

ALT TEXT FOR LET TRANS KIDS PLAY CAMPAIGN SLIDES

Alt text on Instagram is the description that identifies the content of an image and allows screen readers to describe your photos to blind or visually impaired users. Instagram uses object recognition technology to automatically describe your posts to visually impaired users.

SLIDE 1- (if you use the graphic I created, otherwise please update it to describe your first slide!)

A photo of a billowing trans flag that is cropped to zoom in tight on it. In large white capital letters, it reads, “LET TRANS GIRLS PLAY GIRLS’ SPORTS Slides by Schuyler Bailar (@PINKMANTARAY)”

SLIDE 2-

A blue slide with the following text:

As of May 2021, at least 30 anti-trans sports bills, most of which target trans girls, have been proposed or enacted in the United States. If you are wearing rainbows and calling yourself an ally this month and the rest of the year, we need your fight for trans athletes and trans girls, now. Many of these bills are proposing very invasive testing – down to genital inspections of children. This is not only a clear violation of privacy but also massively transphobic. This is not about fairness. Let’s break this down →

At the base of the slide, the weblink, <https://pinkmantaray.com/lettranskidsplay>, is written in pink, along with Schuyler’s tag: SCHUYLER BAILAR, PINKMANTARAY.

SLIDE 3-

A blue slide titled, “RESPONSES TO COMMON ARGUMENTS REGARDING HARMFUL ANTI-TRANS BILLS” with the following text:

① “It’s not transphobic, it’s about fairness. Trans women are biological males and shouldn’t compete with women.” We’ll start with language. If you claim you’re not transphobic, then you will use the most respectful terminology and call trans women what they are: women. Calling them “biological males” is not only potentially inaccurate (biological sex is not that simple) but also transphobic. If you need to differentiate trans and cis women, say that: trans and cis women. If you need to talk about folks with higher levels of testosterone, say that. If you need to talk about reproductive biology, say that.

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SLIDE 4-

A blue slide titled, “RESPONSES TO COMMON ARGUMENTS REGARDING HARMFUL ANTI-TRANS BILLS” with the following text:

② “Excluding trans girls protects girls’ sport.” In order to exclude trans girls, there must be a method of verifying if someone is trans. Usually this is done through genital exams, hormone evaluation, and/or genetic testing. Most bills propose accusation-based testing: someone is accused of being trans and is then subject to testing. This not only demonizes and weaponizes transness, but it also endangers ALL girls & women. That is, ANY girl accused of being

transgender can be checked. Not only is this incredibly invasive (genital exams are wholly unnecessary -- having or not having a penis has no effect on performance in sport), but it also is degrading to ALL women. That is, at what point is a girl good enough that she will then be accused of being transgender? How masculine can a girl be or look before she is accused of being transgender? This proposed gender verification not only systemically enforces the policing of ALL women's bodies, but also does so through demonizing and weaponizing transness.

SLIDE 5-

A blue slide titled, "RESPONSES TO COMMON ARGUMENTS REGARDING HARMFUL ANTI-TRANS BILLS" with the following text:

③ "Trans women have higher levels of testosterone so it's unfair." Let's first remember that NONE of these legislative bills touch professional sports. This is NOT about the Olympics or college sports or any elite-level sports. At all elite levels that allow trans athletes, hormone regulations already exist and trans women's testosterone levels are regulated when they compete in women's sports. At non-elite levels, it does not matter; we're talking about children who just want to kick a ball around with their friends. Most athletes are not Olympians, National Team members, or even going to compete in regional-level meets. These are just kids playing sports with their friends.

