

Nicky Heart
Augusta, Maine
LD 227

I am Nicky Heart, a lesbian mother, resident of Maine, and Co-Director of Parents Rights Maine. I am here in opposition of LD 227

As a young child, I experienced gender dysphoria. At the age of 14, I was victimized by a so-called safe adult in the school. I had to survive that trauma alone, and I was scared that the value of a trusted, safe adult no longer existed. Suicidal ideation led me to the custody of DHS. I soon became involved in BAGLY, which is the Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth. Being recognized, loved, labeled, and proud was incredible. It only took hearing the phrase "We are your family now" to become completely blinded by what was to come. Among them were predators who preyed on and targeted those of us from weak, dysfunctional backgrounds. In the name of equity and inclusion, this rainbow cult easily softened, groomed, desensitized, exploited, victimized, and trafficked me. Now, those of us who suffered under the pretense of equity and inclusion have to watch while some of those same people advocate for legislation that would give them legal protections to defend their acts.

What's happening here today is very concerning, particularly the way this bill is being reintroduced in a deceptive way. Bills and policies are being proposed and supported by people who have forgotten what it really means to protect our children, who are the most defenseless and vulnerable members of society. It seems that using our government was the ideal means of advancing the Trans Cult movement, which is merely the starting point for the propagandistic efforts being made.

As a lesbian mother who has suffered from the hate and revenge of an ex-spouse because she is gay, what safeguards does this bill offer to protect my kids from someone who would use it to purposefully harm their helpless children as a way to exact revenge on me? How would this bill shield any parent from this nefarious intent—gay or straight? You claim to be protecting children by passing this bill, but in reality, it takes away all legal protections and due process rights, guaranteeing protections to anyone with malicious or ill-intentioned retaliation, whether they be known or unknown parties or third parties. Is the purpose of this bill to protect those who wish to traffic, mutilate, and exploit helpless children for the benefit of predators, or is it to punish gay people and ensure that they never procreate? What safeguards does this bill offer to prevent children—regardless of their identity—from being trafficked or coerced into accepting gender affirming care against their will? Since this bill takes away both their rights and the rights of any party that might be protecting them, including the laws, it offers no protection at all. Additionally, this bill denies the right of any child who was wrongfully or intentionally harmed to pursue justice for the trauma and mutilation they will experience as a result of it.

That is why bills like LD 227 are extremely dangerous to the health and welfare of every child no matter how they identify. This bill and many others like them will allow predators to gain complete access to traffic, exploit, mutilate, and victimize children while tying the hands of safeguarding parents and law enforcement agencies from protecting children from this irreversible destruction. This is why we need to stand together and safeguard our most valuable and vulnerable defenseless children and protect parental rights.

I ask you today to Vote, NOT to pass LD 227.

Thank you!
Nicky Heart