

CHURCH CONNECTION

APRIL 2024



ANSWERING TOUGH QUESTIONS

How would you react and how would you advise your teen if (s)he came home with this news? "At my school 50% of the girls say they are lesbian or identify as boys." Or this: "A guy came to school today wearing heels, a dress, and make up. I decided out of respect, I should talk to this student using feminine pronouns. He told me, 'I am not a girl. Just because I am dressed like a girl, doesn't mean I am one. I am still male and want you to use male pronouns.'"

These are true stories we've heard from parents of students in public schools in our state. If you are the pastor or friend of one of these parents, how might you counsel them? (Rom. 15:14).

Living in sexual anarchy isn't easy for any of us. It's getting more challenging daily. However, God's Word is clear on matters of gender and sexuality. God made us male and female, and He designed sexuality to be an expression of intimacy only in the context of one man, one woman marriage.

We long ago culturally jettisoned God's absolute truths in these areas. That was a choice we collectively made. But what's interesting about choices is that while we can make a choice, we don't have any say in the consequences that happen because of our choice. In the matter of human sexuality, even if we personally haven't made poor choices in these areas, we are still impacted by the consequences of society's collective choices.

That's how you get conversations like the ones above. Imagine all of this from a young
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Prayer & Praise

We are grateful for the Lord leading Christine File to serve as the new President of Wisconsin Family Council and Wisconsin Family Action. Please continue to pray for her as she transitions into this new role.

Pray for parents in your church who are trying to raise their children in ways that honor God, in the midst of a culture that makes that extremely challenging.

Pray for your local law enforcement and emergency responders. Pray for their mental health and spiritual well-being. Pray for their safety, for their families and their marriages. As you have opportunity, let them know that you appreciate their service in your community.

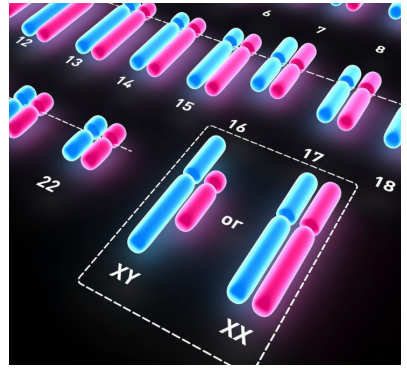
**STRENGTHENING,
PRESERVING & PROMOTING
MARRIAGE, FAMILY, LIFE &
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." - Gen. 1:27

person's perspective. If adults struggle to know how to respond to this transgender issue, imagine how difficult it is for a college student, a teen, a middle-schooler, or an elementary student!

This issue is not going away. The culture is relentlessly pushing the lie that gender is whatever a person wants it to be, is never fixed, and is a continuum with great fluidity, that can change from day to day.

The scientific, biological reality is that if a person has XX chromosomes she is a female, and if XY chromosomes, he is a male. A person's sex was determined at the moment of conception and is fundamentally unalterable. At birth, a person's sex is recognized and recorded; it's not determined.



How will you answer your child's sincere questions about this matter, especially if your child is experiencing the consequences in school? Parents, are you prepared to help your son or daughter if they share with you one day that they think they are trapped in the wrong biological sex and want to identify as the opposite sex?

We urge you to not ignore this matter. "Gender identity" is quickly becoming the "civil rights" issue of the day. To think Christian kids won't be affected is just wrong. We know they are being impacted by this assault. We are hearing from more and more Christian parents with a child who is questioning their God-given identity. Some are even attempting to "transition," though by God's design that is a futile effort.

At a minimum, we know we must respond in love, with grace and compassion, not with rejection, harshness, or discipline. Jesus didn't respond that way to people who were honestly seeking or genuinely confused; we must not either. We don't condone or affirm, but we also don't condemn or alienate. We offer truth, hope, and help.

The world may be confused, but we shouldn't be. We must be students of God's Word, people of much prayer, and astute discerners of truth. Like the men of Issachar (I Chron. 12:32), we must understand the times and know what we are to do, in part, so that we can help those for whom we are responsible.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

For the young, we recommend *God Made Boys and Girls: Helping Children Understand the Gift of Gender*, by Marty Machowski. *God and the Transgender Debate*, by Andrew T. Walker is excellent. *A Practical Guide to Culture*, by Stonestreet and Kunkle is also very helpful.

Wisconsin Family Council (WFC) 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 they can be involved in strengthening, preserving, and promoting God's plan for marriage and family, the sanctity of human life, and religious freedom in our state.

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