

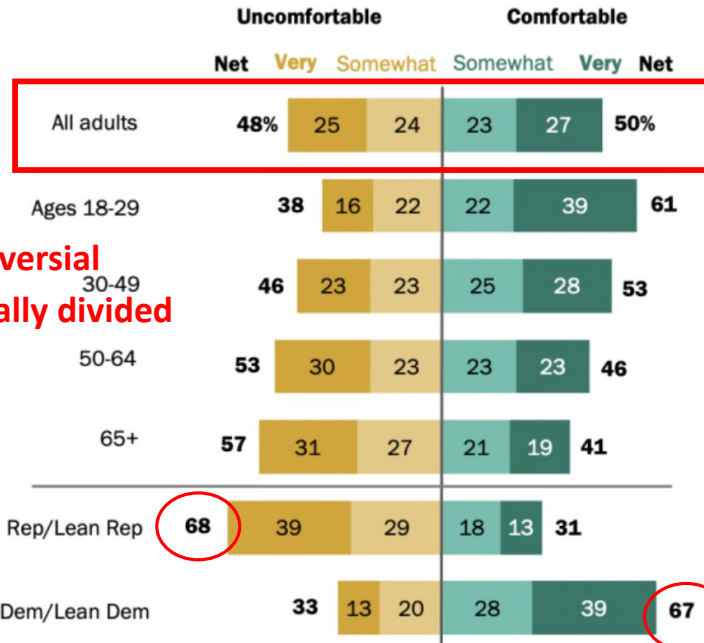


Protecting All Children

Do Americans, Canandaigua residents support the promotion of LGBTQ?

Most Republicans say they are uncomfortable using gender-neutral pronouns to refer to others; most Democrats comfortable

% of adults saying they would feel very or somewhat ____ using a gender-neutral pronoun to refer to someone if they asked them to do so



Clearly, controversial
Clearly, politically divided

Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown. Figures may not add to subtotals due to rounding.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 14-27, 2021.

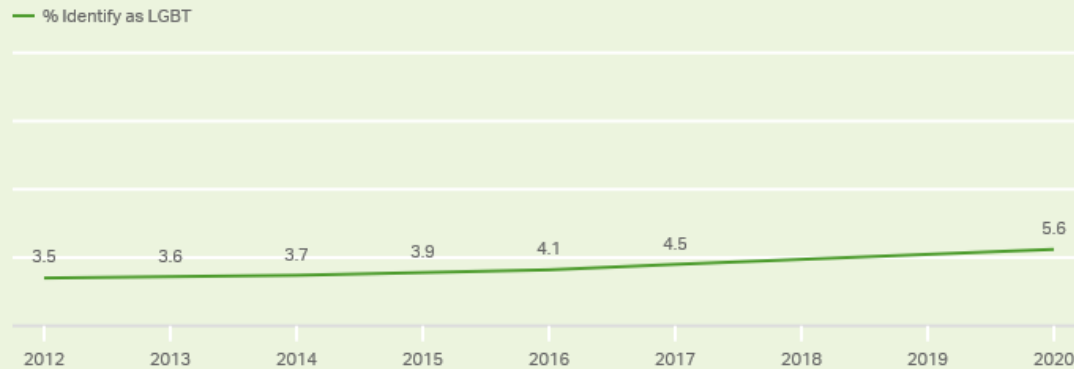
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Clearly, controversial
Clearly, politically divided

What % of the population?

Americans' Self-Identification as LGBT

Which of the following do you consider yourself to be? You can select as many as apply: Straight or heterosexual; Lesbian; Gay; Bisexual; Transgender.



2012-2017 wording: Do you, personally, identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender?

GALLUP

- Consider all the time, energy, resources, revamping of the curriculum spent focusing on this very small percentage of the population
- All of these are limited resources that could be focused elsewhere
- With that said, there is a disturbing trend that attention needs to be drawn to....

Growing shares in U.S. know someone who is transgender or goes by gender-neutral pronouns

% saying they personally know ...

