there were none.

Children are encouraged to seek treatment at these centers, often with inadequate information about lasting effects, and parental rights are routinely violated. Many come with multiple psychological and emotional issues and are led to believe that transgendering will solve those problems.

High profile lawsuits have been filed against Kaiser Permanente by two women who underwent double mastectomies under the age of 18 and who now regret that decision. They allege Kaiser did not provide proper, or *any*, mental health treatment but rushed them to irreversible surgery.

Prayer Points

- Pray for all 100 pediatric transgender clinics to be investigated, for the truth to come to light, and for pediatric transgender treatments to be outlawed and defunded.
- **Pray for the young victims of their abusive practices**, that they may find Christ, healing, and their true identity in Him.
- **Pray for the restoration of respect for parental rights in the medical community**, and that parents would retain their influence in and over the lives of their children.
- Pray for America's families to seek wisdom in parenting children with psychological and emotional disorders and autism.
- **Pray for the Gospel to go forth** to our nation's children so that Jesus can be a firm foundation and the basis of identity for an increasingly lost generation.

Pray for more pushback. Thank God for the growing trend against trans kids treatments. Pray 1 Corinthians 1:25.

A few years ago it was hard to find lawmakers and influencers who would publicly oppose transitioning kids. Now there are many.

States are pushing back

The first state to pass legislation protecting children from hormonal or surgical intervention for transgender therapy is <u>Arkansas</u>. It is called the **SAFE Act** and is also in process to pass in some form in <u>other states</u> as well.

Medical treatment

10 states have **banned** transgender medical treatment for minors (some call it experimentation). These states are: **Alabama**, **Arizona**, **Arkansas**, **Florida**, **Georgia**, **Iowa**, **Mississippi**, **South Dakota**, **Tennessee**, and **Utah**. Due to a legal challenge, Arkansas' Safe Act is currently unenforceable. Alabama's ban on surgeries is already in effect but the ban on puberty blockers and hormones is currently being challenged in court.

Thank God for the legislators and elected officials working to prohibit trans treatments for kids. Pray for success in court and for more states to succeed with such laws.

Scholastic sports

19 states ban transgender students from competing in sports with the opposite sex. These states are: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming. Litigation has challenged the laws passed in Idaho, Indiana, Utah, and West Virginia.

Thank God for this growing trend. Pray for common sense to prevail about sports competition and gender.

Bathrooms

<u>5 states</u> prevent the use of a bathroom by students with a different biological sex in public schools. These states are Alabama, Arkansas, Iowa, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

Individuals pushing back

Transgender celebrity and former Navy Seal Chris Beck (pictured) was a media darling when he was a "woman." Now, however, he has detransitioned and states publicly that the decision to transition ruined his life. He urges others to "slow down." Famed atheist Richard Dawkins publicly decried "bullying" of J.K. Rowling by trans supporters: "As a biologist, there are two sexes and that's all there is to it."



Photo Credit: Sandi Foraci photography - Emailed from subject, CC BY-SA 3.0, Wikimedia

Pray for reformation in our schools. Wracked with confusion as a result of confusing gender ideologies, many children in schools across the nation are desperate for truth. Pray for lives turned to Christ. Pray Psalm 119:9.

If anything is clear from the push to transgender our kids, it is that <u>our public schools have become the primary battleground</u>. Perhaps it should come as no surprise that since legislating prayer out of the classroom and insulating schools against anything promoting religion, the door has swung wide open to all kinds of ungodly ideology and influence.

But God cannot be kept out. A <u>growing hunger for God</u> is rising in our schools. Increasingly desperate school administrators are asking churches to step in and volunteer. Middle school kids and high school kids are desperate for clarity and direction. Satan intended the madness of gender and sexual fluidity for evil, let's pray that God uses it to overwhelm hurting hearts with His love, a true love that will not disappoint.

So let us pray for revival to break out among the students and teachers at America's schools.

Prayer Points

- Pray for God to put a Christian presence in every school through Christian parents, after school clubs, children's ministries, Christian staff, and church volunteers.
- Pray that God raises up Christian teachers to backfill the mass exodus currently taking place. Many districts are struggling with staff shortages as demoralized teachers are resigning.
- Pray for God to arouse hunger in the hearts of school children through the nation for Him and the true identity He has designed for man. God responds to hungry hearts, especially those of our children.
- Pray for the strong arm of God to come against those who are seeking to destroy the souls of our children. Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and be drowned in the depth of the sea. (Matthew 18:5-6)
- Praise Him for His victorious might. Where we might see an unscalable mountain, God sees opportunity. He will defeat the enemy's purposes. Pray that God will open the eyes, hearts and ears of school boards, administrators, teachers, and parents to the absurdity of transgenderism, turn against it, and run to Christ.