

The Trans Scare

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Abstract

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Article

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The commercial, produced by Citizens For Good Public Policy, shows a small white blond girl entering a public restroom in a park. Moments later an older white male wearing a ball cap enters the same restroom. Blasted across the screen are the words “On January 28, 2008, your City Commission made this legal. Is that what you want for Gainesville?” CFGPP’s website even goes even further. In the news section it says:

“Proponents of Gainesville’s gender identity ordinance insist that accommodations for Gender Identity Disorder are commonplace, and point with pride to the number of cities and counties passing laws similar to Gainesville’s ordinance. But a balanced perspective must also take into consideration widespread restroom rapes and other related molestations against women and young girls that occur when males enter female restrooms. Here is a short list that represents a large problem:”

It then lists crimes committed by men against children in restrooms. The insinuation is that transgender women are really men, and that transgender women commit sex crimes in restrooms. The problem with mentioning the “widespread restroom rapes” and molestations is that none of these crimes were committed by transgender/transsexual women. In fact, I’ve never seen a documented case of a transgender person committing a sex crime against a child in a restroom.

The reality is that transgender people exist, and they need to go to the restroom. When this topic is discussed, transgender women are typically the center of attention. The incidence of M2F transsexuals committing sexual crimes in restrooms is nonexistent. But the violence that surrounds transgender people in bathrooms is all too real. I know this personally. I was cornered in a mens restroom early on in my transition and physically cornered and harassed.

The irony of it all is that most of these transphobic people don’t realize is that by their own actions they will be forcing this man to use the women’s restroom:

[Figure] dsc00504

Maybe the youtube video could be remade to say

“Do you want THIS man using the ladies room? Your City Commission is forcing him to use the women’s restroom because he has a vagina. Is that what you want for Gainesville?”

Suggested citation

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