Someone who is transgender



Someone who goes by gender-neutral pronouns



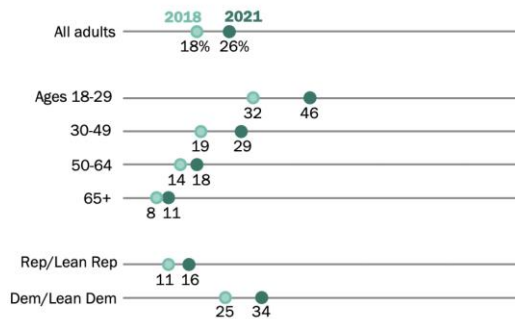
Note: The term transgender was defined for respondents as someone who identifies as a gender that is different from the sex they were assigned at birth.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 14-27, 2021.

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46% of younger U.S. adults know someone who goes by gender-neutral pronouns, up from 32% in 2018

% of adults who say they personally know someone who prefers that others use gender-neutral pronouns when referring to them



Note: In 2018, the question of knowing someone who uses gender-neutral pronouns was only asked of those who indicated they had heard a little or a lot about gender-neutral pronouns.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 14-27, 2021.

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- In the past several years, the number of individuals who know someone who goes by a gender-neutral pronoun has increased significantly
- Largest increase is among young people

Americans' Self-Identification as LGBT, by Generation

	LGBT	Straight/Heterosexual	No opinion
	%	%	%
Generation Z (born 1997-2002)	15.9	78.9	5.2
Millennials (born 1981-1996)	9.1	82.7	8.1
Generation X (born 1965-1980)	3.8	88.6	7.6
Baby boomers (born 1946-1964)	2.0	91.1	6.9
Traditionalists (born before 1946)	1.3	89.9	8.9

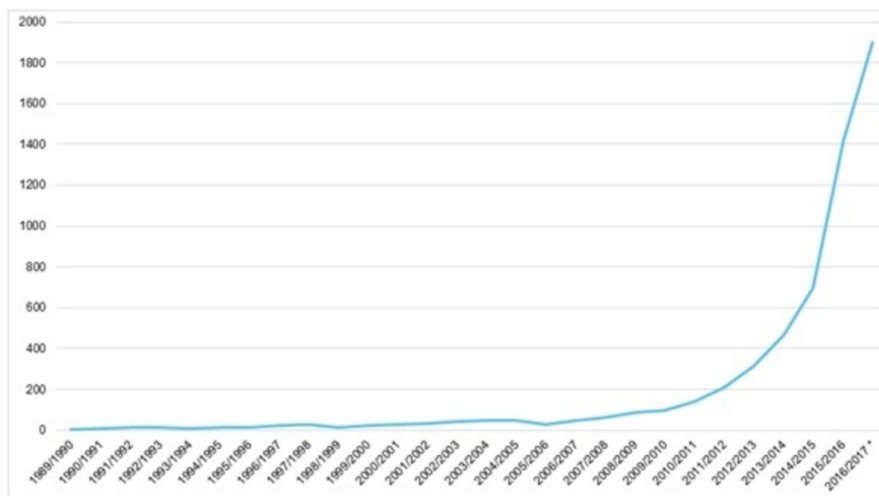
GALLUP, 2020

There has been a significant increase in young people identifying as LGBT

<https://news.gallup.com/poll/329708/lgbt-identification-rises-latest-estimate.aspx>

The number of children and young people who now believe they are really the opposite sex is reflected in the unprecedented recent trend in referrals to the Tavistock Gender Identity Development Service.

Young people identifying as having gender dysphoria



Reference: <https://www.transgendertrend.com>

<https://www.transgendertrend.com>

Transgender– huge increase

- A report from Sweden's Board of Health and Welfare which confirmed a 1,500% rise between 2008 and 2018 in gender dysphoria diagnoses among 13- to 17-year-olds born as girls
- 4,400% in number of teenage girls seeking treatment at the United Kingdom's national gender clinic
- America had one pediatric gender clinic in 2007, today there are hundreds (Shrier 2021)

Why is this alarming?

From article:

"Then in March last year, the backlash started. Christopher Gillberg, a psychiatrist at Gothenburg's Sahlgrenska Academy, wrote an article in the *Svenska Dagbladet* newspaper warning that hormone treatment and surgery on children was "a big experiment" which risked becoming one of the country's worst medical scandals.

