

Hello, I'm Anne Bradie's mother.

Bradie was the first transgender person I had ever met. She had started vocalizing that she was a girl at the age of 3, so I had a lot of learning to do. And frankly, I was scared for her, knowing how society treats trans people. She was 6 when she started advocating for her community. That was 8 years ago!

No one at the age of 6 should have to become advocates/or activists, she is a child, but here we are begging for you to see her. At the time of her transitioning, which meant wearing girls' clothing and a name change, there wasn't this politicization of transgender people. Since that time, some people are now trying to ban children like mine from the bathroom, they identify with, trying to take their healthcare away along with sports and pretty much every other thing that makes any kids happy. But it isn't happening to all children, just ones you deem unworthy of respect.

As a cisgender, straight white woman, I never saw these obstacles before, and now that I do, it's terrifying. What's the end game? She won't be able to use the proper restroom, why? Because people that have no understanding of what it means to be transgender are uncomfortable. How about getting to know some of these amazing kids? Bradie is a very bright, determined little girl who would like to be a lawyer someday, maybe even a politician, but you will lose out on her. Because we will have no choice but to move. It's bathrooms, healthcare, and sports. Kids being outted to their transphobic parents. None of this is normal or safe to do, especially to a child.

For people who are all about parental rights. What about mine? Please do your research. When you do, you will see there has never been a problem with transgender people in bathrooms. It's always cisgender, men that are the problem, so let's put our focus there, where it really belongs. Please vote no on advancing this discriminatory bill as it will have awful repercussions for kids like Bradie.