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## MN Student Athletics at risk

1 message

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**Minnesota Family Council** <family@mfc.org>  
Reply-To: Minnesota Family Council <family@mfc.org>  
To: andy.birkey@gmail.com

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MINNESOTA  
FAMILY COUNCIL

Strengthening families.  
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## ACTION ALERT

Andy

**Last time** we wrote about the Minnesota State High School League's (MSHSL) proposed "**transgender student athlete policy**," we had great news about all of you shining the Light of Christ on this issue. The MSHSL Board received over **TEN THOUSAND** emails (plus calls and letters!) and public testimony overwhelmingly opposed to their "transgender student athlete policy"! You made a huge impact, and the MSHSL Board decided to NOT pass the policy last month--praise God!

**We now have one last chance to stop this policy** before the nature of student athletics is changed forever--not to mention the harmful impact this would have on all kids.

**We need your help to shine the Light of Christ as His Body**, and we must do this together. This situation is a powerful example of the strength in the Body of Christ.

**Consider 1 Corinthians 12:21-22, 24b-27 (emphasis ours):**

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*The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable...*

*But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. **If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.***

**Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.**

When the truth of God's design for us is being distorted in such a visible way, in a way that directly harms all our children, we can think of no better time for the Body of Christ to show her strength, united in one voice, opposing this distortion.

If this policy does pass, all in the Body of Christ will suffer, as will those outside the faith.

**Will you help us? No member is dispensable. We need you.**

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## What is happening?

- **Since this summer...**

The Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) has been working since this summer on a "transgender student policy." MSHSL worked directly with OutFront Minnesota (our state's largest LGBTQ advocacy organization) to draft the policy. The policy would force ALL schools (**public and private**) and ALL students participating in MSHSL sports (**public, private, homeschool**) to **permit students who say they feel they are "transgender" to participate on the team opposite their biological sex (and likely logically gain access to the showers, locker rooms, hotel rooms, etc. of the opposite sex).**

The public really only became aware of the policy shortly before the

MSHSL Board's meeting on October 2, 2014. After the issue became public, MSHSL said they received **over 10,000 emails expressing concern over the proposed policy (in addition to calls and letters)**!

MSHSL also heard public testimony at a special workshop on October 1st. The testimony was **overwhelmingly opposed** to MSHSL's proposed "transgender policy"!

([Read our original news alert about the transgender policy issue.](#))

- **October 2, 2014...**

As a result of the overwhelming opposition, the MSHSL Board did not pass the "transgender policy" at their Board meeting on October 2nd!

This was when we were able to share that [good news](#) with you!

Instead of passing their policy, the Board cited the need for further work on the policy and the need for more input from key stakeholders. A motion was passed for a "task force" to be formed with MSHSL Board members and key stakeholders representing both sides of this issue, specifically including a voice for private religious schools. The task force was to bring forth their recommendations for the best policy.

To date, no such task force has been formed; only MSHSL Board members have been involved in further policy development; private religious schools still do not have a voice in this process; and only OutFront Minnesota has had a place at the table in policy development.

This is unacceptable.

MFC has now sent MSHSL **THREE** letters explaining why their proposed "transgender policy" is unworkable.

- **December 4, 2014...**

The MSHSL Board is set to meet again on December 4, 2014, to make a final decision on the policy.

[Please plan to be there!](#)

This is our last chance to stop this "transgender policy"!

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## What can you do to help?

There are really 4 main ways (plus 1 bonus way!) YOU absolutely have the power to help stop this policy before it harms our students--both Christian and non-Christian kids alike.

Please choose at least 1 action step you can take below:

1. **I have 1 minute or less:**

**BEFORE DECEMBER 4th**, Take some time to fill out our online petition, letting MSHSL know you **do NOT support** their "transgender policy" but **DO support** MFC's simple alternative.

Our alternative is a common-sense rule that defines "sex" for the purposes of League athletics as the sex a student is born with based upon physical characteristics, and clarifies that students play on teams based upon their birth sex for the safety, privacy, and fairness of all. It's that simple!

Click the button to read our full proposed rule and sign on board!  
Join the Body of Christ in speaking out!



**SIGN PETITION**

2. **Help get your child's school to stop the "transgender policy":**

**BEFORE DECEMBER 4th**, we need schools to TAKE A STAND and stop harmful and unfair policies like this MSHSL "transgender policy."

We need help encouraging schools to let MSHSL know that they do NOT support what MSHSL is doing! That's where you come in.