In April, *Uppdrag Granskning*, an investigative TV programme, followed up with a documentary profiling a former trans man, Sametti, who regretted her irreversible treatment. In October, the programme turned its fire on the team at Stockholm's Karolinska University hospital, which specialises in treating minors with gender dysphoria. The unit has been criticised for carrying out double mastectomies on children as young as 14, and accused of rushing through treatment and failing to consider adequately whether patients' other psychiatric or developmental issues might better explain their unhappiness with their bodies. The Karolinska disputed the claim, saying it carefully assessed each case.

(above are just examples of the implementation and encouragement of this kind of behavior--- its not harmless! May need to look at underlying issues)

Why is this alarming?

Social/cultural phenomenon

Often underlying mental illness/psychopathologies

“Coming out” is not a cure-all and often actually causes worsening of behaviors

So, focusing on this sharp incline of one sector of LGBTQ– gender dysphoria, trans

Background

- Prior to the mid-2000's, research demonstrated that gender dysphoria that began during or after puberty was seen almost exclusively in natal males
- Starting in the mid-2000s, that switched, whereas now the ratio is more significantly female
- Researchers have suggested that more visibility of transgender people in the media, more information online, a reduction of stigma may explain this, BUT these factors would not explain the significant increase in late-onset gender dysphoria among natal females, and the sex ratio reversal
- If it was a cultural change that made it more acceptable for natal females to seek transition, that would not explain why this phenomenon only seems to be taking place in young people and not the older populations
- **There are many unanswered questions about potential causes for the recent demographic and clinical changes for gender dysphoric individuals (Littman 2018)**

The strongest support for considering that the gender dysphoria was new in adolescence or young adulthood is the parental answers for DSM 5 criteria for childhood gender dysphoria. Not only would none of the sample have met threshold criteria, the vast majority had zero indicators.

The nonexistent and low numbers of readily observable indicators reported in the majority of this sample does not support a scenario in which gender dysphoria was always present but was only recently disclosed to the parents.

Social/cultural phenomenon

- Lisa Littman (2018) published an article in the peer-reviewed journal PLOS ONE entitled *Rapid-Onset Gender Dysphoria in Adolescents and Young Adults: A Study of Parental Reports*
 - Physician, researcher, assistant professor at Brown University School of Public Health
 - 256 parent-completed surveys that met study criteria
 - Comprehensive study
- Expected prevalence of transgender young adults is 0.7%
 - > 1/3 of the friendship groups described in this study had \geq 50% of the AYAs in the group becoming transgender-identified in a similar time frame
 - **Increase > than 70x the expected prevalence rate**

Many of the following slides relate to her research findings


AYA= adolescent and young adults

	n	%
AYAs internet/social media use just prior to announcement	255	
Increased social media/internet use	162	63.5
Decreased social media/internet use	3	1.2
Unchanged social media/internet use	49	19.2
Don't know	41	16.1
AYA exposure to internet content/advice*	251	
How to tell if they are transgender	136	54.2
The reasons that they should transition right away	87	34.7
That if their parents did not agree to take them for hormones, that the parents are "abusive" and "transphobic"	86	34.3
That if they waited to transition they would regret it	73	29.1
That if they didn't transition immediately they would never be happy	72	28.7
How to order physical items (binders, packers, etc) without parents finding out	67	26.7
What to say and what NOT to say to a doctor or therapist in order to convince them to provide hormones	56	22.3
That if their parents are reluctant to take them for hormones, that they should use the "suicide narrative" to convince them (telling the parents that there is a high rate of suicide in transgender teens.)	52	20.7
Medical advice about the risks and benefits of hormones	55	21.9
Medical advice about the risks and benefits of surgery	47	18.7
That it is acceptable to lie to or withhold information about one's medical or psychological history from a doctor or therapist in order to get hormones/get hormones faster	44	17.5
How to hide physical items from parents	40	15.9
How to hide or make excuses for physical changes	26	10.4
How to get money from others online in order to pay for medications, etc	25	10.0
How to get hormones from online sources	24	9.6
How to hide hormones from parents	21	8.4
I don't know if my child received online advice about these topics	127	50.6





*may select more than one answer.

