



Saul and David

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# Brave vs. Jealous

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- David was brave, but Saul was jealous and ungrateful.
- 1 Samuel 18:1–9
- David has been chosen by God and anointed by Samuel as king, but not yet actually step into that role (16:1–13).
- David plays the lyre for Saul to soothe his spirit and become his armor-bearer (16:14–23).
- David defeats Goliath no one else had even dared to fight (17:1–54).

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# Brave vs. Jealous

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- When David defeated Goliath, he immediately became the nation's hero. Saul was wise to put David over his army (18:5).
- Using the national hero in his service brought glory to Saul.
- David's success was Saul's success.
- Putting David in charge of his army made good use of David and kept him close but subservient.
- Saul could use him to his own advantage but keep him under control.

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# Brave vs. Jealous

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- Saul's son, Jonathan, heir to his throne, also showed David great honor by giving him his robe and his armor, a contrast to when Saul tried to give David his armor before fighting Goliath.
- When David tried Saul's armor, David refused, saying he wasn't used to it. Yet he received Jonathan's gift, ready to take on the role of general, the role previously held by Jonathan.
- Jonathan's act wasn't an indication of giving his position as heir to the throne to David, but it does foreshadow the fact that David would one day take his place as the next king.

# Brave vs. Jealous

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- We must also remember the reward Saul had promised to whoever defeated Goliath – great riches, marriage to his daughter, and making his father’s house “free” (17:25).
- This doesn’t mean the Israelites were enslaved.
- “Free” meant releasing his father’s family from having to pay taxes to the king, send sons to his army, or any of the other typical obligations all families had to the king (8:11–18).

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# Brave vs. Jealous

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- At this point, Saul had given David great riches and the highest position in his army, absolved his family of obligations, brought him to live permanently in the palace (18:2) and promised his daughter in marriage (18:17).
- David was certainly on the rise, but all of it was under Saul's authority as king, not in competition with him. David was loyal to Saul and served him well, going wherever Saul sent him (18:5). He did not try to usurp Saul's authority (18:18).
- Yet Saul became “very angry” and jealous when he heard what the people were saying about David (18:8).

# Brave vs. Jealous

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- The poetry of the song the women sang is unusual, as it combines two different types of parallelism.
- The numbers used are synthetic parallelism – the second line adds to the first, increasing the number. This was very common in Hebrew poetry and meant “Saul and David have killed thousands and even more!”
- But the use of different names in each line would have been very unusual and adds a different layer of meaning – antithetic parallelism, where the second line contrasts with the first.

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# Brave vs. Jealous

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- Saul interpreted it correctly, as a not-so-subtle comparison between himself and David.
- In the ancient Near East, the glory of battles typically went to the king, regardless of who the general was, because the king was the ultimate leader.
- The general might be praised, but only in submission and service to the king.
- But in this song, the people were attributing more honor and glory to David.

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# Brave vs. Jealous

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- David was not trying to usurp Saul's authority, but the people saw him as stronger and more powerful than Saul, and Saul thought the people would ask for him as king (18:8).
- The people had wanted a king who would go out and win battles for them.
- It was the main thing they were looking for (8:5).
- Saul feared that they would see David as more capable of that.

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# Brave vs. Jealous

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- Saul's angry jealousy begins here, and it only grows throughout the story. But what was the root of Saul's jealousy?
- It comes back to a lack of trust in the Lord. If Saul had trusted the Lord, he wouldn't have been jealous of David. He would have trusted God to keep him as king if it were His will. Or, if he had trusted the Lord that David should become king, he wouldn't have been jealous either.
- Either way, it comes down to not seeking the Lord's will. His jealousy was about holding on to his own status and power, not about following what God wanted.

