

Testimony of Tracye Bennis-Sine, Montgomery County resident

For submission to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Committee on Education in support of House Bill No. 972

Mr. Chairman and Committee members, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill No. 972, the Fairness in Women's Sports Act.

I am a resident of Glenside in Montgomery County. I am also a mother, a feminist, and a signatory to the Declaration on Women's Sex-Based Rights.

It appears to me that what Rep. Gleim and the co-sponsors of this bill are offering this Committee and this legislature is a return to sanity. It should go without saying that women's and girls' sports are for women and girls. Athletic categories are segregated by sex due to obvious differences between men and women and between boys and girls. This is in no way unfair to male athletes, who have always been given the opportunity to play on men's and boys' teams. House Bill No. 972 specifically states that they should continue to be given this opportunity, in that it calls for the designation of male, female, and co-ed teams. The bill excludes no one.

In no other area do we include pretenders to a designation within that designation. To do so would be to eliminate any meaning from that designation. Girls' and women's sports do not exist if they include men and boys. Again, this should go without saying. Please do not allow a reactionary men's rights movement that would allow men and boys to "identify" as women and girls dictate policy in our state. Please stand for women, for girls, and for sanity.

I will close with a quote from Jolene Grover, a brave 14-year-old from Loudon County, VA, fighting to maintain private spaces for girls in her school district:

"Everyone knows what a boy is — even you."

Thank you very much for your time.

Tracye Bennis-Sine  
Glenside, PA