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0202330.t007>

Most (86.7%) of the parents reported that, along with the sudden or rapid onset of gender dysphoria, their child either had an increase in their social media/internet use, belonged to a friend group in which one or multiple friends became transgender-identified during a similar timeframe, or both



Social/cultural phenomenon: Littman Research

- Gender dysphoria onset seemed to occur in context of belonging to a peer group where one, multiple, or all friends became gender dysphoric and transgender-identified during same timeframe
 - Parents also report that their children exhibited an increase in social media/internet use prior to disclosure of a transgender identity
 - Academics have raised questions re: social media's role in the development of gender dysphoria
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Social/cultural phenomenon: Littman Research

- In developmental psychology research, terms **peer contagion** and **social contagion** can be used to describe what may be occurring (peer and social influences that impact an individual's development).
 - "I've spoken to families at top girls' schools who attest that 15, 20, or in one case 30 percent of the girls in their daughter's seventh grade class identify as trans. When you see figures like that, you're witnessing a social contagion in action. There is no other reasonable explanation" (Shrier 2021)
 - Peer contagion has been a documented element in eating disorders and anorexia in teenage girls.
 - "Just as friendship cliques can set the level of preoccupation with one's body, body image, weight, and techniques for weight loss, so too may friendship cliques set a level of preoccupation with one's body, body image, gender, and the techniques to transition."
- Puberty can be a phase of uncomfortableness, so it would seem unwise to have a social world/culture that is feeding you messages that this uncomfortableness indicates gender dysphoria
- Content about transgender issues and transition is complicated:
 - May increase visibility and give a voice to individuals are under-diagnosed/undertreated
 - May cause individuals to believe that vague symptoms, feelings are signs of dysphoria

Quote from Abigail Shrier 2021 (Author of Irreversible Damage: The Transgender Craze Seducing Our Daughters)

- **“Teen girls susceptible to this social contagion are the same high-anxiety, depressive girls who struggle socially in adolescence and tend to hate their bodies...”**
 - Add to that a school environment where you can achieve status and popularity by declaring a trans identity.
 - Add to that the teenage temptation to stick it to mom.
 - Also add the intoxicating influence of social media, where trans activists push the idea that identifying as trans and starting a course of testosterone will cure a girl’s problems.
 - Put those together, and you have a fast-spreading social phenomenon.
 - “These teen girls are in a great deal of pain. Almost all of them have at some point dealt with an eating disorder, engaged in cutting, or been diagnosed with other mental health comorbidities.”

Imprimis, June/July 2021 • Volume 50, Number 6/7 By Abigail Shrier (Author, Irreversible Damage: The Transgender Craze Seducing Our Daughters) The following is adapted from a speech delivered on April 27, 2021, in Franklin, Tennessee, at a Hillsdale College National... Title: Gender Ideology Run Amok

Underlying mental illness/psychopathologies

Characteristics	n	%
Mental disorder or neurodevelopmental disability diagnosed prior to the onset of gender dysphoria*	251	
Anxiety	117	46.6
Depression	99	39.4
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)	29	11.6
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)	21	8.4
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)	20	8.0
Eating Disorder	12	4.8
Bipolar Disorder	8	3.2
Psychosis	6	2.4
None of above	94	37.5
(Other) Borderline	3	1.2
(Other) Oppositional Defiant Disorder	2	0.8
Traumatic or stressful experience prior to the onset of gender dysphoria	252	
Yes	122	48.4
No	91	36.1
Don't know	38	15.1
Other	1	0.4
Types of trauma*	113	
Family	50	44.2
Sex/Gender related	34	30.1
Social	23	20.4
Moving	20	17.7
Psychiatric	9	8.0
Medical	7	6.2
Non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI) before the onset of gender dysphoria	180	
	81	45.0

Note: PRIOR/BEFORE announcement

Type of Trauma -- Family-- i.e. divorce, death in the family

NSSI, example-- cutting

Conclusion: The mental illness, psychopathologies often are prior to gender dysphoria, previous trauma is common, NSSI is common