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# Holy Spirit vs Evil Spirit

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- David had the Holy Spirit, but Saul was tormented by an evil spirit.
- 1 Samuel 18:10–16
- Saul is being tormented by a harmful spirit again. The language of “rushed upon Saul” intentionally contrasts with the way the Holy Spirit had rushed upon Saul earlier in his life (10:10) and had rushed upon David (16:13).
- Chapter 16 tells us that whenever Saul was tormented, David would play music and Saul would be refreshed and well, and the harmful spirit would depart (16:23).

# Holy Spirit vs Evil Spirit

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- But in this story, David played the lyre, and Saul was not refreshed.
- He hurled a spear at David instead – twice.
- In the original Hebrew, there is a clear parallelism between what was in David's hand (lyre) and what was in Saul's hand (spear).
- David was making music to try to soothe Saul while Saul was attacking him. Saul didn't even try to let the music soothe the evil spirit.
- Instead, he gave in to his evil desires to get rid of David.

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# Holy Spirit vs Evil Spirit

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- The text again focuses on Saul's fear. He wasn't just angry or jealous, he was afraid of David.
- Even more significant is why – “because the Lord was with him” (18:12).
- If you loved God, why would you be afraid of someone with the Lord's Spirit?
- This was not a healthy, godly fear of the Lord. Saul wasn't concerned about God's will for his life or His plan for the throne of Israel; he was only worried what it meant for himself.

# Holy Spirit vs Evil Spirit

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- If Saul had possessed a godly fear of the Lord, he would have relinquished his throne to David in peace when he recognized that the Lord had left him and was with David.
- Instead, Saul tried to kill him. When that didn't work, he sent David into battle. But instead of dying in battle, David had great success, and Saul "stood in fearful awe of him" (18:15).
- Saul wasn't recognizing God's presence in David's life, in awe of what God was doing. Saul was terrified that the throne would be taken away from him.

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# Holy Spirit vs Evil Spirit

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- Twice the text reminds us that the Lord was with David.
- David let the Holy Spirit lead him “on level ground” (Psalm 143:10).
- This was how David “had success in all his undertakings” (18:14).
- But Saul gave in to his evil desires, trying to get rid of David but failing repeatedly.
- The contrast between the two is clear, and the message to us is also clear – trust in the Lord and His will for your life.

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# Humble vs. Prideful

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- David was humble, but Saul was prideful.
- 1 Samuel 18:17–30
- Saul originally offered his oldest daughter as that reward, but David responded that he was too insignificant to marry the king's daughter. So Saul gave her to another man.
- This showed David's humility.
- Even though he had earned the right to marry Saul's daughter, he did not deem himself worthy.

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# Humble vs. Prideful

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- Saul asked David to go out to battle for him, hoping he would die at the hand of the Philistines, and Saul would be rid of him without being blamed for his death (18:17).
- In Saul's second offer of a daughter to David, he tried the same thing, hoping he would die trying to obtain the bride-price (18:25), the amount the groom had to pay to the bride's father to marry her.
- But David admitted he was too poor to pay whatever bride-price a king would demand (18:23).

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# Humble vs. Prideful

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- Saul used that to come up with a plan for David to “pay” a bride-price that wouldn’t cost him any actual money but would likely get him killed.
- Foreskins remind us of the covenant.
- The Philistines had foreskins because they were not circumcised like the Israelites.
- But David was successful because the Lord was with him, and Saul’s fear of him only grew.

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# Humble vs. Prideful

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- David had every right to be proud of his accomplishments, but he showed great humility.
- He didn't demand to marry Saul's daughter even though he could have claimed that killing Goliath had already paid the bride-price.
- Though he knew he had already been chosen to be the next king, he waited for the Lord's timing.
- David knew that God saves “a humble people, but the haughty eyes bring you down” (Psalm 18:27).

