

I have a 10 year old son, who loves music. Every instrument. And every powerful woman singer. He didn't get my rhythm but he is taking dance classes and maybe someday soon. He is only 10 but he also very heterosexual. This is a strange thing to have to announce about my child. However, with this subject matter, it seems a useful piece of information. My son loves drag brunch. And we were attending a very tasteful and family friendly show regularly. The conversations that I have been privilege to have with my son are a direct result of some of these shows. The conversations... I am going to assume that are horrifying to some of you. I believe as a parent, I am setting my son up for success by introducing him to every type of human that we can meet. The more children understand other people, the better human they will become.

I bring this up because the words of HB 249 are full of fear. That is where my assumption from above was derived. The testimony that Representative King, the co-sponsor, gave at the introduction of this bill is using an N of 1 example to blanket an entire state's law. Representative King gave an account of an event at a park and a child seeing a crotch gyrating. This event would have needed a permit from their city to have it at a public park. Which means they passed the requirements to have that event. If someone is outraged by a permitted event, they have the option to leave or go to another park. Maybe you forgot to check your city calendar of events, but no one is forced to watch. The age you set forth in this bill is randomly 13. My son and other children his age are not thinking about sex. They see cartoonish, dressed up characters, just as you do at Disney World. The sexual content that you are projecting onto your children is coming from you. The anxiety and worry that Rep King speaks about with our children does not come from drag queens. It comes from a generation who will not listen to their children. What Rep King has proposed is already law under Sec. 2907.01 (E). There is no value in this bill because it is redundant and a waste of our taxpayer's money.

Rep Williams, the other sponsor of this bill, also takes one single event that happened and our court has already ruled. Instead of defining a term more precisely, Rep Williams wants to BROADEN the term "private area" and make it more obscure, including the area around our genitalia but no specific measurements or medical terms. Making the belly button a private area, or maybe an armpit.

It is a parent's decision on what children can and cannot view. We do not have punishable laws for parents showing minor children rated R movies. And in my opinion, children seeing murder, rape, drugs and guns in a rated R movie is much worse than seeing a cartoonish woman dancing and singing.

Lastly, as a woman, I revere drag queens due to their reverence for woman. Every single drag queen is honoring a woman by imitation. If your mother didn't teach you understanding, now is as good a time as any to try and learn some understanding from people who don't look like you.