

DEBUNKING MYTHS ON TRANSGENDER ATHLETES



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a quick 101

transgender

= people who identify as a gender that is different than the one they were assigned at birth

cisgender

= people who identify with the gender they were assigned at birth

Even if you do not understand someone's gender or lack thereof
Trans & nonbinary people are who they say they are.



Many myths, lies, and misinfo
spreads rapidly about trans
athletes and their inclusion
in sports - specifically
WOMEN'S SPORTS.

Today we will DEBUNK the
top 3 MYTHS believed
about transgender
athletes.

If you learn something today
from this zine, please share it
with someone you know 
& start a conversation.



MYTH:

"They have an unfair advantage"

REALITY:

Biological diversity exists in every demographic. There is no advantage that trans girls have that is anything greater than what is possible within any ordinary group.

When men exhibit biological differences, it is often celebrated in sports communities.

When women (cis or trans) exhibit these differences, they are often questioned if they even ARE women at all in racist, sexist, misogynistic & transphobic ways.

→ (Examples: Caster Semenya, Serena & Venus Williams)

EVERY SPORT requires
different anatomy & talents for success

WE SHOULD CELEBRATE DIVERSITY
instead of focusing on
relative notions of "fairness"

TESTOSTERONE

Higher levels of T are associated with
better performance in only a VERY SMALL
number of athletic disciplines.

400 Meters, 800 Meters, Hammer Throw, Polevault.

At the high school level, trans youth delay
their puberty using puberty blockers.
The "advantage" myth becomes moot..

When ready, trans athletes will take
gender affirming hormones & for
trans feminine athletes that will reduce
muscle mass, reduce red blood cells,
reduce speed & endurance.

There is no "advantage."

SOURCE: Dr. Eric Vilain (NPR interview)
• (<https://n.pr/3s5c5dQ>)

MYTH:

"We're protecting girls in sports"

REALITY:

It's not about protecting anyone. If you try to exclude transgender girls, you have to find out who is trans or not. The following tests have been proposed or passed by Republican led legislatures:

- Gender Verification Tests

- Genital Inspections

→ bit.ly/OhioHB61

→ bit.ly/FL-HB1475

- Tracking Girl's Periods

These bans define a specific mold of "how a woman should be"

At what point is a girl too tall to be considered a girl or her skills too good?

This fascist policing will destroy the women's division of sports, not the inclusion of trans people.

MYTH:

"We have to level the playing field"

REALITY:

Most people falsely believe that excluding trans women from women's sports is feminist & is the "right thing to do" when it isn't



Things That **ACTUALLY**

Threaten Women's Sports:

- The Pay Gap between women/men
- Sexual Assault of women athletes
- Genital Inspections/Testosterone Testing

Things That **DON'T** Threaten Women's Sports:

- Inclusion of Transgender Women & Girls
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👁️ What they DON'T 👁️ want you to KNOW: 👁️

People in power (like Greg Abbott) are FEAR-MONGERING and using propaganda to sway people who care about sports, feminism, women, fairness & equality...they think they can sway you easily & you might think you are doing "good"...

THIS DOESN'T PROTECT WOMEN
IT HARMS ALL WOMEN, TRANS & CIS!

REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING:

TRANS ATHLETES ARE REAL PEOPLE

Trans kids are real kids

Trans people have emotions, hopes & dreams

Stop the dehumanization

Stop hatred & bigotry

Stop the anti-trans genocide

TRANS LIBERATION NOW & FOREVER!!