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# Humble vs. Prideful

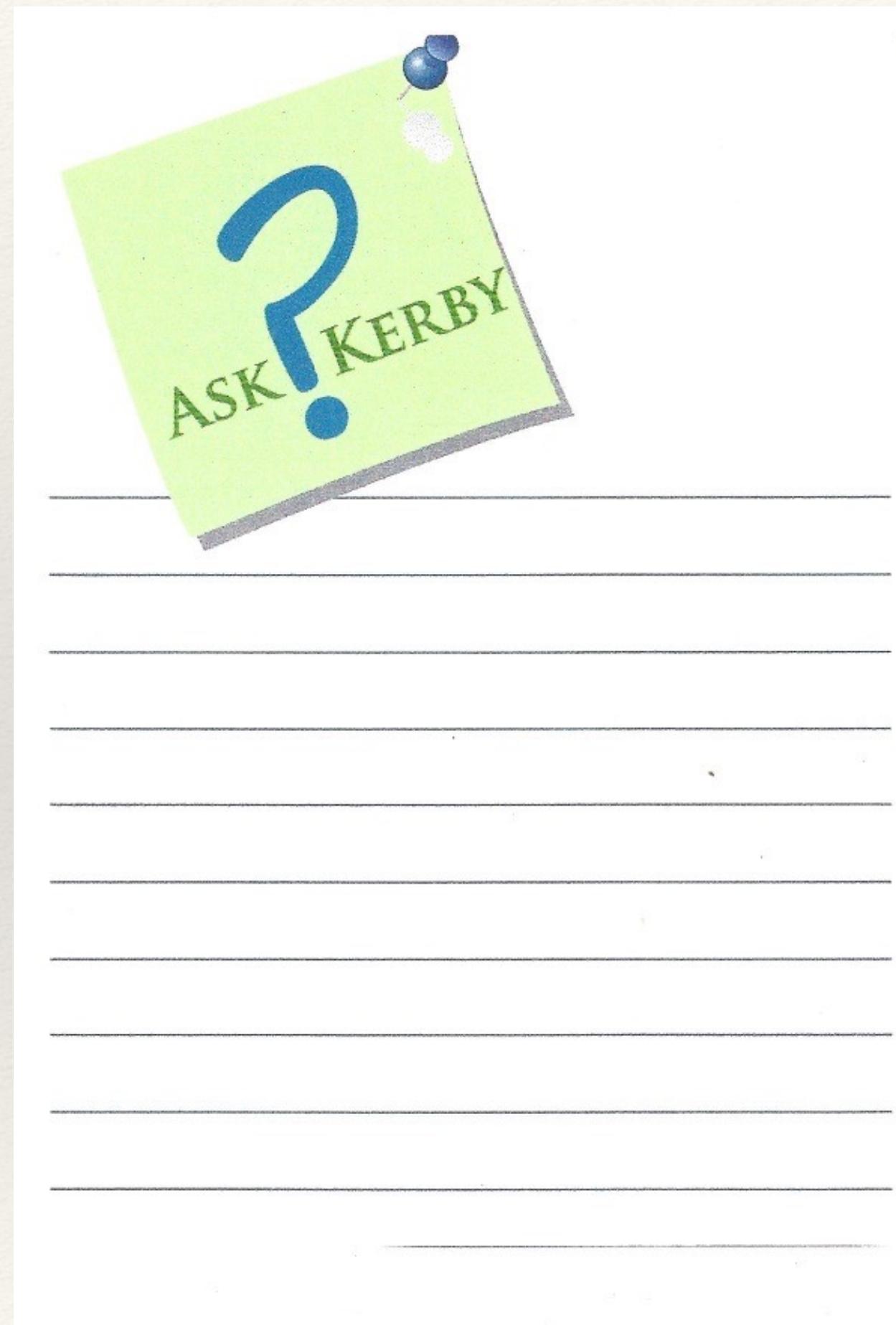
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- David wrote that psalm much later, at the end of his life, reflecting on how God had saved him from all his enemies, including Saul.
- God brought Saul down and saved David because Saul was prideful, focused on his own power, while David was humble, seeking God's will and His glory.
- Saul was focused on building his own platform, while David wanted to build the kingdom of God.

