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Political parties failing to protect Women's Sex-Based Rights

Members of major parties across the political spectrum are being bullied out of expressing their concerns about the harmful impact of extreme trans ideology.

Liberal candidate for Warringah, Katherine Deves, has been under siege for some time forcing her to close her social media accounts containing her important campaigning on behalf of "Save Women's Sports Australasia".

Meanwhile Labor Party leader Anthony Albanese has been slammed as "transphobic" for saying that men can't have babies.

"This is clearly not a party-political issue, as politicians from across the spectrum are under immense pressure to toe the line that 'transwomen are women' and not offend the powerful sex-change industry," according to Eilean Haley of Women's Declaration International. "Women of all political persuasions are concerned about what is happening to their rights to privacy, safety and fair play and are being left politically homeless."

There is also unrest within the Australian Greens over this issue, with City of Melbourne Greens Councillor, Rohan Leppert, who is himself gay, under fire for online comments expressing concern that Victoria's *Change and Suppression (Conversion Practices) Prohibition Act 2021* might have the effect of criminalising doctors and therapists who depart from the controversial and increasingly debunked "affirmation only" approach to gender-questioning youth.

"The interests of gay and lesbian people are being co-opted by those with an agenda driven by vested financial interests," said Professor Bronwyn Winter of the Coalition of Activist Lesbians. "The trans lobby no longer represents a persecuted minority group but the powerful and lucrative sex-change industry that is medicalising children and young people, most of whom would otherwise grow up to be gay or lesbian. This lobby does not want the public to know the truth about the significant health risks of the trans-affirmation model."

According to Stassja Frei from the Coalition for Biological Reality: "Conflating biological sex with the concept of socially constructed gender identity is causing a lot of harm to women and children. The erosion of freedom of speech to discuss and debate this issue, including by our political leaders, should be of major concern to everyone. Many voters want to know if candidates can answer the simple question 'what is a woman?'"

Women's Declaration International (WDI) is a group of volunteer women from across the globe dedicated to protecting women's sex-based rights. Our volunteers include academics, writers, activists, lawyers and health practitioners. More information can be found on the website and Facebook pages for WDI and for the <u>Declaration on Women's Sex-Based Rights</u>.

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