Underlying mental illness/psychopathologies: Littman

Ability to handle negative emotions productively		255	
	Excellent/Good	34	13.3
	Fair	70	27.5
	Poor/Extremely Poor	148	58.0
	Don't know	3	1.2
Coping style for dealing with strong emotions		254	
	Overwhelmed by strong emotions and tries to /goes to great lengths to avoid feeling them	156	61.4
	Neither avoids nor seeks out strong emotions	29	11.4
	Tries to/goes to great lengths to seeks out strong emotions	33	13.0
	Don't know	25	9.8
	None of the above	11	4.3
Social vulnerabilities		255	
	During adolescence child had social anxiety	177	69.4
	Child had difficulty interacting with their peers	113	44.3
	History of being isolated (not interacting with peers outside of school activities)	110	43.1
	Child felt excluded by peers throughout most of grade school	93	36.5
	Child had persistent experiences of being bullied before the onset of gender dysphoria	74	29.0

*may select more than one answer.

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0202330.t004>

Conclusion: individuals do not seem to cope well with emotions, had social challenges

As will point out later– better to focus on supporting working through mental illness, good support network, handling emotions, anti-bullying, kindness, etc.



Underlying mental illness/psychopathologies: Summary of Littman research and other studies supporting those findings

- The management of adolescent-onset gender dysphoria is more complicated than that of early-onset gender dysphoria
- Individuals with adolescent-onset are more likely to have significant psychopathology, such as:
 - severe psychiatric disorders
 - developmental difficulties
 - large-scale identity issues
- Gender-nonconforming and transgender college students are 4x more likely to report mental health issues compared to the rest of their peers (Bauer-Wolf 2021)
- Sweden Board of Health and Welfare found that among 13 to 17-year-olds females with gender dysphoria, 32.4% had a diagnoses for anxiety disorder, 28.9 % had depression, 19.4 % had ADHD, and 15.2 % had autism (Orange 2020)

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/08/20/survey-finds-mental-health-issues-are-common-among-trans-college-students>

[https://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797\(19\)30219-3/fulltext](https://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797(19)30219-3/fulltext)

So, even by college, mental illness still present so not cure all

The following are examples Littman selected to illustrate peer, trauma, and psychiatric contexts, indicating a more complex clinical scenario

- “12-year-old natal female was bullied specifically for going through early puberty and the responding parent wrote “as a result she said she felt fat and hated her breasts.” She learned online that hating your breasts is a sign of being transgender. She edited her diary (by crossing out existing text and writing in new text) to make it appear that she has always felt that she is transgender.”
- “14-year-old natal female and three of her natal female friends were taking group lessons together with a very popular coach. The coach came out as transgender, and, within one year, all four students announced they were also transgender.”
- “A natal female was traumatized by a rape when she was 16 years of age. Before the rape, she was described as a happy girl; after the rape, she became withdrawn and fearful. Several months after the rape, she announced that she was transgender and told her parents that she needed to transition.”
- “21-year-old natal male who had been academically successful at a prestigious university seemed depressed for about six months. Since concluding that he was transgender, he went on to have a marked decline in his social functioning and has become increasingly angry and hostile to his family. He refuses to move out or look for a job. His entire family, including several members who are very supportive of the transgender community, believe that he is “suffering from a mental disorder which has nothing to do with gender.””
- “14-year-old natal female and three of her natal female friends are part of a larger friend group that spends much of their time talking about gender and sexuality. The three natal female friends all announced they were trans boys and chose similar masculine names. After spending time with these three friends, the 14-year-old natal female announced that she was also a trans boy.”

“Coming out”
is not a cure
all and often
actually
causes
worsening of
behaviors

Littman 2018

- 67.2% of adolescents or young adults told their parent that they wanted to take cross-sex hormones
- 55.9% had high expectations that transitioning would solve problems in social, academic, occupational, mental health areas
- Research demonstrates a potential worsening of preexisting or an onset of new psychiatric conditions and/or the use of maladaptive coping mechanisms
 - May be used to avoid dealing with mental health issues and/or aversive emotions.

