

Good day to you, and please forgive my absence? I am battling a severe depressive disorder that has been further exasperated by what I am about to share with you.

My experiences render me certain that, whether a person can tell a person's gender by looking at them or not, the rules should be abided.

Darren, a man who introduced himself as Rachel, broke the rules. Furthermore, he revealed his predatory disposition by grooming and assaulting me in the winter of 2022.

I had befriended Darren with the motivation to uplift him. I was pro-trans-rights then, and would say I still am. Hearing that, you might notice I use his biological pronouns and, what some may refer to as, his "dead name" to address him; please, allow me to explain why before you decide I'm simply transphobic.

Titles, initially, became a rather troubling issue when my assault case was closed due to the fact the reporting officer could not find the assailant within his database using the name "Rachel," as it wasn't a legal name.

Regardless, I don't have the urge to blame "trans" for where I found myself after, while at a coffee date, what was meant to be a friendly, comforting hug turned into a biological man's fingertips penetrating the roughly quarter-inch thick suede of a long coat to enter my vagina.

I don't believe someone who'd been honest when telling me they are a transwoman who is only interested in men would have violated a woman in such a way.

Thus, being pro-trans-rights and, dare I say, the victim of sexual assault, I must protect the truly loveable transsexuals who enrich my life through appropriate gestures of friendship and family by recognizing they cannot be ranked among someone exuding predatory behaviors.

Although young girls' cries for protection against his rule-breaking behavior in what's advertised to be their safe space seems sufficient, here I am... a tragic reality reiterating the many parents' pleas, saying, "This has gone too far."

The simple fact is Xenia Y attendees wouldn't be involved in this hearing had Darren not exemplified predatory behavior... Strutting about the locker room naked, speaking to obviously uncomfortable young girls naked, roaming up and down the rows of lockers naked, and approaching my own adult female coworker, who prefers to remain anonymous, while she was cutting an abandoned lock off a locker (I'm sorry to say, again, Darren did this, and persisted after being turned away several times, "naked as a jay bird," as my coworker put it).

In the back of our minds, we know every law is taken advantage of, and, like street dealers abuse the right to bear arms, sexual predators will abuse trans rights; the way I see it, both transsexuals and the opposite are at risk of being victimized by the sexual predator.

We all know that no one is going to check birth certificates in most cases. If they look female and enter the women's restroom and use it appropriately without causing suspicion, no one will care or raise issues. Yet, there should be something protecting the innocent in case something does happen and deterring acts of violence and harassment before they happen. This new bill does both of those things. Please, be reasonable and care for the lives of women and girls... that they don't end up like me... juggling endless therapy sessions and day-to-day recourse for holding myself accountable for putting myself in a position of vulnerability with a sexual predator identifying as a transwoman?

My name is Kateisha Young, employee at the YMCA, and I thank you for hearing my testimony.