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SLIDE 6-

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④ "But even if testosterone levels are regulated, trans women go thru testosterone-driven puberty, so they are taller & bigger!" First: Many trans girls take puberty (hormone) blockers and therefore have never experienced testosterone-driven puberty and this argument is null. But what about those who have? Let's think about a 6'3 cisgender woman who plays basketball. People will say, "Damn, she was made for basketball!" Now let's say we there is a 6' trans woman. People often immediately say that's unfair. The reality is these accusations are often transphobic, sexist & misogynist (trans women's gender expression is often accused of being "too masculine" or "manly"), and, a lot of the time: racist. Many of the trans women who have been attacked are Black and brown trans women, which is no coincidence. This is the repeated shaming and policing of Black and brown women's bodies in sport. And this is not new. Think of Serena Williams and many other Black women who's bodies have been repeatedly policed in sport.

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SLIDE 7-

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⑤ "Trans women have unfair biological advantages." Don't forget that biological differences exist everywhere in sports. No two athletes' bodies look the same; no two cisgender women's

bodies look the same! And they shouldn't have to. The shortest guy on my swim team was 5'6. The tallest guy was 6'7. That means the shortest guy was more than a FOOT shorter than that tallest guy. Is that height a biological advantage? Of course it is! But is it unfair and meriting of disqualification? Of course not! It's just a biological difference. (It's also worth noting that guy who was 5'6 was one of the fastest swimmers we had, and captain his senior year.) So, yes, trans women absolutely can exhibit biological diversity... Just like everyone else does. At the base of the slide, the weblink, <https://pinkmantaray.com/transathlete>, is written in pink, along with Schuyler's tag: SCHUYLER BAILAR, PINKMANTARAY.

SLIDE 8-

A blue slide titled, "RESPONSES TO COMMON ARGUMENTS REGARDING HARMFUL ANTI-TRANS BILLS" with the following text:

⑥ "I'm not transphobic, I just care about fairness." In the Women's Sports Foundation 2020 report, Chasing Equity, on barriers to sport for women, the inclusion of trans women is not mentioned once. Trans women do not threaten the fabric of women's sports. Excluding and attacking trans women does. That is, so many folks don't care about sports or fairness until a trans woman wants to play. And then, suddenly, they are massive sports fans. If folks truly want to bring fairness to the forefront, they'd fight against the main barrier to access for sports: socioeconomic disparity, often intertwined with systemic oppression such as racism. At the base of the slide, the weblink, <https://pinkmantaray.com/transathlete>, is written in pink, along with Schuyler's tag: SCHUYLER BAILAR, PINKMANTARAY.

SLIDE 9-

A blue slide titled, "RESPONSES TO COMMON ARGUMENTS REGARDING HARMFUL ANTI-TRANS BILLS" with the following text:

⑦ LASTLY, DO NOT FORGET THIS IS AN INTERSECTIONAL ISSUE. When medical tests proved that Michael Phelps' body produces half the levels of lactic acid that the typical athlete does, the Olympic Committee praised him for how lucky he was to have a "genetic advantage." When Caster Semenya was invasively tested after being accused of an unfair advantage, she not only had her medals stripped from her, but was barred from further competition until she takes medication to lower her natural testosterone levels. It is no coincidence that Phelps is a cisgender, straight, white man and Caster Semenya is a queer Black woman. This is not about fairness. This is white supremacy and the patriarchy. When men are good at sports, they are praised for their bodies. When women are good at sports, especially if they are Black, they are called unfair and are punished. That is, these attacks on trans women reflect the continued policing of Black and brown women's bodies. We see this with the massive amount of hatred that Serena Williams receives. With the newest attacks of Simone Biles. Black women's bodies have been policed for decades and trans women are just the newest target. This must stop. At the base of the slide, the weblink, <https://pinkmantaray.com/transathlete>, is written in pink, along with Schuyler's tag: SCHUYLER BAILAR, PINKMANTARAY.

SLIDE 10-

A blue slide titled, "WHAT CAN YOU DO?" with the following list:

1) Share these slides to educate your friends. 2) Sign the petition and take direct action against the bills at the link below. 3) Learn how to be an ally at the link below. 4) Donate to trans-led orgs at the link below. 5) Follow and support trans athletes: (Photos of three women are shown below, each with their Instagram handles above.) Their handles are: @andrayayearwood, @theblckbarbi3, and @cecetelfer.

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