

Good morning. My name is Tom Horwath. I'm not a doctor, and I'm not a parent. I'm just an Ohio voter who is passionate about helping children, which is why in my free time, I serve as music director for a children's musical theatre program.

I'd like to talk today about Jazz Jennings, the 23-year-old star of TLC's reality tv show called "I Am Jazz." The tagline is that the show features Jazz and her family "dealing with typical teen drama through the lens of a transgender youth." The show is in its eighth season, and it is watched by millions of people throughout the world [1]. Jazz also has a picture book entitled I Am Jazz, which I have here and we can look at if you'd like. This book is in over 17,000 libraries worldwide [2]. In my opinion, Jazz Jennings is THE voice of the trans kids movement.

I also have with me a youtube screenshot of a video posted by TLC this past August, entitled, "Jazz's Mum Discusses The Possibility That Her Transgender Daughter Might Be Asexual" [3]. My reaction when I heard about this video, was utter incredulity. That's because Jazz was given puberty blockers starting at age 11 [4]. These are the same drugs used to chemically castrate adult sex offenders, triptorelin and lupron [5]. And then Jazz's testicles were surgically removed at age 17 [6]. Also at that age, Jazz's penis was surgically inverted. So Jazz was chemically castrated, and then physically castrated, all before the age of 18. And now Jazz is age 23, and Jazz's mother talks about "asexual" and wonders why Jazz has no sex drive? Jazz doesn't even have functioning genitals. Jazz reports having never experienced an orgasm once in their entire life [7].

Jazz's story is not unique. According to the Gender Mapping Project, ten years ago, there were only a handful of childhood gender clinics in the USA, and today there are over 400 [8]. Planned Parenthood of Greater Dayton reported a 544% increase in "gender-affirming care visits" during 2022, which is

over a five-fold increase in just one year [9]. According to a Reuters investigation, over 17,000 kids under 18 in the USA were put on puberty blockers or cross-sex hormones between 2017 and 2021, and Reuters says this is probably a "significant undercount" [10].

It's important to keep in mind that Jazz's story represents a best-case scenario of childhood transsexual medicine. Not only did Jazz transition young, which trans rights activists often claim is the path toward a good transition outcome [11], but Jazz had a dream team of doctors paid for by the profits from the tv show. I mentioned one of them, Dr. Bowers. Dr. Bowers is the president of WPATH, the World Professional Association of Transgender Health, the organization that writes the standards of care for transsexual medicine [12].

So, given all of these advantages, did Jazz have a positive outcome from the medical transition? Well, physical health issues aside, Jazz recently dropped out of college, and moved back in with mom and dad, seemingly unable to function without the support of this sheltered home environment. Jazz talks about "struggling severely with mental health issues" and describes gaining "almost 100 pounds" from binge-eating. Jazz recently broke down crying in front of the camera, claiming "I just want to feel like myself... I don't feel like me, ever"[13]. It's chilling stuff, and it's ironic because I think many gender clinicians would hear words like those from a patient and use them as evidence that the patient would benefit from a sex change. But that's not what will help Jazz, because Jazz already had a sex change. Clearly, it didn't work.

So that's the story of Jazz. There's more to it, like the fact that Jazz's mom gets life advice from a psychic [3] and the fact that Jazz was given a female name and pronouns as a toddler in part because Jazz would unbutton their onesie, which Jazz's mom took to mean that Jazz was trying to create a dress [14]. But I will simply say, in closing, that I sincerely wish the best for Jazz and for all the other kids who've medically transitioned. I want them to be happy. But I don't think this should have happened to them. I think it's fine for a child to wear a dress. Just let him wear the dress, but don't castrate him. The scientific evidence agrees that medical transition is not beneficial for children[15]. And we can get into that if you'd like in the Q & A, but for that reason and many others, let's get HB 68 passed. Thank you.

NOTE: You can reach me at <u>tomhorwath1@gmail.com</u> for questions about this testimony. Let's keep the conversation going.

[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I Am Jazz

[2] https://www.heterodorx.com/podcast/episode-118-librarians-losing-their-spine-with-penny-hummel/

- [3] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9tASkZjF98
- [4] https://www.spiked-online.com/2023/08/20/the-tragedy-of-jazz-jennings/
- [5] https://www.drugs.com/monograph/leuprolide.html
- [6] https://www.thefp.com/p/top-trans-doctors-blow-the-whistle
- [7] https://www.thetruthfairy.info/p/why-marci-matters

[8] <u>https://www.gendermapper.org/name-and-shame-doctors</u>

[9] <u>https://cdn.plannedparenthood.org/uploads/filer_public/0e/41/0e41f130-cea7-47c8-aa6a-37b7d09daff2/ppgoh-fy22_annual_report.pdf</u>

- [10] https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/usa-transyouth-care/
- [11] https://onlysky.media/jscaramanga/trans-why-i-wish-id-transitioned-when-i-was-12/
- [12] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World Professional Association for Transgender Health
- [13] <u>https://www.tiktok.com/@prana_tandra/video/7225265318438964486</u>
- [14] https://www.spiked-online.com/2023/08/20/the-tragedy-of-jazz-jennings/
- [15] Stats for gender: https://statsforgender.org/

Overview of Europe's systematic reviews on research studies into outcomes of childhood medical transition: https://www.city-journal.org/article/yes-europe-is-restricting-gender-affirming-care

Teenagers and gender identity: the evidence base part 2 <u>https://sex-matters.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Teenagers-and-gender-identity-part-2.pdf</u>

Webinar about that pdf, which also discusses the Dutch Protocol study <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GlEh28QfY7M</u>

Note the following charts from that pdf which describe the studies about childhood gender medications and mental health, revealing that despite enormous methodological flaws in these studies, gender medicine is still found to be less effective than a placebo.

Effect size of gender medication (puberty blockers and hormone treatment) vs placebo on teenagers' mental health



Gender medication comprises puberty blockers and/or hormone treatment for gender-questioning teenagers. Uses all comparable, longitudinal data since 2010. Scales are reversed where appropriate to show positive change.

probably led to the benefits of medicalisation being over-stated. There are eight studies looking at mental-health outcomes for teenagers taking puberty blockers and hormone treatment over time that meet some basic criteria.^{12/13} The table below shows their main limitations; the appendix outlines these in more detail.

Limitations of longitudinal studies on gender medications and mental health

