



## Church Connection

March 2018

### Strengthening, Preserving & Promoting Marriage, Family, Life & Religious Liberty

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*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*

Genesis 1:27

*And [Jesus] answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female...?*

Matthew 19:4

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### Join us for...

*"Punching Holes in the Darkness: Equipping Christians To Bring Light to the Critical Issues of Our Day"*

A presentation by Julaine Appling, WFC president

Thurs., March 8, 6-8 p.m.,  
Portage Pizza Ranch

Thurs. March, 22, 6-8 p.m.,  
Weston Pizza Ranch

Register online at  
[wifamilycouncil.org](http://wifamilycouncil.org)

or call us at  
888-378-7395.

## Social Construct: Truth or Fiction?

Several years ago, while serving as a panelist on the topic of adoption, Julaine Appling, president of Wisconsin Family Council, was told by a member of the audience that "anyone with any intelligence knows that gender is just a social construct." If you are not familiar with the term "social construct," you are not alone.

Merriam-Webster says a "social construct" is "an idea that has been created and accepted by the people in a society." A liberal website says a social construct "is something that is not inherently natural but created by society."

Is gender merely a social construct or is gender inherently natural? Is it an idea that has simply been created and accepted by the people in our society or does it have some more significant source? Gender is a social construct **only** if you accept the definition of those who believe gender has nothing to do with biology, is not fixed, but is rather a continuum with a person being able to change his or her gender identity even moment to moment.



3D rendered illustration of the male XY chromosome.

If you accept that definition or those descriptions of gender as true, then gender really is a social construct. It's entirely made up. A person can identify as anything (s)he chooses, or as nothing at all

However, if you equate gender with biological sex, then gender is not a social construct. Rather, it is a scientific reality determined at the moment of conception when the sperm contributes either an X chromosome or a Y chromosome to the egg, resulting in an XX, female, or XY, male, chromosomal pairing. Society's idea about it has nothing to do with this reality, this truth.

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## We Recommend...

*God and the Transgender Debate*, Andrew T. Walker, 2017, 174 pp.

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We encourage you to consider the following when responding to transgenderism:

- Jesus was “full of grace and truth.” We should be, too. Both are necessary.
- Teach your children from the earliest ages that how they were formed is part of God’s good plan for them. Talk about the truths that are clearly found in Psalm 139:13-16.
- Those who struggle with their gender identity need our help and compassion. Often, they are not the activists making unreasonable demands.
- How we respond to LGBTQ activists says something about our faith. Consider Matthew 5:44-48. Remember that the enemy of our souls is also the enemy of theirs.
- Remember that NONE of us are OK. We are all broken. Brokenness manifests itself in different ways, but we all need the Savior!
- Read and meditate on II Timothy 2:24-26.

When it comes to gender, right now society is doubling down on it as a social construct. We know this because public schools are reading books about it to kids as young as kindergarten; because schools are passing policies that reinforce this lie; because communities are adopting ordinances that force everyone to at least act as if gender is whatever anyone wants it to be; because videos, magazine covers and tv shows are exploiting confused children who are dressed and acting in outlandish ways as they seek to figure out their gender; and because we hear more and more heartbreaking stories from Christians whose children are believing this lie.

The social elitists want to force all of us to accept their fairy tale, that biology has nothing to do with gender and that people can be whatever they want whenever they want on this gender continuum. And society is supposed to accept them and allow them—even encourage them—to do pretty much whatever they want as they live this kind of fake life, including letting a man who identifies as a woman use women’s restrooms and changing rooms regardless of the discomfort and danger that can pose.

The ultimate final word on the matter is that God “created man in his own image” and in doing so “male and female created [H]e them” Genesis 1:27. God the Creator’s binary system of male and female is not a social construct. It is a God-ordained reality and is for our good. Thinking we can make something up that improves on what God has done is foolish—and so very harmful to very real people.

Confusion in the culture is testimony to the truth of God’s Word. When man disobeyed God in the garden (Genesis 3), sin and brokenness entered the world (see Romans 1:18-22). Confusion over one’s gender is just one way the brokenness of creation manifests itself. Love for our neighbor compels us to speak the truth, with grace and mercy, to our culture. Gender is not a social construct, and gender is not “assigned” at birth. It is recognized at birth and is one of our Creator’s good gifts to us. To think or believe gender is a social construct is fiction, not truth.

## About Wisconsin Family Council

*Wisconsin Family Council is a 501 (c)(3) organization that has been advancing Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin since 1986. We have largely done this by informing Wisconsin citizens, policymakers and churches about the important legislative and cultural issues so that they can be involved in strengthening, preserving and promoting marriage, family, life and religious liberty in our state.*

*“Church Connection” is published monthly by WFC and is available to churches in Wisconsin.*

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