TRANSADVOCATE

Fake “Radical Feminist” group actually paid political front for anti-LGBT James Dobson organization

By Rani Baker

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Abstract

The Women’s Liberation Front (WoLF) is a supposedly radical feminist activist group which, as noted by Pink News, shows “little evidence of campaigning on any women’s issues unrelated to transgender people”. They claim to “lobby for pro-choice legislation” and for “women’s autonomy”, but somehow evidence of (or calls to) action for such purposes are completely [...]

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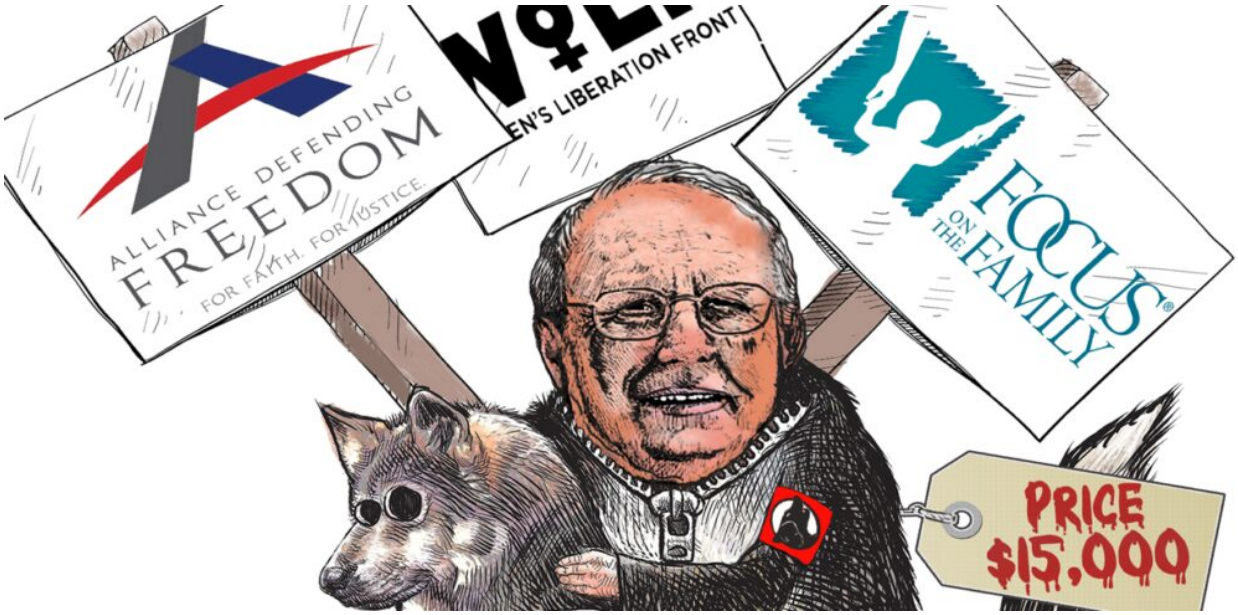
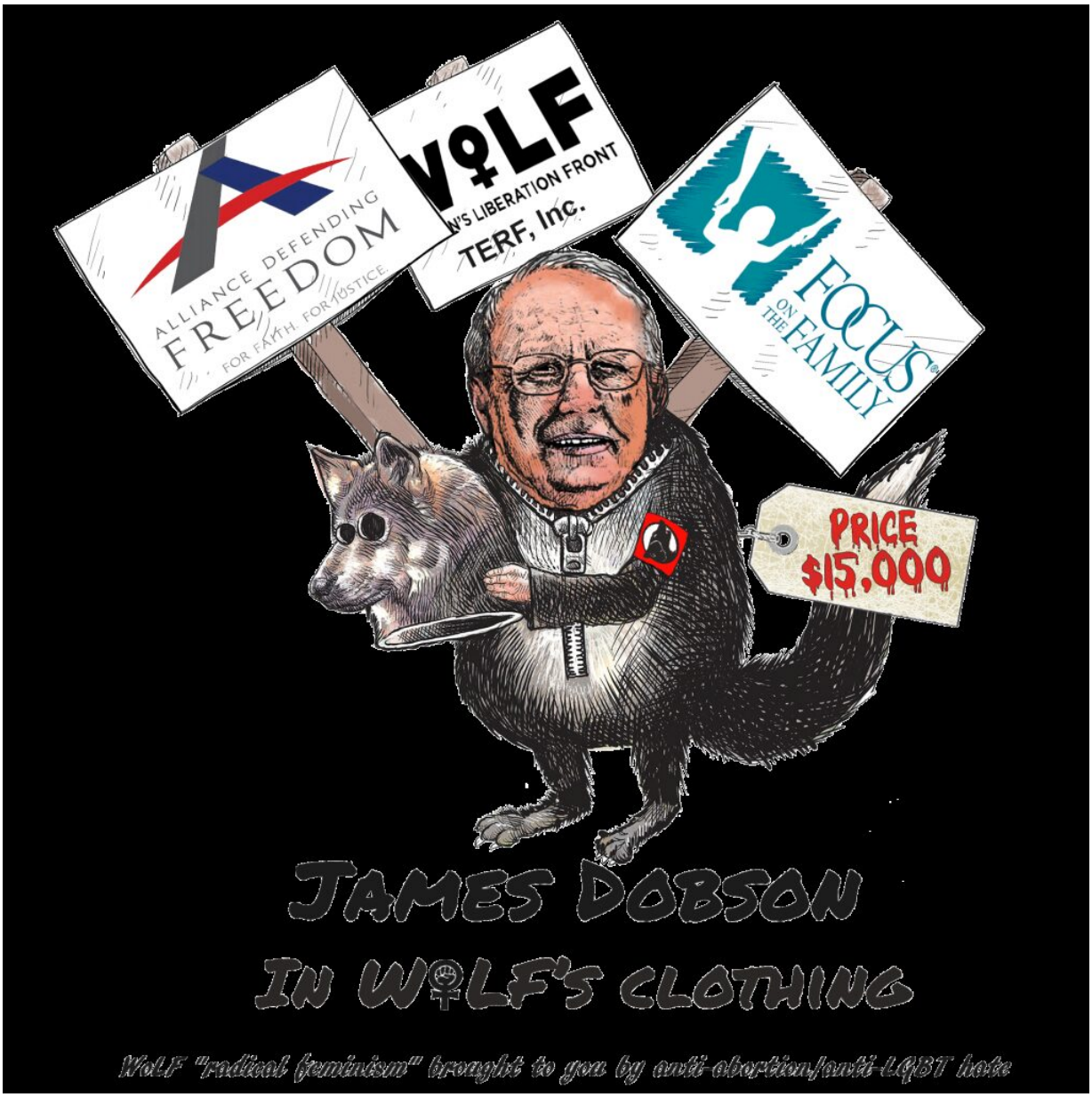




