



Policy Academy Curriculum

“What is a Woman?”

***The Fight for Common
Sense and States to
Stand with Women***

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Policy Academy Curriculum

“What is a Woman?”: The Fight for Common Sense and States to Stand with Women

In this Independent Women Policy Academy lesson, you’ll learn about the attack on biological sex and our attempt to fight back with Independent Women’s innovative Stand with Women legislation.

Bureaucrats and elitists on the federal and state level are redefining language to fit a false narrative, all designed to erase that women exist as biologically distinct from men. As a result, women and girls across the country have been forced to sacrifice their opportunities, privacy, and safety.

We are fighting back. Independent Women has supported the passage of Stand with Women legislation in more than a third of the nation! We have defined “woman,” protected the legal right to single-sex spaces, protected the integrity of data describing sex differences, and supported women’s sports protections, impacting the lives of over 78 million women and girls.

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Stand with Women Legislation

Stand with Women model legislation was developed by Independent Women to preserve the legal existence of women as distinct from men. The legislative options include:

- Definitions of sex-based words like “woman,” “man,” “male,” “female,” and “sex”;
- Legal protection to defend women’s single-sex spaces and opportunities (sports, prisons, locker rooms, women’s domestic violence shelters, etc.);
- Protection of female sports; and
- Protection of the integrity of government-collected vital data statistics.

Our Stand with Women Act combines each of these models into a comprehensive package that not only defines “male” and “female” terms but also protects female spaces and opportunities.

Download all our models [HERE](#).





Common Misperceptions

Misperception: It is unnecessary to define sex and protect women’s spaces.

Activists are attempting to redefine words used in law so that males can access private women’s spaces without the public’s knowledge and without the consent of the women who rely on those spaces. Stand with Women legislation reaffirms the relevance of biological sex and requires that government-funded facilities be honest and transparent with the public. Women have a right to know if allegedly single-sex spaces admit men.

- Read Jordanne Kemper’s piece on why we must define sex to protect women [HERE](#).
- Read Inez Stepman’s piece on why men also need single-sex spaces [HERE](#).

Misperception: There are more than two sexes.

“Sex” is a scientific term that refers to either of the two categories of individuals: male or female. People with medical “differences in sex development” (sometimes referred to as DSD or “intersex”) conditions are not a third sex. Nor are they “trans.” They are the exception that proves the scientific sex binary.

A person cannot change his or her sex. People can identify however they like, but that does not change science. Sex

refers to bodies, and female bodies are different from male bodies—even male bodies that have been treated with hormones and surgery.

- Read Inez Stepman’s piece on why intersex people don’t negate the definition of sex [HERE](#).

Misperception: Gender and Gender identity are synonyms for sex.

The popular confusion around “sex” and “gender” has laid the groundwork for far-left activists to promote radical gender ideology, a theory that suggests males can become women, females can become men, and members of either sex can assume no sex or some other sex entirely. This is why words matter. “Sex” and “gender” are not synonyms, but because of a false ideology that has pretended they are, it has become necessary to clarify that there are only two sexes, male and female, and that women are biologically distinct from men.

- Read Beth Parlato and Neeraja Deshpande’s piece on why “sex” isn’t a bad word but “gender” is, [HERE](#).
- Watch Heather R. Higgins’ remarks during West Virginia Governor Morrissey’s signing of Stand with Women legislation on why we use sex [HERE](#).



The Stats Are On Our Side!

According to Independent Women's national polling:

- 91% of Americans agree that there are important reasons to separate the sexes when it comes to prisons.
- 86% of Americans think that women and men are legally equal, but they are not biologically the same.
- 83% of Americans agree that there are important reasons to separate the sexes when it comes to athletics.
- 74% of Americans think that the U.S. Congress should take action to bar men from accessing women's private spaces, athletics, and academic opportunities.
- 73% of Americans agree that gender identity is not the same thing as gender or biological sex.

View full polling [HERE](#).

American Voters agree, women and men are legally equal, but they are not biologically the same.

86%
AGREE

Female Voters – 84% AGREE
Democratic Voters – 83% AGREE
Independent Voters – 86% AGREE

American Voters agree, gender identity is not the same thing as gender or biological sex.

73%
AGREE

Female Voters – 73% AGREE
Democratic Voters – 71% AGREE
Independent Voters – 72% AGREE

American Voters agree, when it comes to athletics there are important reasons to separate the sexes.

83%
AGREE

Female Voters – 78% AGREE
Democratic Voters – 76% AGREE
Independent Voters – 80% AGREE

American Voters agree, when it comes to prisons there are important reasons to separate the sexes.

91%
AGREE

Female Voters – 89% AGREE
Democratic Voters – 88% AGREE
Independent Voters – 92% AGREE

American Voters agree, when it comes to locker rooms there are important reasons to separate the sexes.

89%
AGREE

Female Voters – 88% AGREE
Democratic Voters – 83% AGREE
Independent Voters – 89% AGREE

American Voters agree, when it comes to bathrooms in K-12 schools there are important reasons to separate the sexes.

