

# FACTSHEET - Gender Identity

## School Boards & the Human Rights Code

Gender identity and gender expression became a new protected characteristic under the Canadian Human Rights Code when Bill C-16 was passed in 2017. Gender identity is the personal sense of one's own gender. School boards are adopting new policies to be compliant with the Human Rights Code changes.

## The difference between Gender Fluidity and Gender Identity

School boards may claim that gender fluidity is their policy, but end up teaching gender identity instead. The two concepts are related but not the same thing. To complicate matters, Gender Fluid is one of the 70+ recognized gender identities. These teaching examples illustrate the difference between whether your child is being taught that gender is fluid or whether your child is being indoctrinated in a new ideology of personal identity based on the idea that gender is a social construct and everyone has a “gender identity”.

Teaching example	What kids learn
The teacher shows children advertising that targets particular toys at a particular gender and engages the class in a discussion about the message they see and whether it's good or bad.	Gender is fluid, I'm ok and you're ok no matter what toys or games we like. Children of both sexes learn that it's ok to enjoy playing with different types of toys; gender stereotypes can be hurtful and limiting. Children learn to think for themselves!
The teacher asks students to identify themselves to their peers by writing their names on a gender spectrum based on whether they “feel” like a girl or boy. The labels girl or boy on the teacher's gender spectrum have no relationship to biological sex.	A child's personal identity is being reprogrammed from biological reality to an unstable and always changing cultural notion of gender. Young children may come away thinking: I'm not sure if I have a gender; I'm not sure if I want to identify as a boy or girl; I can be a boy if I want!
The teacher instructs the class in the different pronouns the students can use to describe themselves based on how they “feel” (pronouns don't have to match your biological reality)	The way I identify myself to others is entirely up to me and should reflect a group membership that I want to self-identify into. I get to have complete control over my pronouns and how others perceive me and refer to me.

## Gender Identity and Medical Transitioning

The rate of adolescent girls seeking medical transition to align their physical characteristics with their gender identity is increasing at an exponential rate. The national governments of the UK and Australia have called inquiries to understand why this is happening.

Recent changes in the Standard of Care applied to gender-diverse youth have made it easier to seek life-changing medical treatments. The Canadian Mental Health Association and all Canadian government healthcare authorities are standing behind the WPATH.org guidelines. Even the Canadian Mental Health Association has a public statement that “gender-supportive health services, including hormone blockers, hormones, and trans surgery is the best way to treat the distress that arises when an individual’s body does not match their gender identity”.



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### Support for medical transition for gender-diverse youth in Ontario

The World Professional Association of Transgender Health states that access to gender-supportive health services, including hormone blockers, hormones and trans surgery is the best way to treat the distress that arises when an individual's body does not match their gender identity.

This standard of care is being applied to children in Canada, however, medical professionals around the world have started to question whether the evidence-base behind the WPATH SOC is sufficient to ensure safe and ethical care for gender-diverse youth. Gay kids and children with autism/ASD are over-represented in the numbers of youth seeking gender reassignment. Detransitioners report that mental health co-morbidities such as eating disorders combined with struggling to come to terms with their same-sex attraction are often major factors that influenced them to socially transition and start cross-sex hormones.

## Gender Ideology

Gender ideology denies that biological differences exist between the sexes. It denies the value of a neutral system of social categorization based on biological reality. Instead, it replaces biological sex with a political notion of “identity” based on invented gender categories that are dependent upon gender stereotypes.

What is your child being taught about their gender identity and why?