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# Ask Kerby

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How should we respond to  
the transgender issues in  
society?

# TRANSGENDER

## Johns Hopkins Psychiatrist: Transgender is 'Mental Disorder;' Sex Change 'Biologically Impossible'

By Michael W. Chapman | June 2, 2015 | 1:34 PM EDT

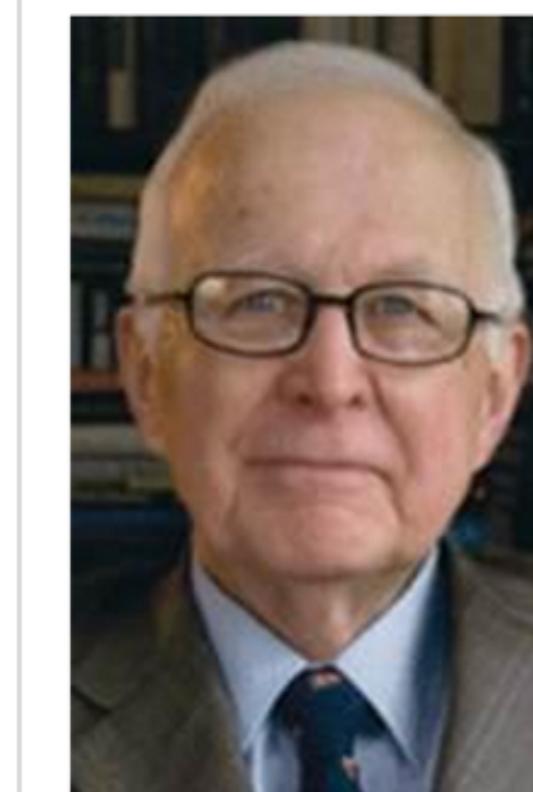
**204K**  
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(CNSNews.com) -- Dr. Paul R. McHugh, the former psychiatrist-in-chief for [Johns Hopkins Hospital](#) and its current Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry, said that transgenderism is a "mental disorder" that merits treatment, that sex change is "biologically impossible," and that people who promote sexual reassignment surgery are collaborating with and promoting a mental disorder.

Dr. McHugh, the author of six books and at least 125 peer-reviewed medical articles, made his remarks in a recent [commentary](#) in the *Wall Street Journal*, where he explained that transgender surgery is not the solution for people who suffer a "disorder of 'assumption'" – the notion that their maleness or femaleness is different than what nature assigned to them biologically.