Next slide demonstrates

Characteristics	n	%
AYA mental well-being since announcement	254	
Worse	120	47.2
Better	32	12.6
Unchanged or mixed	101	39.8
Don't know	1	0.4
Parent-child relationship since announcement	253	
Worse	145	57.3
Better	18	7.4
Unchanged or mixed	89	35.2
Don't know	1	0.4
Grades/academic performance	220	
Worse	76	34.5
Better	14	6.4
Unchanged/mixed	130	59.1
Range of interests and hobbies	255	
Much broader	2	0.8
Somewhat broader	11	4.3
Unchanged	93	36.5
Somewhat narrower	64	25.1
Much narrower	56	22.0
There are very few topics outside of transgender issues that my child is interested in	28	11.0
Don't know	1	0.4

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0202330.t008>

Conclusion: making announcement of transgender, although, popularity did increase.... Resulted in worse well-being, worse parent-child relationship, unchanged or worse grades, and narrowing of interests/hobbies

Parents reported subjective declines in their AYAs' mental health (47.2%) and in parent-child relationships (57.3%) since the AYA "came out"

and that AYAs expressed a range of behaviors that included:

expressing distrust of non-transgender people (22.7%)

stopping spending time with non-transgender friends (25.0%)

trying to isolate themselves from their families (49.4%)

and only trusting information about gender dysphoria from transgender sources (46.6%).

Littman Research Conclusions:

Rapid-onset of gender dysphoria that is socially mediated and/or used as a maladaptive coping mechanism has the potential to cause:

- (1) non-treatment/delayed treatment for trauma and mental health problems
- (2) alienation from their parents/social support systems
- (3) isolation from mainstream, non-transgender society; this may impact educational, vocational potential
- (4) Possible irreversible medical/surgical risks transition without benefit, and possible risk/harm

Fluid/Not static

- > 70 % of individuals with gender dysphoria naturally outgrew their gender dysphoria (Shrier 2021)
- 52% of gay, 80% of lesbian, and 90% bisexual identified individuals had multiple changes on the dimensional variables (Sprigg 2018)
- Research shows gender confusion does not have a medical basis; unclear etiology (Stanton 2021)
- “Today, however, we don’t leave these children alone. Instead, the moment children seem not to be perfectly feminine or perfectly masculine, we label them as “trans kids.” Teachers encourage them to reintroduce themselves to their classes with new names and new pronouns. We take them to therapists or doctors, nearly all of whom practice so-called affirmative care—meaning they think it is their job to affirm the diagnosis of gender dysphoria and help the children medically transition.” -- Abigail Shrier
- May be difficult to resort back to identifying as original gender due to the new attention and social accolades and new ‘identity’
 - In Littman research, “a parent of a child that wanted to revert back relayed that the child thought none of her friends would understand and expressed a strong desire to “. . .get out of the culture that ‘if you are cis, then you are bad or oppressive or clueless.’
 - “Two families were able to relocate and both respondents reported that their teens have thrived in their new environments and new schools. One respondent described that their child expressed relief that medical transition was never started and felt there would have been pressure to move forward had the family not moved away from the peer group.”

Gender Ideology Run Amok

[June/July 2021](#) • [Volume 50, Number 6/7](#) • [Abigail Shrier](#); Imprimis

Reference: <https://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF18E83.PDF>

Reference: <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/helping-kids-recognize-the-myths-of-gender-identity-and-transgenderism>

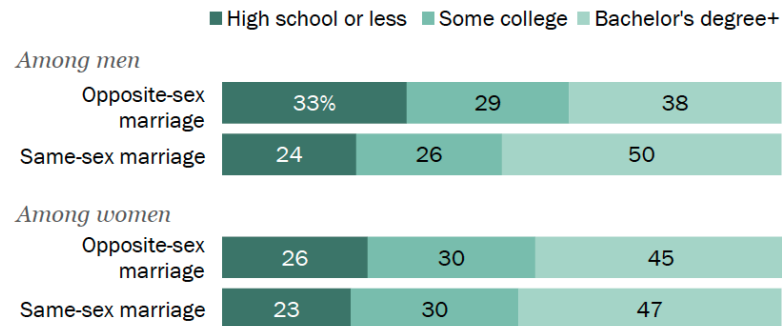
Bullying is NOT okay.... This group may not be the only ones bullied, though.... (more responses from Littman 2018 study)

