

**Submission
No 61**

EQUALITY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (LGBTIQA+) BILL 2023

Organisation: Feminist International Network of Resistance to Reproductive and Genetic Engineering

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To
Legislative Assembly Committee
Community Services
Parliament New South Wales
communityservices@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

13 April 2024

Dear Committee,

Thank you for inviting us to comment on the Equality Bill by Alex Greenwich.
<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/bills/Pages/bill-details.aspx?pk=18460>.

Given the magnitude of the Transgender debate, before we comment on specific aspects of this Bill, we offer some general remarks.

Mr Greenwich's Bill is audacious in its scope and impact. If accepted, 23 existing Acts, affecting the community in every sector from health to crime to prostitution to employment services etc. would be affected. It will impact the *whole* of the NSW population *for the benefit of fewer than 0.17% of people who feel they are neither male or female*.

The Bill is called 'Equality' Bill and purports to bring equality to this 0.17%: the LGBTQI+ population of New South Wales. But as matter of fact, this so-called equality would only benefit Transgender people. Lesbians, along with all other women as well as men, will become more unequal, as their existing rights in society will be diminished. We believe it should therefore be labelled the 'Inequality Bill'.

Of course, rights of minorities need to be protected. However, as the membership of *FINRRAGE* includes biologists, we believe in science and hold that as members of the Class Mammalia, human beings are sexually dimorphic. Put differently, we are born as belonging to either the female sex (with XX chromosomes in each of our cells) or the male sex (with XY chromosomes in each cell).¹ Transgender people too are either female or male. As such, they already enjoy the same rights as all other citizens.

It is this irrefutable classification that Transgender people and their allies reject. They claim that they were 'assigned' a *gender* at birth. This is doubly wrong as a) no one is born with a 'gender' – a social construct invented by society – and b) no one 'assigns' anything to a newborn – her or his sex is *observed* by looking at their genitalia.

In recent years, gender has often been used interchangeably with 'gender identity'. Indeed, some Transgender people and their advocates such as Mr Greenwich claim, that they are born with a fixed gender identity. If that was male, but they are now called female, they were 'born in the wrong body' and need to transition. (Ultrasound can identify sex much earlier in the pregnancy.)

But you cannot change sex: transition to a different sex is a fantasy, it is not possible.

¹ A very small group of individuals are born intersexual, that is with variations to their genomes, e.g. XO (females with Turner syndrome) or XXY (males with Klinefelter syndrome). But they are female or male too. There is no third sex.



Conversely, Transgender people and their advocates also say that sex is not dimorphic but on a spectrum: one can be female, male, nonbinary. Put differently, they adhere to a fiction that can only be called delusional when it leads to expressions as this so-called Equality Bill by Mr Greenwich.

The bill asks for changes to the Birth, Deaths, and Marriages Act to facilitate so-called self-ID: despite being born a biological male, if a person feels that he is really a she, they should be allowed to register as such with new pronouns that can be anything from she to they to ce or zir, etc.² Once registered, everyone has to respect these new pronouns; failure to do so is called 'misgendering' (and/or 'deadnaming') and, as proposed in the Greenwich Bill will be criminalised through a redefined Crimes Act.

Natal girls and women also face the indignity of being called 'vagina and cervix havers', ciswomen (a misnomer that does not exist. The word 'mother' should be exchanged with 'birthing parent'. A vagina is supposed to be called a 'fronhole'. Furthermore, women and men who disagree with these word games are dismissively called 'Terfs' (transexclusionary radical feminists). Many women (and a few men) have lost jobs, grants, their position in sports teams and are vilified as 'bigots' and 'transphobes'. Alas the small minority of 0.17% that many people feel should be protected and granted their sought rights, includes many thugs and violent men. This is also true for their ardent supporters. It has led to attacks on women's rights campaigners like Kellie-Jay Keen in Melbourne, Canberra and Auckland (NZ).

It is important to differentiate between adults calling themselves Transsexuals or Transgenders and children/teenagers who say they want to transition.

Adult transgender people are mostly male. Many have a condition called Autogynephilia (AGP). It is a paraphilia – a fetish. Men with this condition get aroused to see themselves in the mirror looking like women, but their idea of womanhood is a caricature: big hair (wigs), exaggerated make-up, pert breast implants, short skirts and high stiletto heels. (It needs to be said, that some AGP men have lived quietly in the community for years. They try to 'pass', do *not* claim to be women and are aghast at the current transgender campaigns – including the Greenwich Bill – which they do not join.)

NSW parliamentarians need to decide if they want to spend considerable resources on the desires of a few men with a fetish.

In many newspaper articles about Transgender issues, these are the pictures we see. The Equality Bill would ensure that men with AGP can register their Self-ID as female and then join women's sports teams where they may injure women because of their bigger body mass and height, use women's bathrooms and prisons (with the possibility of sexual assault in both places; this has been documented in many places such as the UK and California), and access female-only spaces such as shelters for DV victim/survivors. They can also join book prizes for women (see the Stella Prize in Australia) and take away women's places on female panels at literary festivals.