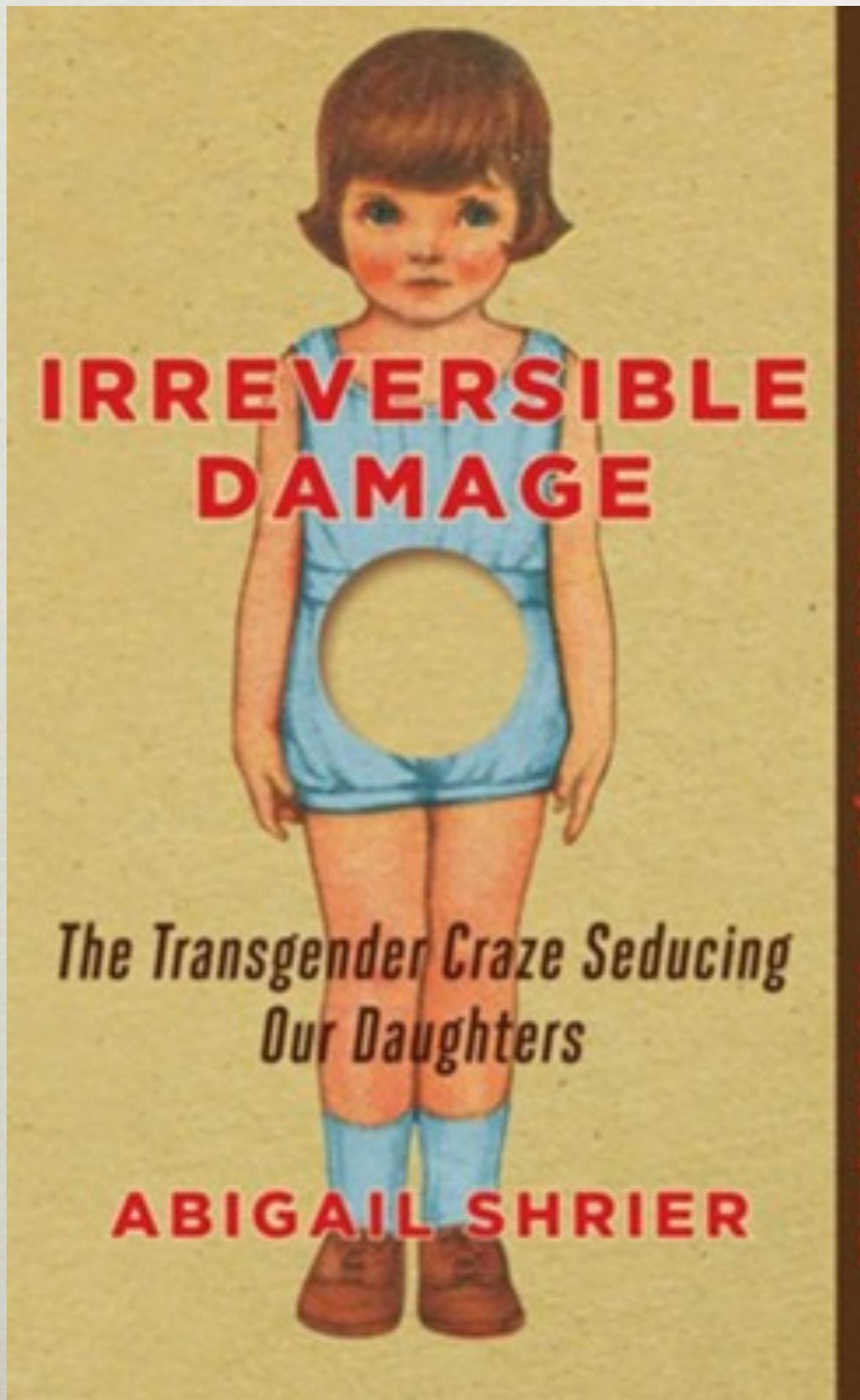
He also reported on a new study showing that the suicide rate among transgendered people who had reassignment surgery is 20



**Dr. Paul R. McHugh.** (Photo:  
[Johns Hopkins Medicine](#))

# TRANSGENDER CRAZE

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- Abigail Shrier documents the phenomenon of transgender contagion.
- Girls who never experienced any gender discomfort rush to undergo irreversible treatment and surgery.

# TRANSGENDER CRAZE

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- Gender dysphoria, formerly known as “gender identity disorder” is characterized by severe and persistent discomfort in one’s biological sex.
- It typically begins in early childhood.
- It afflicted a sliver of the population (roughly .01 percent) and mostly boys.

# TRANSGENDER CRAZE

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- Before 2012, there was no scientific literature on girls (11-21) every having developed gender dysphoria at all.
- The Western world has seen a sudden surge of adolescents claiming to have gender dysphoria and self-identifying as “transgender.”

# TRANSGENDER CRAZE

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- In 2016, Lisa Littman (ob-gyn, public health researcher) noticed that several adolescents (mostly girls) from a small town all came out as transgender.
- She interviewed 256 parents whose kids had not met the criteria of gender dysphoria in childhood, but suddenly identified as transgender in adolescence.

