

ANTI-TRANS LEGISLATION:

FACTS & Talking Points



Arizona legislators are filing and voting for bad-faith bills that target the trans community, especially trans youth. These bills have not been created in response to a societal problem. Rather, they're being used to advance the religious right's culture war against LGBTQIA+ people.

- ➔ Bills targeting transgender people — and the political rhetoric surrounding anti-trans bills — send a message that transgender people are not worthy of equal treatment, contributing to dangerous stigma that drives an epidemic of violence.
- ➔ Trans people face extraordinarily high levels of risk for physical and sexual violence, at school, work, home, in public spaces, and at the hands of government officials. More than one in four trans people has faced a bias-driven assault; rates are higher for trans women and trans people of color.
- ➔ Trans individuals are four times more likely to experience violent victimization including murder, rape, sexual assault, and aggravated assault.
- ➔ Trans people, especially people of color, experience elevated poverty rates. About 29% of white, 49% of Latinx, and 39% of Black trans adults live in poverty.
- ➔ More than one-third of trans adults lack healthcare coverage. 29% have been refused health care services due to their gender identity.
- ➔ Medical experts agree that gender-affirming care is medically necessary and life-saving for transgender youth. (For instance, access to puberty blockers during adolescence is associated with lower odds of suicide.) Such decisions should be between youth, their parents, and their doctors. Not politicians.
- ➔ The American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, American Medical Association, American Psychological Association, American Psychiatric Association, Endocrine Society and World Professional Association for Transgender Health all oppose anti-trans bills.
- ➔ Denying young people access to educational activities such as school sports deprives them of the social, emotional, and health benefits these activities bring.

Putting trans peoples' rights up for debate leads to adverse physical and mental effects. Lack of access to gender-affirming healthcare marginalizes trans individuals, causing harm over the course of a lifetime. The damage being done by these religiously and politically motivated bills will reverberate for decades.