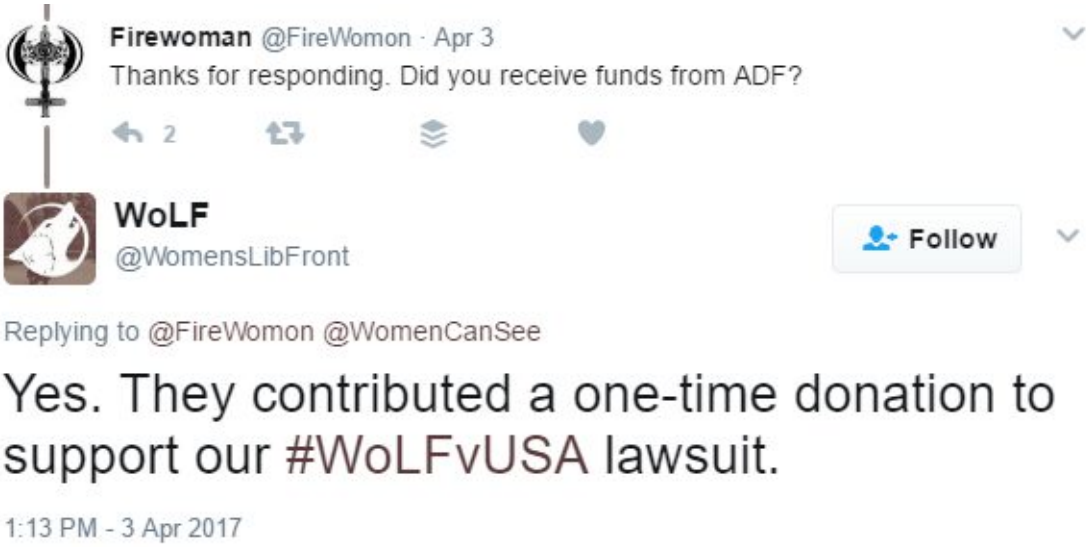
The Women’s Liberation Front (WoLF) is a supposedly radical feminist activist group which, as noted by Pink News, shows “little evidence of campaigning on any women’s issues unrelated to transgender people”. They claim to “lobby for pro-choice legislation” and for “women’s autonomy”, but somehow evidence of (or calls to) action for such purposes are completely absent from their website (archived here so you don’t have to give them pageviews) outside that vague mission statement blurb. What you do see, however, is a lot of collusion with not-exactly-feminist-friendly right-wing media which is interesting when you realize where their funding comes from.