87%
AGREE

Female Voters – 84% AGREE
Democratic Voters – 79% AGREE
Independent Voters – 87% AGREE

70+% 80+% 90+%

Source: Wick Insights - n1050, January 24-28

IndependentWomen®





Take Action: Stand Up for Women’s Sex-Based Rights and Sign the Women’s Bill of Rights Declaration

Women deserve privacy, single-sex spaces and opportunities, and fair and safe single-sex sports. Ultimately, women deserve not to be erased.

SIGN the Women’s Bill of Rights today to stand for female rights.



Optional Additional Resources

Competition Report: Title IX, Male Athletes, and the Threat To Women's Sports

Competitive sport is a zero-sum game where some athletes win and others lose. In a zero-sum competition, the inclusion of male athletes in women's sports inevitably means that females lose out.

- Read Independent Women Law Center's full Competition Report [HERE](#).
- Read real-life stories from real people fighting to protect the opportunities, privacy, and safety of girls and women [HERE](#).

Cruel & Unusual Punishment: Stopping the Dangerous Policies Putting Men in Women's Prisons

Incarcerated women have been forced to share their female-only spaces with men who identify as women. Allowing male offenders to reside in women's prisons is dangerous and unfair. Put simply, it's cruel and unusual punishment.

- Read Independent Women's full Cruel & Unusual Report [HERE](#).
- Watch real stories from inside women's prisons on Independent Women Features [HERE](#).

Follow these accounts on Twitter:

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CRUEL & UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT

The Male Takeover of Female Prisons

Stopping the Dangerous Policies Putting Men in Women's Prisons

Incarcerated women have been forced to share their female-only spaces with men who identify as women. Allowing male offenders to reside in women's prisons is dangerous and unfair. Put simply, it's cruel and unusual punishment.



"Most incarcerated women have already experienced sexual trauma. We are trying to heal and prepare to be productive citizens after serving out our sentences. Having men in our prison systems disrupts all of this."

AMIE ICHIKAWA,

Ambassador at Independent Women



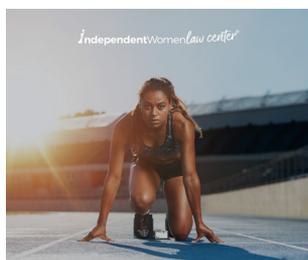
Watch real stories from
inside women's prisons on
Independent Women Features



Read Independent
Women's full Cruel
& Unusual Report

COMPETITION:

Title IX, Male Athletes, and the Threat to Women's Sports



COMPETITION

Title IX, Male Athletes, and the Threat to Women's Sports

THIRD EDITION

Competitive sport is a zero-sum game where some athletes win, and others lose. In a zero-sum competition, the inclusion of male athletes in women's sports inevitably means that females lose out.



Males have stolen
1,255 medals from
905 women and girls.

[SheWon.org]



Read
Independent
Women Law
Center's full
Competition
Report



Read real-life
stories from real
people fighting
to protect the
opportunities,
privacy, and safety
of girls and women



STAND WITH WOMEN

We know what a woman is, what a female is, and what a mother is. Our politicians and our laws should too.

iwv.org/state-action/#declaration

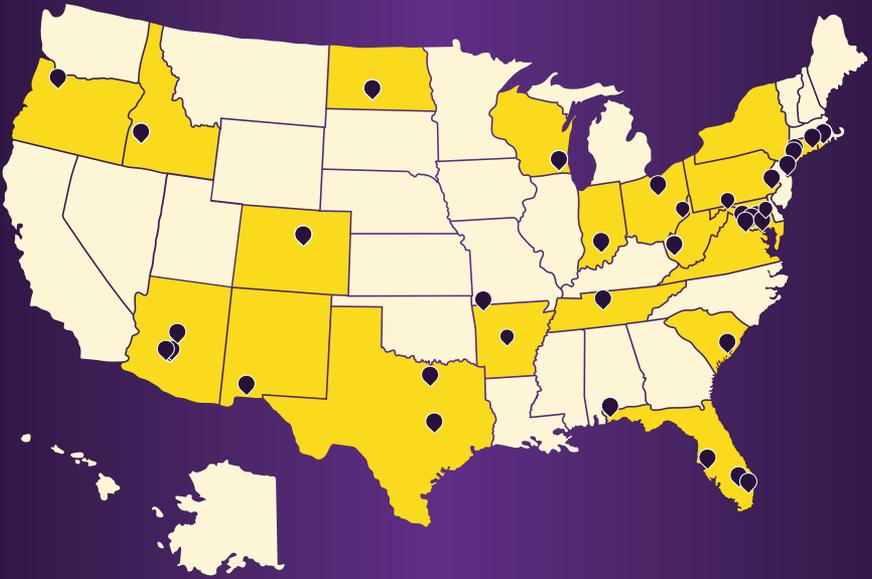


Your membership investment in Independent Women's Network supports Independent Women's policy work, awareness advocacy efforts, and events like these.

INVEST TODAY!

Interested in Starting a Chapter in Your Community?

We are looking for women who are passionate about improving their communities by advancing policies to create a better future. If that sounds like you, email us at chapters@iwnetwork.com to get started.



START A CHAPTER

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