

Hi, my name is Ali Gleason and I'm a 13 year old 7th grader at Goodland JR/SR high usd352. I compete in cross country, wrestling, and track and field. I'm testifying that I would have no issue competing against a trans female in any sport. I don't think it's fair to keep them from being my teammates bc of your fears and bigotry. Kids just want to play sports and this isn't about scholarships, or advantages and disadvantages. This is about participation and about letting all kids play and just having fun, regardless of whether they're trans or not.

I routinely beat boys in sports as we run cross country meets or wrestling together and it's our strongest and best athlete on our team this year was a girl with no girls wrestling league to compete in. She only lost 2 matches the entire year and places in the top four at GWAC league. So much of this is said to be about fairness but this isn't about fairness as you want to take the one thing kids can't change about themselves and make it a reason to keep them away from competing with the rest of us girls. A girl that's transgender is a girl and instead of doing things to help them we keep talking about things that make them feel like they don't belong.

JR High and SR High should be about more than sports. My mum always said if all I ever did was learn to play sports I wasn't paying attention. Sports is about learning to work hard and sacrifice to set goals and break them. Sports is about learning to win and being kind about it and more importantly learning how to lose and not give up. Life is just like that in that it's hard being a kid. I can't imagine what it's like to being an adult. Kids that are transgender lose so much and they always feel like they are on the outside looking in and never have a place to belong. Please don't give them one more place where they don't belong. Afterall we're talking about kids here and not the Olympics.

Ali Gleason