

Information for HF2156

Personal Testimony of Jennifer Thorne Feb 28, 2022

Bill HF2156 seeks to prevent any individual, adult or child, from seeking help for anything other than continuing in an LBGQT+ sexual orientation. This is a very restrictive piece of legislation that will do harm and not much good.

I am personally opposed to any legislation that prohibits a person from pursuing self directed care, medical or otherwise. Had laws been in place like this when I was a child they would have ushered me into the rapid onset gender dysphoria that results only in affirmation of trans identities.

I grew up in the world of boys and men and never learned how to engage at all in the world of girls and women. Being exposed to the world of boys and men also exposed me to male sexual advances and abuse by them, confirming my own suspicions that men are always predatory and never to be trusted.

That belief and growing sexual attractions led me to develop romantic attractions towards women which I began acting upon in my early adult life. I really believe that I was born gay and that was the life for me.

In 1984 I entered what became my last lesbian relationship after having made a decision to become a Christian. By 1986 I became convinced that following my Christian faith was a better direction than continuing on with my partner. We separated and went our different ways. I became engaged in my local church, began reading the bible regularly, and participated in the women's groups in this church.

These regular weekly and sometimes daily interactions with other women, while being transparent regarding my struggles with romantic attractions for women, gave me a setting to grow in my skills of interacting in the world of women. I received counseling through a licensed counselor when as needed to address the wounds of the sexual abuse experience while growing up.

I married my husband in 1988 and together we have raised 5 children. I was still very attracted to women while married but the stability of our marriage gave me a place to continue to work through the trauma of my childhood. It took about a decade of life in the Church and marriage to my husband to learn how to live and relate well to both men and women. Today I am no longer sexually attracted to women at all. I now enter into the world of women with great joy. I no longer believe the lie that all men are predators.

If this law passes there would have been a very unhappy ending to my life story and my five children would not exist. That would be a tragedy.