

The TERF Empire Declares War Against Trans People

By Cristan Williams

Published July 25, 2013 | Updated March 31, 2026

https://www.transadvocate.com/the-terf-empire-declares-war-against-trans-people_n_9834.htm

Abstract

Trans pioneer Dallas Denny published an article on TA about expressing her misgivings about the upcoming publication of a book promoting Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminist (TERF) hate. She just received a chilling response from a group of TERF academics declaring war on trans people. The anonymous author declares war on me and for that matter on [...]

Article

Trans pioneer Dallas Denny published an article on TA about expressing her misgivings about the upcoming publication of a book promoting Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminist (TERF) hate. She just received a chilling response from a group of TERF academics declaring war on trans people.

The anonymous author declares war on me and for that matter on all transpeople. He or she and his or her six compatriots claims that they will raise an army of graduate students who will oppress me and others like me and render us impotent and invisible- in the name of academic freedom. It's a peculiarly-worded and most impolite declaration of war based upon an irrational philosophy of who I and others like me are. Happily, he or she is not the arbiter of who I am. I get to say who I am. - Trans pioneer, Dallas Denny

Here's are portions of the chilling letter from the TERF academics:

I am writing to let you know that we were all sent a copy of your recent letter to Rutledge Press in reference to Sheila Jeffreys' forthcoming book, *Gender Hurts*, and have organized a small but growing group to address the issue. We realize a corrective is urgently needed. We have held preliminary discussions to ensure that as academic women we will confront the questions beginning in the fall semester 2013 and again in the spring semester 2014.

The letter, a prodigious example of arrogance and bullshit sounded a warning and rallied us from across the curriculum. We recognize the telltale signs of a dangerous movement that feigns legitimacy in postmodern pseudoscience and meaningless jargon--, you catchin' my cis drift?

We will continue to coordinate our efforts so that our classrooms will be at the forefront of questioning transgender as a valid political movement--or perhaps that is just a veil for a misogynist hate group. We will take a holistic approach and posit the distinct possibility of a fatuous diagnosis designed to camouflage less sympathetic and socially accepted issues. Students after they sift through the death and rape threats sent by Transgender "activist" to women and feminists will understand why

the syllabi are not posted on-line or on the blackboard, and our decision to procure texts from other than usual sources will make clear sense to them.

The questions students will invariably ask is: why? Why the distinctly male rage? Why the threats and why the attempts to silence women and other academics? In order to illuminate these questions we will turn attentions toward Michael Bailey's *The Man That Would Be Queen* and Dr. Anne Lawrence's notions on transgender narcissistic rage, as both may serve to posit alternate theories of equal merit that students can understand.

In the classroom the first order of the day will confront the ever ubiquitous over used manipulative claim of "transphobia"--which sounds hollow when students see that the primary victims are natal women who happen to hold opinions and write things that you and others do not happen to like.

Be cognizant that any reasonable undergraduates will question a movement that lies and plays fast and loose sans accepted ethical considerations... That's called education.

Thank you for your time and attention, and most specifically for the inspiration and the opportunity to show another generation what academic freedom really means on the ground and in the classroom. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors to delude people, and yes we're flippin' you the bird. Take this as the "fuck you" it is intended to be.

Sincerely

Women For Academic Freedom

J.K.-NY

B.N.S.-NY

L.L.-NJ

C.M.-NH

M.S. -IN

N.S.-OH

A.E.-OH

A quick google search turned for Women for Academic Freedom turns up TERF opinion leader Cathy Brennan's site.

Read the full declaration of war against trans people here.

Suggested citation

Cristan Williams. "The TERF Empire Declares War Against Trans People." *TransAdvocate*, July 25, 2013.
https://www.transadvocate.com/the-terf-empire-declares-war-against-trans-people_n_9834.htm