The anti-LGBT Religious Right has been actively synchronizing their message with and adopting the terminology of anti-transgender feminist academics for a few years now. The goal is to divorce their position from the stodgy backward-seeming prudish views that they believe lost them the culture war on gay marriage and adopt a language and message that will more easily infiltrate and divide progressive

circles. This sparkly modern makeover is one activists like WoLF are more than happy to provide. The Religious Right has been consciously shifting their position away from gay marriage towards transgender rights since the 2014 Southern Baptist Conference. Despite their deep belief that family values are threatened by “feminism, gay rights, and trans activism”, Religious Right Groups like the Family Research Council have gladly latched onto anti-trans statements by gay congressman Barney Frank and the academic work of anti-trans feminist academic Janice Raymond to bolster their position. It’s classic wedge-issue strategy.

Let’s get back specifically to WoLF, however, who received a $15,000 grant from Religious Right group Alliance Defending Freedom and collaborated in a joint countersuit with Family Policy Alliance in opposition to Gavin Grimm’s now delayed Title IX suit. This isn’t a secret. A November 5, 2016 email to supporters described the former as follows:

“WoLF Board member Kara Dansky applied for and received a $15,000 grant from the Alliance Defending Freedom, a group of conservative lawyers who are representing states and parents in lawsuits similar to ours across the country. Also pretty darn phenomenal.”



As far as the latter, it was bragged about in a recent press release:

Radical Feminist Group Joins Christian Conservative Group in Amicus Brief

NEW YORK, NY.: The Women's Liberation Front (WoLF) announced today that it will be partnering with the Christian group Family Policy Alliance (FPA) in submitting a friend-of-the-court brief in the Supreme Court challenging President Obama's Title IX "bathroom mandate."

The joint brief argues that allowing males who self-identify as women access to female-only spaces threatens the safety of women and girls and results in the effective erasure of women under Title IX – a civil rights law enacted specifically to benefit women, who have been excluded from formal education, or discriminated against within it, for centuries.

What prompted WoLF to forge such an unlikely partnership?

Kara Dansky, Chair of the WoLF Board, says the alliance with FPA just makes sense.

"WoLF fights to protect all women and girls, regardless of political affiliation," said Dansky. "WoLF is the only feminist organization standing up for the right of women and girls to maintain female-only spaces. We are happy to work with other organizations that agree with us on this point."

"How wrong does something have to be for a Christian family group, and a radical feminist group, to take their argument together to the Supreme Court?" said Autumn Leva, director of policy for Family Policy Alliance.

The brief will be submitted in the *Gloucester School Board v. G.G.* case before the high court. A female who identifies as male is seeking the "right" to use the boys' facilities.

The Court will hear the case this spring with a decision likely in the summer.

