

Joshua Jones  
Penobscot  
LD 1002

I am a former high school principal, and a PhD level clinical counselor and I can tell you from experience that while it's normal for teens to push the norms, what's not normal - or healthy- is to validate their rebellion, because, in this case, it's against their own bodies. Shortly Before the gender craze, I had a student who called himself we and wanted to be referred to as then because, as he said, "This is what we want, and we do not like to be contradicted." He had some issues - but our response was the same then as it should be now - you are \*one\* person, and it's important that you learn to accept the body you were born into. That's the path to mental health. All other roads lead to insanity. I have many other anecdotes (briefly, a student who told us to change her pronouns only between 7:30 Am and 2:40 pm every day). Schools have no place coming between children and their parents, or our students and their own bodies. Please, take a stand for truth, for health, and for peace - in society, in school, and in the home.