However, if you are a man who feels he is a woman, you do not need to dress 'womanly' or undergo dangerous surgeries ranging from breast implants to penectomies and vaginoplasties, nor submit to ingesting debilitating female hormones for life which often leads to severe cardiovascular problems,

cancers and early death. You can simply go and register as female with your beard and penis intact and we – the people – need to address you as a she.

² The University of Wisconsin mentions that there are 78 pronouns for gender 'diverse' people.
<<https://uwm.edu/lgbtrc/support/gender-pronouns/>>.



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Children, teenagers and adolescents up to the age of 25 are currently the main target for transitioners. To be ‘trans’ has become much more attractive than being an ‘unfeminine’ teenage girl who is sexually harassed by boys who manufacture fake pornography pictures of her. Listening to endless influencers on Tik-Tok and Instagram, they succumb to the glamour of proclaiming “I am trans,” which gives them an instant cohort of supporters and peers: other girls who believe being trans is easier. This is, as US researcher Lisa Littman called it in 2018 ‘Social contagion’ (<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0202330>). It masks same-sex attraction, eating disorders, autism or simply being an unsettled teenager whose body and mind begin their uneasy trip through puberty as countless teenagers have done before them.

It is deeply worrying that on its digital platform Transhub, ACON that describes itself as ‘NSW’s leading health organisation’ starts with blatantly false information on its blog ‘Am I Trans Enough?’:

Terms like ‘trans’, ‘transgender’ and even ‘trans and gender diverse’ can be defined pretty simply and inclusively. These are umbrella terms that describe women, men and non-binary people *whose gender is different to what was presumed for them at birth* (our italics).

No wonder that a confused teenager finds her- or himself confirmed as trans by such misleading information: no one has a ‘presumed gender’ at birth!

So-called Gender Clinics exploit this malaise, labelling it ‘gender dysphoria’ and as a quick fix put the girl (or boy) on puberty blockers which they call ‘reversible’. Sadly, these drugs are anything but reversible. Never approved for children, GnRH drugs like Lupron lead to bone thinning, menopausal symptoms, loss of fertility and long-term impact on brain development. Moreover, the vast majority of adolescents on puberty blockers ‘graduate’ to opposite sex hormones and then, frequently to double mastectomies for girls, often followed by hysterectomies.

The Greenwich Bill would make it easier to allow children under 16 to access puberty blockers, and after 16, to cross-sex hormones without parental approval. We hope Commission members will be able to pass on to their parliamentary colleagues that this creates a bizarre situation: children who are not allowed to drink and drive – or even get a tattoo – until they are 18, should be able to access drugs which change their lives forever in ways they are simply not able to understand. They are children with an immature brain!

This is child abuse and will be exposed as one of the biggest – or perhaps even the biggest – medical scandal of the century. It has already started with individual legal cases by so called Detransitioners who accuse Gender Clinics of injuring them. At some point there will be class actions.

Luckily, on 8 April 2024, Dr Hilary Cass published the long-awaited Final Cass Report on Gender Identity Services in the UK for the NHS (National Health Service), after the major Gender Clinic, the Tavistock, was closed at the end of March 2024. It can be accessed here: <https://cass.independent-review.uk/home/publications/final-report/>

Dr Cass recommends stopping all puberty blockers and the NHS has already confirmed they will do exactly that. Her recommendations are based on the fact that so-called Gender Care medicine is not like other medicine. There are no trials of puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones, what research there is, is weak and inconsistent. The often-used melodramatic threat to parents “would you rather have a dead son than a live daughter” to push them to agree to so-called gender- affirming care for their child, has never been confirmed in studies. In fact, some evidence shows that the suicide rate is



So far in Australia, the Gender Clinics – and Trans Organisations such as ACON and Equality Australia – continue to put their head in the sand and reject the Cass Report. Other countries such as Finland and Sweden have already stopped using puberty Blockers. In France a Bill is being prepared to stop all Gender Medicine.

We are convinced that the Federal Government will soon begin a National Inquiry that psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, academics, teachers and parents – many of them feminists – have urged them to hold for years. We also hope that these developments will begin to dismantle the global edifice that Trans Activists, funded by US billionaires, some of whom are trans themselves have built over the last decade. Many pro-trans organisations in Australia such as ACON and Equality Australia receive funds from these sources.⁴

It is against this backdrop that we believe NSW law makers have a duty to reject the Greenwich Bill in its entirety. To endorse failed medical procedures that have been found profoundly unsafe would be reckless and lead to much unnecessary misery for young people. It can be stopped with urgently needed holistic counselling and psychological support of teenagers as whole human beings and not just ‘gender’ caricatures as the Trans Industry sees them.