**Please take some time to call (or at least email) your child's athletic director, superintendent, or school board member and urge them to OPPOSE MSHSL's "transgender policy" and**

**SUPPORT a common-sense alternative that clarifies that students play on teams that match their birth gender for the safety, fairness, and privacy rights of all.**

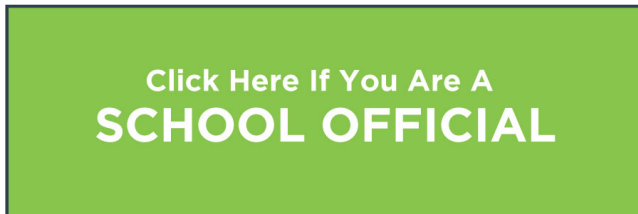
Is there a **School Board meeting** coming up before Dec. 4th?  
Raise the issue at the meeting.

School officials can sign their school on in opposition to MSHSL's "transgender policy" and in support of a common-sense rule clarifying that students play on teams that match their birth sex at the link below.

Please request that your child's school commit to signing on.

There's no time to lose and **schools that care about safety, privacy, and fairness for all students have NO business staying silent while MSHSL passes a policy that harms their students.**

**But we need your help getting schools involved!**



3. **The MSHSL Board member who represents YOU needs to hear from YOU:**

**BEFORE DECEMBER 4th** take a few moments to let the MSHSL Board member who represents YOU know that you do NOT support the proposed "transgender policy" -- and request that He/She NOT support it as well.

You can call, write a letter, or email. For some of you, this may be the 2nd time you've reached out to your MSHSL Board member.

We have an easy way to locate your Board member and his/her contact info, as well as talking points to use at the link below!

## CONTACT YOUR MSHSL BOARD MEMBER

### 4. **I have 2 or more hours:**

The MSHSL Board will decide on whether to adopt their "transgender policy" on December 4, 2014. Members of the public may attend (and provide comment) at the meeting.

You can bet that the LGBTQ advocates will be there in full force.

Please make some time to attend to show that Minnesota does NOT support MSHSL's transgender policy, but instead DOES support a rule that clarifies that boys and girls need to play on teams that match their birth gender--for the safety, fairness, and privacy rights of all.

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, December 4, 2014

**Meeting Time:** 9:00AM

**Meeting Address:** 2100 Freeway Boulevard Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

### 5. **BONUS!**

**BEFORE DECEMBER 4th** please help us spread the word to Christians all over the state, to make sure every member of the Body is taking a stand on this crucial issue!

Forward this email to all your contacts so that they can be informed and take action.

Share it at church!

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**Why is this "transgender student athlete policy"**

bad?

- *Talking Points* -

1. Such a policy is **NOT** (repeat NOT) required under state or federal law. Even the MSHSL Executive Director now admits this.
2. This policy will affect both public AND private schools--and HOMESCHOOLED students who participate in public or private school athletics. There is NO exemption for religious schools or religious students.
3. The policy allows transgender boys to play on girls' sports teams and transgender girls to play on boys' teams with no safety provisions for physical disparities.
4. The policy will almost certainly lead to biological boys being able to access girls' locker rooms, showers, bathrooms, and hotel rooms (and vice versa).
5. The policy contains **NO privacy protections** for students.
6. The policy leaves schools vulnerable to lawsuits for violations of students' privacy rights and religious freedom rights.
7. The process for developing this policy has lacked transparency, bringing only one viewpoint to the table, despite requests and offers for participation from other viewpoints.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read **MFC's response to the MSHSL "transgender policy" featured in the Star Tribune ICYMI!**

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**What is the Christian response to these types of**

## issues?

**That's easy—LOVE. The Christian response should always be one of love because we serve the God who IS Love and Who BECAME Love in the flesh.**

**And Love doesn't lie.** Being loving means always speaking the truth—in love (Eph. 4:15). Love never rejoices in wrongdoing—it rejoices in TRUTH (1 Cor. 13:6).

Responding in love means there's no room for the follower of Jesus to disregard the pain of those struggling with their gender identity.

Responding in love certainly also means that there's no room for the follower of Jesus to help spread the lie that because you “feel deeply internally” that you are a girl makes you a girl when God fearfully and wonderfully made you a boy in His own image (Psalm 139:14)!

And, when it comes to children, we have an even greater duty to protect and ensure that they are not being fed lies that will harm them. Jesus said it would be better for us to drown than to cause one of His children to stumble and sin! (Matthew 18:5-6)

***Part of Turning the Lights Back On in Minnesota this year means letting YOUR light shine—speaking the truth in LOVE.***

**Join us** as we help shed light and truth on the harm this policy will cause to our kids, our schools, and our ability to speak the Truth about who God designed us to be.

**#LightsOnMN #TruthInLove**

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## Nurturing and Defending Families

Our mission is to nurture and defend families by restoring biblical truth in



the public square. The MSHSL's proposed "transgender policy" is one form of biblical truth being intentionally removed from the public square--particularity from the world of Education where our precious children are involved.

Please consider a gift today to help us work to restore biblical truth in the realm of education and stop this transgender policy.

God bless you!

Make a Donation to MFC

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