



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

#### Education

#### Prayer

#### Action

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### What Does the Equality Act Actually Say?

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**Education:** Discriminating in housing, hiring, or medical care on the basis of skin color or other attributes that don't affect a person's human rights is wrong. But when differences do matter, it is not wrong to treat different things differently. It is not wrong to exclude married people from a group intended to help singles meet other singles. It is wrong, however, to treat biological males as equal to biological females in sporting events. It is not wrong to limit federal funding to real medical care, which treats an illness or injury, rather than funding abortion, which is done for the purpose of killing a human being.

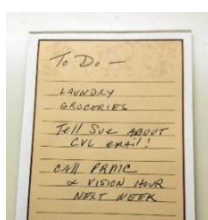
The Equality Act just passed in the House is really about elevating certain actions to be recognized as rights under the guise of equality. It states: "Discrimination can occur on the basis of the sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition of an individual, ... each is a form of sex discrimination." (1) Abortion is considered a related medical condition, which "shall not receive less favorable treatment than other physical conditions." This statement will probably be interpreted to mean that government programs must fund abortion, and possibly that doctors and hospitals must provide abortion.

What about religious freedom or conscientious objection? "The Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 ... shall not provide ... a basis for challenging the application or enforcement of a covered title." In other words, religious beliefs are explicitly excluded as exceptions to these rules against "discrimination". This means that Catholic hospitals could be shut down for refusing to provide abortions. Catholic institutions have already been forced out of the service of facilitating foster care and adoption because of their refusal to place children with same-sex couples.

1. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5/text>



**Prayer:** Dear Father God, please have mercy on our country. Help our leaders to recognize the difference between unjust discrimination, which should be outlawed, and the justice of treating truly different things differently. Have mercy on individuals who truly suffer from identifying with a gender different from their biological sex; help them to find peace. Help members of both parties be vocal in expressing their disapproval of this bill. Help all Americans to embrace the science that says gender is determined by biology, not feelings, and that human life begins at conception. Help our country to preserve our heritage of religious freedom rather than preventing religious institutions and individuals from serving the community because of their beliefs.



**Action:** Call or email your congressional representatives and voice your opinion on this dangerous bill. (<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members> provides an easy way to identify them.) Inform your friends about what the bill actually says about "equality" based on gender identity, and the explicit denial of religious freedom as a basis for not obeying these dictates. In states where biological males are allowed to compete in women's sports, they have completely dominated the competitions, due to their biological advantage.