We now move to a couple of specific comments on the Greenwich Equality Bill:

Surrogacy

FINRRAGE is particularly incensed that Mr Greenwich’s Equality Bill wants to change the Surrogacy Act 2010. Linda Burney, current Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians, was the NSW Community Services Minister in 2010. It was her Amendment that criminalised commercial surrogacy, particularly when going overseas. The maximum penalty consists of 2 years imprisonment or 2,500 penalty units.

Ms Burney added this Amendment with the full awareness of what happened to the Stolen Generations as well as unmarried women whose children were removed from the 1950s onwards. If Mr Greenwich is not aware of this fact, he should educate himself; if he is, we can add ‘racist’ to his misogynist attempt to remove criminal convictions for going overseas for commercial surrogacy.

Surrogacy is a human rights violation of so-called surrogate mothers and egg ‘donors’ who are treated like incubators whose children are taken away at birth, and providers of half the genetic material for a child who will never know them. It also violates the human rights of the child who has never consented to be a ‘take-away’ baby, removed from his mother who has gestated her or him in her body for nine months. We know from many adult adoptees who have suffered from this early maternal

³ In March 2024, hundreds of WPATH files were leaked. WPATH stands for World Professional Association for Transgender Health; see <<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2024/mar/09/disturbing-leaks-from-us-gender-group-wpath-ring-alarm-bells-in-nhs>>

Alarming, these files from a pro-trans organisation reveal that so-called Gender Care practitioners know about many adverse effects, acknowledge that children cannot comprehend the magnitude of the suggested treatments including the dangers of the drugs, and that there is insufficient research available to support gender medicine: all points now confirmed in the Final Cass Report.

⁴ Jennifer Bilek is a US researcher who has done brilliant research into the global medical industrial complex. She shows how so-called Gender Care makes billions for Big Pharma and surgeons. A collection of her writing will be available in June 2024 as *Transsexual Transgender Transhuman* from Spinifex Press. This article from her Blog The 11th Hour provides important information: <https://jbilek.substack.com/p/gender-ideology-technology-and-sexual?utm_source=post-email-title>



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deprivation all their lives. Surrogacy is worse: no child exists that is in need of care. On the contrary, the child is ‘conceived’ as an item on a contract, to be ‘made from scratch’. It is hard to find a more insulting description of manufacturing a human being!

Together with many other international organisations such as Stop Surrogacy Now, CIAMS (the Coalition to abolish surrogate motherhood), ABSA (Abolish Surrogacy Australia), Stoppt Leihmutterchaft and The Declaration of Casablanca, *FINRRAGE* continues our campaign to abolish surrogate motherhood. There is no right to a child for anyone, be they a couple, single, gay or straight (see Renate Klein, *Surrogacy: A Human Rights Violation*, Spinifex 2017, <<https://www.spinifexpress.com.au/shop/p/9781925581034>>).

The last decade has seen a significant increase in gay men who see it as their ‘right’ to acquire a child. Surrogacy in Australia is limited, as only few women are willing to engage in a dangerous pregnancy with donor embryos and the knowledge, that their child will be taken from them, often for ever. Hence Mr Greenwich’s attempt to support his gay mates to get easier access to buying a baby overseas.

We sincerely hope that the NSW Parliament will reject this cheap attempt to jeopardise the health of poor women overseas to facilitate such arrogant greediness. Moreover, in its Report investigating surrogacy in Australia in 2015/16, ‘Surrogacy Matters’ (2016), the Federal Government concluded that commercial surrogacy will not be legal in Australia.

<https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Social_Policy_and_Legal_Affairs/Inquiry_into_surrogacy/Report>

We trust that this precedent would make the Equality Bill’s attempt to change the law in NSW null and void.

Prostitution

Prostitution is already legal in NSW but the Equality Bill seeks to change the status of legalisation to one of total *decriminalisation*. This would remove the last protections from prostituted women and make the interactions between the women (and a few men) and their sex buyers even more dangerous. *FINRRAGE* strongly objects to this further endangering of women’s lives. We urge NSW Parliamentarians to explore the Nordic Model which is currently intensely scrutinised by the SA Parliament, with a view to adopt it in NSW. (<<https://www.catwa.org.au/nordic-model-resources/#:~:text=The%20Nordic%20Model%20aims%20to,trafficking%20are%20desirable%20or%20inevitable>>).

We conclude our Submission here because at 2pm on Sunday 14 April (10 hours before Submissions close), the Webpage with the Bill is no longer accessible, producing only an error message.

Due to this technological error, we are unable to directly link other issues, e.g. parental rights, providing access to gender medicine to children under 14 years of age, influence in schools, omitting to define homosexuality and all other proposed changes to language.

We urge the Committee of Inquiry to recommend to their parliamentary colleagues *to reject the Equality Bill in its entirety*. It jeopardises girls and women and erases us as members of the sex class women.

Sincerely,

Dr Renate Klein,
Co-ordinator *FINRRAGE* (Australia)
Biologist and social scientist