

Hello!

My name is Chad Corbley. I am a psychologist and owner of City Counseling: A Home for Growth in Columbus. I have been in private practice since 2009. Over the past 14 years, I have worked with many trans, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming adults and teens. I adhere to the rigorous WPATH standards of care, and I have provided close to one hundred letters of support for folks seeking various levels of gender affirming care including hormone treatment and gender-affirming surgeries.

HB 68 is unnecessary at best. It's also extraordinarily harmful to the very youths it is purportedly designed to protect.

It's unnecessary because the mental and medical healthcare providers doing this work already do so within the WPATH framework, which lays out the many steps adults and youths must go through prior to receiving the kind of gender-affirming care outlined in the bill. No amount of supposed "concern" for this population can make up for the fact that the legislators pushing this agenda have no idea what this care entails or even looks like.

It's harmful because it will interrupt care already being received and will potentially dismantle teams of providers with extensive expertise. The bill also purports that many adults regret the gender-affirming care they received as youths. In my years of practice, I have never encountered a transgender adult who regretted the affirming care they received as a youth.

Moreover, as a mental health provider, I am baffled by the reporting requirement. Lots of youth talk about gender, and lots of youth feel pressure to conform to societal gender norms, whether that is authentic to who they are or not. At what point does it become about gender per se?

Thanks,
Chad