

My name is Lori Kennedy, I live in Erie County, and I oppose any budget provisions that include anti-trans language.

Love does not tolerate suffering in any way, shape, or form.

I love my children. I don't remember a time when I didn't want to be a mom. I don't ever remember a time I wanted to live my children's lives for them. I don't ever remember a time I wanted my children to live their lives for me. I have my life to live and only want them to live theirs as fully and freely and everlastingly as possible.

Do I understand my child's experience? I felt a need to be. I felt the awful suffocation when I was found unacceptable, day in, day out, by my caregivers who had need to control me into being like them and buying into their soulless "appearances". I felt my survival depended on getting out of that home and started running away at 14, but still struggled for decades to overcome the effects and was still suicidal.

How is that experience any different from any person who is unnecessarily constrained from growing into themselves, finding their own feet in security and a well balanced confidence.

What my father failed to understand is that being a parent means you pass your best onto the next generation so then they can live and see and discover and know and do. I'm pretty sure the way it's supposed to all work, is that generation after generation through time progressively we get better and advance. We have done that to a tremendous degree considering the fact humanity started with little more than dirt and sticks, and have had to figure it all out in real time as we go. The bit where we've lagged behind is understanding each other, and that needs to catch up.

Until we get there, why isn't 'live and let live' within Millian Harm Principle standards observed? The Harm Principle states that the free act of an autonomous person can only be blocked to prevent the harm of another, otherwise it is wholly unjustifiable.

Your proposed action of legislation is only intended to cause harm to segments of your constituency, and only because their lives and existence are beyond what you know or understand. Do your jobs better. This legislation is in no way a justifiable act. It's also an utter waste of the resources we've granted and entrusted to you. Certainly there are far more pressing concerns. But let's pass bullshit legislation to win favors like tired old hacks and the damned.