

Sydney Michalski
Columbia
LD 233

Much of the panic over passing this anti-trans-kid legislation has been based on the fear of Trump withholding federal funding to our schools. Because the governor stood firm on the law, and because the President knew his threats were actually illegal and he had no leg to stand on in court, he has since backed down and that threat no longer hangs over this issue. So if the entire issue is whether trans kids should be able to play sports in school, the case for passing this legislation is absurdly weak.

Trans kids are a tiny minority of children trying to sort their way through some really challenging personal struggles to find a healthy life for themselves. And when they want to play sports, 0% of them are boys looking for an easy way to steal trophies and scholarships from girls, and 100% of them are kids just trying to figure out life and enjoy time with friends. I truly don't understand what people gain from demonizing a small group of children and making them the center of a political crusade against imaginary and hypothetical harms. Stirring up group hate is never good for anyone. I honestly believe that anyone who targets children, any children, should be ashamed of themselves - and I used to think that was a bedrock principle that we could all agree on.