

Thank you for reaching out with these serious and sincere concerns. I'm sorry I wasn't available to respond immediately. But as I'm sure you're aware, your critique prompted plenty of robust discussion inside and outside The Times, and several of my colleagues have responded and discussed these issues in a variety of forums.

We strive always to be open to good-faith criticism and input about our journalism, and we've received lots of feedback on the challenge of covering trans issues fully and fairly. I can promise that we will continue to have careful, thoughtful discussions going forward -- though among our colleagues, we believe those discussions should be internal, not public.

I recognize how strongly you feel about these concerns, and I know that for you and for many of my colleagues, this is much more than an abstract journalistic debate. That said, we respectfully but firmly disagree with the idea that The Times's coverage of trans issues has been biased or transphobic.

Our journalism strives to explore, interrogate and reflect the experiences, ideas and debates in society -- to help readers understand them. I think our reporting has done that. We have pursued independent reporting on transgender issues that has included profiling groundbreakers in the movement; challenges and bigotry faced by the community; and how society is grappling with debates about medical care and treatment. I believe the specific news stories cited in your letter were entirely in keeping with our journalistic standards. They reported deeply and empathetically on issues of care and well-being for trans people. (I would also note that no factual errors have been cited in that reporting.)

To give an even fuller picture of our efforts, I've included links to other examples of our trans coverage below.

Once again, thanks for your letter. I know my response will not address all your concerns, but I hope I can assure you that we take those concerns seriously, and will continue to do so.

Sincerely,

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**Philip B. Corbett**

Associate Managing Editor for Standards  
The New York Times

### **Coverage Examples**

*The stories cited in your letter represent only a small portion of our coverage. You can see the breadth of our coverage on transgender issues across both news and opinion at this [link](#).*

*For many years, our newsroom reporters have written extensively about threats to LGBTQ people and challenges to their rights, including [violence and other hate crimes against trans Americans](#) and political and legal challenges [to trans rights in state capitals](#). Our reporters closely covered [President Trump's ban on trans people](#) serving in the military.*

*Our wide-ranging newsroom coverage includes evocative articles on the lives of trans adults and youth in America and unflinching looks at the political forces [threatening trans rights](#). We profiled [Elizabeth Purchell, a queer-film historian](#), and [Mariah Lopez, who has led the legal battle for transgender people](#) who are homeless in New York City. We examined the [growth in the number of people identifying as trans](#) in the U.S., and scrutinized discrimination against [transgender people in Pakistan](#).*

*Our editorial board has long championed trans rights and recently in our Opinion pages a columnist advocated for [the urgent need for trans rights](#) in America, a wide-ranging [focus group discussed](#) elevating the voices of trans Americans, a columnist [argued for privacy](#) among trans youth and a [gripping short film](#) documented a Mexican trans man's journey. Our Opinion leadership remains proud of [a series of far-sighted editorials in 2015 about the quest for transgender equality](#).*