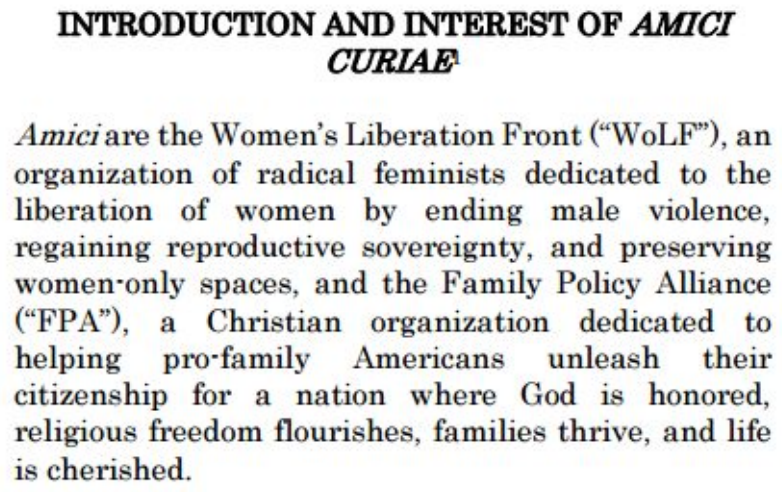
Here are links to videos that WoLF and FPA jointly produced related to this issue:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odtsKQiZrZs
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84zEJS_8KD4&feature=youtu.be

Autumn Leva and Kara Dansky are available for comment by contacting Kim Trobee at

Alliance Defending Freedom is a huge Religious Right evangelical Christian non-profit law firm which, quote, “seeks to recover the robust Christendomic theology of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th centuries.” Nervous yet? Because that is completely bonkers. The firm has become a massive force for years now in helping develop and hammer out “religious freedom” legislation, seeking to bypass any LGBT employment, housing, medical or public accommodation protections through a “religious belief” exception clause. They literally consider the act of refusing service to LGBT folks as a form of civil rights activism not unlike that of Rosa Parks. This firm, which Women’s Liberation Front received funding from, literally advocates the return of sodomy laws, which we should remind you were only struck down federally in 2003.

And we are just getting started, y’all.

Alliance Defending Freedom was founded by James Dobson and Alan Sears. James Dobson may sound familiar to some of y’all following anti-LGBT legislation, and we will get to him in a second. Because holy crap there is a lot to get to with him. But let’s talk about Spears for starters.



INTRODUCTION AND INTEREST OF *AMICI CURIAE*

Amici are the Women’s Liberation Front (“WoLF”), an organization of radical feminists dedicated to the liberation of women by ending male violence, regaining reproductive sovereignty, and preserving women-only spaces, and the Family Policy Alliance (“FPA”), a Christian organization dedicated to helping pro-family Americans unleash their citizenship for a nation where God is honored, religious freedom flourishes, families thrive, and life is cherished.

Figure 1. Introduction to the joint WoLF-FPA legal filing.

Alan Sears is the co-author of the book The Homosexual Agenda: Exposing The Principal Threat To Religious Freedom Today. It’s a complete mess of a book advocating for gay conversion therapy, obsessively documenting supposed transgressions of varying degrees from “homosexual activists” and suggesting that any attempts to codify protections for gay people in the law is an assault on the freedom for Christians to practice their religion. Considering anti-trans activists spend all day advocating for anti-trans conversion therapy, obsessively documenting supposed transgressions of varying degrees from “trans activists” and suggesting that any attempts to codify protections for trans folks in the law is an assault on the freedom of women, you can see where the game plans start to converge. Books with a similar message, like The Pink Swastika, are, with a few minor word alterations practically identical to anti-trans ideological treatises like Transsexual Empire: The Making of the She-Male and Gender Hurts.

And James Dobson... where do we begin? James Dobson advocates murdering trans women attempting to use the restroom. He claims proponents of gay marriage are literally Hitler. That’s probably a good start. He’s the founder of the group Focus On The Family, also known as Family Policy Alliance, as in WoLF’s partners in the Gavin Grimm counter-suit. This group also advocates gay conversion therapy, changing immigration laws to deport LGBT refugees back to countries that will torture, jail or execute them, and is dedicated to undermining abortion laws and restoring 1950s-style family values.

So, we are pretty clear that Women’s Liberation Front is actively working with groups with goals absolutely opposed to anything feminism should support right?

Ha ha ha ha you wish we were anywhere near done yet.

