

## Written evidence submitted by C Wilson [GRA1776]

I am a mother of 2 daughters and the reasons I am submitting to this inquiry is my concern around safeguarding of children and the protection of women's single sex space.

### **Should the requirement for a diagnosis of gender dysphoria be removed?**

No.

This is Stonewall's definition of trans –

*Trans is an umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth. Trans people may describe themselves using one or more of a wide variety of terms, including (but not limited to) transgender, transsexual, gender-queer (GQ), gender-fluid, non-binary, gender-variant, crossdresser, genderless, agender, nongender, third gender, bi-gender, trans man, trans woman, trans masculine, trans feminine and neutrois.*

The meaning of Trans has been expanded from “transsexual’ to include many other gender identities including cross-dressers, drag -artists. Without a diagnosis of gender dysphoria – then we have no clear gate-keeping (or definition) of the terms transsexual or even transman/woman, there is no safe-guarding and an obvious conflict of rights – gender identity vs sex. It removes the understanding and accepted boundaries in place to protect single sex spaces - such as women's single sex spaces in prisons, changing rooms, rape centres, hospital wards and sport etc.

Interesting many people, mainly the young, are declaring themselves as “trans” – but very few GRC's are being issued. Questions need to be asked why this is? I do not believe it is because of the GRC process – but some form of social contagion and wider problems within society.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/09/16/minister-orders-inquiry-4000-per-cent-rise-children-wanting/>

Nor do I see the same increases in middle age women identifying as men. Why?

### **Should there be changes to the requirement for individuals to have lived in their acquired gender for two years?**

No – with the widening of the meaning of trans – there must be some gate-keeping and safeguarding around who can declare themselves as a transsexual / transwomen/man. Is an identity something that can be changed on a whim? If yes then it demeans what it is to be a transsexual. If yes, then the need for protection of single- sex spaces becomes paramount.

## Should the age limit at which people can apply for a Gender Recognition Certificate (GRC) be lowered?

Absolutely not. There has been a huge increase in girls identifying as boys – there is not enough research behind why this is happening. Nor is there enough research into medical interventions (the use of puberty blockers) This should be and is a very important life changing decision and it is not to be taken lightly. Teenage years are very complex and all child/teenagers need time to develop properly.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/doubts-over-evidence-for-using-drugs-on-the-young-2vk26hrvx>

More research needs to be conducted into those young people that Detransition.

<https://medium.com/@barereality/the-detransitioners-72a4e01a10f9>

I spoke with the Headmaster at my daughters school about this and I know that the school Heads in my area have raised this issue about “gender identity” between themselves. They are concerned how they safeguard and support all the children in their care.

Lowering the age people can apply for a GRC would allow teenage boys who identify as girls into girls changing rooms. This is not acceptable and most pragmatic parents would not accept this for their daughters.

**Additional comments** – we must stop conflating sex and gender. They are entirely different and the EHRC needs to give much stronger guidance over their use. It would help to create some definitions around these terms – especially gender identity, and trans, transsexual etc.

**November 2020**