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# How will restrictive transgender policies impact Albertans?

1

Removing choice from parents and driving away doctors

2

Developing a culture of hate and violence making our homes unsafe

3

Threatening the bodily autonomy of women

4

Exacerbating Alberta's growing rates of STIs

5

Leading to an increase in the risk of child sexual abuse

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## Removing choice from parents and driving away doctors



The proposed legislation would remove a parent's ability to make health care choices for their children. In Alberta, doctors are already not allowed to perform health care on children without parental or guardian consent, so no change is necessary. If a parent doesn't want their child to receive a surgery, they will not receive the surgery. This policy was proposed without the proper consultation or government liaisons that typically support health care, such as the Alberta Medical Association and the Canadian Paediatric Society. These policies will force medical practitioners to make decisions based on what the current political party tells them to do, rather than what research and best practices recommend. At a time when the province is already struggling to attract enough doctors and nurses, signaling that politics is more important than healthcare can only exacerbate the issue.

Source: Doctors, nurses and medical groups urge province to walk back plans to limit gender-affirming care

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/medical-groups-alberta-government-gender-affirming-care-policies-1.7103099>



## These policies develop a culture of hate and violence making our homes unsafe

In the last year hate crimes motivated by sexual orientation rose 69% in Canada. The proposed policy does nothing to address violence and hate crimes, but rather focuses on non-issues that do not need addressing. If hate crimes go unaddressed our home communities will grow more unsafe and violence will persist.

Source: Statistics Canada Police-reported hate crime, by type of motivation, selected regions and Canada

Stats Can Sexual Orientation Based Hate crimes in 2023: 860

Stats Can Sexual Orientation Based Hate crimes in 2022: 509



## These policies threaten the bodily autonomy of women

This proposed legislation defies best practices set up by Canadian doctors who developed guidelines for transgender healthcare. These guidelines were evidence based and built by doctors. Politicians think they know better than medical professionals who've spent years studying and researching these complex issues. If we allow a political party to remove the right to healthcare from transgender people, who is to say that they won't start removing healthcare rights from women?

Source: Guidelines and Protocols for Comprehensive Primary Health Care for Trans Clients  
Guidelines and Protocols for Comprehensive Primary Health Care for Trans Clients



## Lack of education will exacerbate Alberta's growing rates of STIs

In Alberta, the last two years of data show a 12.7% increase in reports of sexually transmitted illnesses (STIs). Annually, Alberta deals with more than 20,000 cases of STIs, this is a serious issue. Removing education related to sexuality will exacerbate a culture of ignorance and shame among youth which has been proven to lead to increased rates of STIs. This will lead to serious health complications for many Albertans, and further stress on our already burdened healthcare system.

Source: Alberta Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV 2022, Alberta Health, Government of Alberta

Reported cases in 2022: 25,405

Reported cases in 2021: 22,531

The Effectiveness of Group-Based Comprehensive Risk-Reduction



5

## These policies could lead to an increase in the risk of child sexual abuse

The proposed legislation will reduce teachers' ability to safely provide comprehensive sexual health education, including vital information about consent. Decades of research shows that when children are given knowledge and age appropriate resources about their health, not only are they at reduced risk for STIs and unwanted pregnancy, they are significantly less likely to experience abuse and are more capable of disclosing when abuse has occurred. Any legislation that reduces children's access to this knowledge by definition reduces their safety and increases their risk of abuse.

Source:

Three Decades of Research: The Case for Comprehensive Sex Education  
[https://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X\(20\)30456-0/fulltext](https://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X(20)30456-0/fulltext)

The Importance of Access to Comprehensive Sex Education  
<https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/adolescent-sexual-health/equitable-access-to-sexual-and-reproductive-health-care-for-all-youth/the-importance-of-access-to-comprehensive-sex-education/?srsltid=AfmBOopU8uAMF7uliCUIXW9fABIG84VkhD4ONCsw0q3-m7mcHd-ONXwL>

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