On January 12, 2017, leaked WoLF board meeting notes came to light (not linking directly to a TERF website, sorry) that have made even other anti-trans feminists concerned. The notes are as follows:

“The board voted unanimously to engage Imperial Independent Media to fundraise for WoLF on a 20% commission basis, and to authorize Natasha to enter into a contract for these services on behalf of WoLF.”

Imperial Independent Media is run (according to related LinkedIn profiles) by a man named Zachary Freeman, a Focus On The Family-related activist who was most recently in the news over a lawsuit to gather and distribute names of employees at abortion clinics by having them turned over to the Religious Right anti-abortion activist group Center For Medical Progress. The Center For Medical Progress recently had 15 felony charges filed against them for invasions of privacy and illegal recordings made of abortion clinic employees. These recordings were used in sting videos to propagate the completely debunked “fetal-tissue sale” meme that weighed heavily in arguments to defund Planned Parenthood the past year.

This is distinctly important to note because Freeman/Imperial Independent Media has entered into a commission-based agreement with each other. The fundraising activities of one will financially benefit the other.

This is not the first time TERFs have worked with anti-feminist/LGBT groups in targeting transgender kids. In 2014, TERF attorney, Cathy Brennan and her “radical feminist” organization worked with the anti-abortion/LGBT group the Pacific Justice Institute (PJI) in targeting a 15-year-old trans girl, resulting in the youth being placed on a medical suicide watch.

Moreover, Tea Party politicians cite TERF propaganda in their work targeting trans people:

I agree, and people of faith in our community share that concern.

In addition to opposition from churches, organizations, and voters, even some gay activists themselves oppose the real-life implications of legally recognizing biological males as females, and vice versa, and guaranteeing them legal protection on that basis. Cathy Brennan and Elizabeth Hungerford, two self-described lesbian feminist attorneys and Democratic activists, wrote the United Nations in 2011 urging the U.N. to reject precisely the kind of "gender identity protection" legislation you propose.

Brennan and Hungerford wrote: "We write to advise you of a legal development in the United States that compromises hard won sex-based classification protections for females...in which gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender organizations and individual activists work to enact protections based on 'gender identity'... In addition to compromising rational sex-based protections for females, 'gender identity' legislation incorporates stereotypical ideas of 'what is female' into law... As lesbians, we are concerned about the impact of this legislation on our community and our community's ability to meet free from male influence and involvement. More importantly, as females, we are concerned that in the attempt to provide protections for a few, we will compromise the protections of the many."

I respectfully urge Dow Chemical to drop its support for this discriminatory legislation that threatens religious freedom and rights of conscience, and which also threatens—according even to lesbian activists—"rational sex-based protections for females."

Figure 2. From Rep. Gary Glenn (R) media

If you can stomach it, you can read what TERFs themselves claim their aims and goals are at TheTerfs.com, a watchdog site that monitors the anti-trans hate movement representing itself (not

infrequently, to mainstream media) to be radical feminism itself.

THE CHRISTIAN POST

WASHINGTON — Radical feminists, right-leaning Christians, and a Jewish lesbian who is a former drill sergeant are uniting to fight against "gender identity" laws, policies they say pose a grave threat to women and girls.

(PHOTO: CHRISTIAN POST/BRANDON SHOWALTER)

Miriam Ben Shalom, Kaeley Triller Haver, Kami Mueller, and Mary Lou Singleton speak at the "Biology Isn't Bigotry: Why Sex Matters in the Age of Gender Identity" panel the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C., February 16, 2017.

In a panel discussion titled "Biology Isn't Bigotry" hosted by scholar Ryan Anderson at the Heritage Foundation Thursday, in front of approximately 100 people, five women from The Hands Across the Aisle Coalition blasted recent moves by federal and state governments codifying gender identity — the notion that gender is not biological but self-determined — into the law. (See below to watch the full panel discussion.)

The Trans Exclusionary (self-identified) “radical feminist” lawyer Cathy Brennan sent, via her attorney, a cease-and-desist letter, asserting that the following statement from the above story is false and must be censored removed:

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See the fact check and read the cease-and-desist letter at the following TransAdvocate article:

TERF legal team attempts to CENSOR the TransAdvocate

Suggested citation

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