

TRANSADVOCATE

Eric's unhealthy obsession with trans kids

By Cristan Williams

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https://www.transadvocate.com/erics-unhealthy-obsession-with-trans-kids_n_12264.htm

Abstract

Sexualizing children is cruel. Mocking children is cruel. Promoting hoaxes that demonizes children is cruel. Let's be clear: Eric Owens gets paid to be cruel to children because they're trans. Unlike dupes who are tricked into spreading anti-trans hoaxes, I've personally told him that bullied trans children overwhelmingly respond to cruelty by taking their own lives. In Owens' newest [...]

Article

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In Owens' newest attack, he sexualizes trans children with imagery and innuendo and even promotes known hoaxes in his effort to target trans children.

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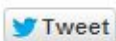
Maine's supreme court foists choose-your-own-bathroom policy on entire state

8:37 AM 02/01/2014



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Eric Owens
Education Editor



The supreme court of Maine has issued an opinion declaring that transgender children in the state's public schools must be allowed to choose their own bathrooms

Figure 1. Daily Caller, 2/1/2014

The cinematic trope of a nude woman screaming in terror as a (usually male) predator attacks her is how Owens represents the supposed menace of trans children. This isn't the first time Owens used this trope to characterize trans children.

Owens' pieces are generally equal parts pop-journalism and sensationalism. He generally produces a mashup of what journalists have to say about a trans story and then window dresses the mashup with his own brand of bigotry: a mocking image, connecting his story to sexual hoaxes, titles designed to berate and belittle, etc.

For example, what makes page one of Owens' article about trans children problematic is the context added to the story by the denigrating image and the title of page two:

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[Transgender dudes cleverly force their way into female bathrooms all over the country >>](#)

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Figure 2. End of Page 1...

Eric Owens
Education Editor



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Transgender bathroom fracas have been popping up all over the country in the last year or so, with definitively mixed results. Much of the bickering has ended up in court, and the cases are slowly winding their way through various state court systems and legislative mechanisms.

In November, officials at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington scoffed at legal threats and stood firmly by their decision to let a 45-year-old student with a penis use the women's locker room, and walk naked in front of girls as young as six. **(RELATED: College OKs transgender man's full monty to underage girls in womens' locker room)**

Figure 3. Start of Page 2... The Evergreen Hoax

Whereas the story on page one is a mashup of what other journalists published, the sexualization and lies on page two is all Owens. In this way his story draws false similarities between trans children and a fake sexual predator portrayed in the Evergreen College hoax.

Note the way Owens handles this same story last year when a lower Main court ruled against the trans student in the above story. Gone are any mocking images or degrading innuendos. Apparently there's no need to oppress trans children when they're being oppressed by the court system.

Let's see how Owens handles a story where the court system supports a trans kid:

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New Massachusetts rules allow transgender students to choose their own bathroom

7:50 AM 02/25/2013

Figure 4. Daily Caller, 2/25/2013

Here's a few other gems:

- ACLU insists that transgender man be allowed to use women's bathroom
- I'll let the URL speak for itself:
<http://dailycaller.com/2013/03/05/transgender-student-sues-after-getting-expelled-for-failing-to-mention-penis>
- This week in transgender high schoolers running for homecoming king, queen, whatever

I'm going to go ahead as say it: I think Eric Owens is a bigot.

Threats? Libel? J.D.?

Ah, the last bastion of a broken ideologue: the subtle legal threat designed to censor. I'll be sure to feature your instinctual reaction in my story. Thanks for the response!

Cristan

Eric Owens wrote:

Cristan -- Your threats are noted. I'm copying a couple of my editors here.

I don't think it's right for you to libel me, but that's a choice only you can make.

All best,

Eric Owens, J.D.

Cristan Williams wrote:

Who picks the images you use in your stories?

I'm writing a piece on the contextual subtext you employed when reporting on trans issues. If you've nothing to say about your bigotry, I'll make sure to note that when asked, you either cannot or will not defend it.

Figure 5. Email exchange between Owens and me

(Hrm... Where have I encountered this type of behavior before?)

Owens likes to focus on trans kids. I reviewed 24 trans stories and 16 of them were about the various ways trans kids supposedly pose a problem. The fact that the very kids he denigrates - trans children - are dealing with hate by taking their own lives never seems to make its way into one of Owens' pieces. The contextual narrative Owens creates preserves a culture of hate and death and his readers seem to get the message he's sending.

Suggested citation

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