

Thank you, Chair Young, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking Member Miller and members of the House Higher Education Committee, for the opportunity to testify in favor of House Bill 183. My name is James Grosh. I am the father of a teenage daughter and a tax payer in the Berea City School District and I am testifying today as a concerned citizen.

House Bill 183 regarding single sex facilities and accommodations is needed because it addresses safety and privacy concerns, the premature sexualization of children and the associated psychological effects it has on developing adolescents.

Adolescence is a critical developmental period that can significantly impact one's health later in life. Exposure to sexual content during this phase can have adverse consequences, making it essential to exercise discretion. It is a challenging stage, and the premature sexualization of children only complicates matters. Unfortunately, instances of premature exposure to sexual concepts, including sexually explicit material in school libraries, are becoming increasingly common.

I have observed this trend in my school district in Berea. Furthermore, the introduction of transgenderism and co-ed bathroom facilities can exacerbate the problem. The concern is particularly acute in school locker rooms, where students are compelled to change and shower in front of each other.

This brings to mind the situation involving Riley Gaines, a competitive swimmer who competed for the University of Kentucky NCAA Swim Team. In an interview, she explained that while changing in the locker room, she turned around to find Lia Thomas, a biological man, drop his pants and watch her and her team mates undress while they were exposed to male genitalia.

The prioritization of physical safety is also vital. If there are no laws in place to stop a male from entering a woman's restroom, who's to say a straight male, posing as a transgender student wouldn't take advantage

of the situation and sexually assault a female student. This happened recently in Loudoun County Virginia, where a transgender male raped a girl in the girl's bathroom. The incident was covered up by the school district and he was transferred to another school where he assaulted another female.

It is crucial to have statewide legislation in place regarding these issues, as local school districts cannot be relied upon to fulfill their obligations. Within my district, for example, the superintendent resolved a rape case with no public disclosure of the settlement details. Overall, school boards and administrators in Ohio have a track record of being less than forthcoming and transparent. Undercover Video has recently surfaced of administrators in Ohio being intentionally deceptive on matters of teaching critical race theory in the classroom.

One administrator admitted to "tricking" the parents by changing the language of the content to be able to teach subjects to the children that have been deemed inappropriate by their parents. I've provided links to

those videos in my written testimony that I submitted.

I'm here to speak on behalf of other parents who are fearful of retaliation against their children in the schools or for fear of losing their jobs. I have no issues with the choices people make as adults and I have no intentions to cause discrimination against anyone. But, when you are talking about vulnerable children being exposed to things they should not be exposed to, such as the genitalia of the opposite sex, it is not okay. The mind of a young person is not fully formed until they are in their 20s and this kind of exposure has psychological implications. It appears that there is an agenda to expose our youth to sexually inappropriate ideas and gender identity concepts too complex for their minds to process. As a parent I have always tried to shield my daughter from these adult type issues, only to have my parental authority undermined by teachers with a different agenda. I am personally speaking on behalf of my teenage daughter, who has every right to be

able to go to the bathroom in peace and not have to worry about coming face to face with a man.

In closing, this issue is one of many that needs to be addressed regarding liberal indoctrination and the silencing of conservative thought and values in our public institutions. With that, I urge the passing of House Bill 183.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank You,