- Parent comment: “Great increase in popularity among the student body at large. Being trans is a gold star in the eyes of other teens.”
- 60.7% of the AYAs experienced increased popularity within friend group after announcing a transgender-identification
- 60% of the friend groups were known to mock those not identified as LGBTIA. Parent Comments supporting this:
 - “They are constantly putting down straight, white people for being privileged, dumb and boring.”
 - “In general, cis-gendered people are considered evil and unsupportive, regardless of their actual views on the topic. To be heterosexual, comfortable with the gender you were assigned at birth, and non-minority places you in the ‘most evil’ of categories with this group of friends. Statement of opinions by the evil cis-gendered population are consider phobic and discriminatory and are generally discounted as unenlightened.”
 - “I hear them disparaging heterosexuality, marriage and nuclear families.”
 - “New vocabulary includes ‘cis-stupid’ and ‘cis- stupidity.’
 - “They passionately decry ‘Straight Privilege’ and ‘White Male Privilege’—while emphasizing their own ‘Victimhood.’”

Underprivileged?
Gay men don't appear to be socio-economically. Maybe the narrative as an underprivileged, victimized, bullied groups is not entirely accurate?

Men in same-sex marriages more likely to have earned a bachelor's degree or higher than men in opposite-sex marriages

Educational attainment of men and women married in or after 2010, by marriage type



Note: Estimates refer to U.S. adults ages 18 and older who are married, spouse present. "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of the 2019 American Community Survey (IPUMS).

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So the message that they are underprivileged may not be true.

Political Ideology...

- We are not fighting against LGBTQ individuals, we are fighting against activists trying to push an agenda; we are trying to protect all children from this agenda
- This gender identity ideology/indoctrination has similar elements to that of critical race theory (Shrier 2021)
 - Critical race activists teach kids that they are defined by skin color
 - Gender identity ideology seeks to teach kids they are defined by their gender, of which there are many more than male and female
- Marxism/critical theory has a guiding principle of abolish, deconstruct Judeo-Christian principles that are foundational to this country, family structure, existing social conditions, gender, etc. It seeks to create division and upheaval (oppressors vs. oppressed)
- One example of this deconstruction is demanding individuals to use non-gendered designations for family relationships which dehumanizes and demoralizes relationships (Heyer 2021)

Slippery slope is happening ...

- Fall of 2018, Sweden Social Democrat-led government proposed a new law which would (Orange 2020):
 - reduce the minimum age for sex reassignment medical care from 18 to 15
 - remove all need for parental consent
 - allow children as young as 12 to change their legal gender
- Stockholm's Karolinska University hospital specializes in treating minors with gender dysphoria
 - criticized for carrying out double mastectomies on children as young as 14
 - accused of rushing through treatment and failing to address other psychiatric/developmental issues
- These types of discussions/atrocities are now also happening in the US

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/feb/22/ssweden-teenage-transgender-row-dysphoria-diagnoses-soar>

Need to be very careful at what we are promoting... implications of this ideology

Summary

Highly controversial, political ideology, Marxist indoctrination of children

- School has no place in promoting this controversy/ideology and indoctrinating children
- A school goal should not be creating a microcosm of the cultural trends of the day; should be immune to this

Limited resources are being spent on a very small % of the population; furthermore, research shows very complex underpinnings, so resources offered are not evidence-based and may actually cause further harm

- Safer and evidence-based is to stay focused on anti-bullying, kindness, character education, etc.
- Once you start playing identity politics, indoctrination and divisiveness follows

Social/peer contagion significant driving force in latest alarming increase of gender dysphoria trend amongst teenage girls

- New phenomenon that does not appear to be healthy for the child, family; may be maladaptive coping strategy, worsening mental illness; research inconclusive
- School systems may be contributing to this trend with good intentions gone bad

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