# TRANSGENDER CRAZE

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- The vast majority has zero indicators of childhood gender dysphoria.
- A majority had one or more psychiatric diagnosis and almost half were engaged in self-harm prior to the onset of dysphoria.
- Over 60 percent said the announcement brought a popularity boost.

# LGBTQ CONFLICT

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Elderly Gay Activist Assaulted by Trans Protesters at Vermont Pride Parade



# LGBTQ CONFLICT

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# TRANSGENDER ATHLETES

The screenshot shows the USA Today website layout. At the top left is the USA TODAY logo. To its right are three horizontal blue bars with white text: "COVID-19 Expert Q&As", "FEATURED Hidden Common Ground", and "OCTOBER EDITORIAL CARTOON GA Editorial cartoons on C...". Below these are seven navigation links: News, Sports, Entertainment, Life, Money, Tech, and Travel. An "Opinion" link is highlighted with a blue box and a dropdown arrow icon. A yellow banner below the navigation bar contains the word "OPINION" in blue and the text "This piece expresses the views of its author(s), separate from those of this publication." The main headline is "Transgender athletes don't belong in girls' sports. Let my daughter compete fairly." followed by a subtext: "If boys identifying as girls left your daughter a spectator in her own sport, wouldn't you speak up?". The author's name is "Bianca Stanescu" and their title is "Opinion contributor". The article was published at 5:00 a.m. ET on June 19, 2020, and updated at 9:32 a.m. ET on the same day. Social sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Email are at the bottom.

**USA TODAY**

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**OCTOBER EDITORIAL CARTOON GA**  
Editorial cartoons on C...

News   Sports   Entertainment   Life   Money   Tech   Travel   [ Opinion ] ▾

**OPINION** This piece expresses the views of its author(s), separate from those of this publication.

## Transgender athletes don't belong in girls' sports. Let my daughter compete fairly.

*If boys identifying as girls left your daughter a spectator in her own sport, wouldn't you speak up?*

**Bianca Stanescu** Opinion contributor

Published 5:00 a.m. ET Jun. 19, 2020 | Updated 9:32 a.m. ET Jun. 19, 2020

# TRANSGENDER ATHLETES

## US judge blocks law banning trans athletes from women's sports

- Transgender athletes now free to compete in college sports
- American Civil Liberties Union filed lawsuit challenging law



▲ Idaho governor Brad Little signed the ban into law earlier this year. Photograph: Darin Oswald/AP

# TRANSGENDER ATHLETES



[Protecting Females in  
Sports and Just Telling the  
Truth](#)

Since 2015, World Rugby, the international governing body of a sport with a lot of hitting but little protective

# TRANSGENDER MEDICINE

## How 1 Small European Study Changed Transgender Medicine in US



By Katrina Trinko

What is the basis for the current aggressive transgender treatment for kids? Dr. Miriam Grossman says it's rooted in a study of 55 children in the Netherlands.

# TRANSGENDER MEDICINE



THE HUMAN PERSON SEXUALITY & FAMILY POLITICS & LAW EDUCATION & CULTURE BUSINESS & ECONOMICS



## *The New York Times Reveals Painful Truths about Transgender Lives*

NOVEMBER 25, 2018 | BY RYAN T. ANDERSON

Why should a doctor perform surgery when it won't make the patient happy, it won't accomplish its intended goal, it won't improve the underlying condition, it might make the underlying condition worse, and it might increase the likelihood of suicide? Sound medicine isn't about desire, it's about healing.



• Surprised by Christ

BY KAREN SWALLOW

PRIOR

• Refreshing, Rejuvenating, and Improving Our Public Discourse: Holiday Book Recommendations  
BY RYAN T. ANDERSON

• The Incarnation and Our Everyday Lives: A Christmas Meditation  
BY CHRIS R. ARMSTRONG

• Comprehensive Sex Education Undermines Students' Moral Development  
BY TAPIO PUOLIMATKA

# TRANSGENDER MEDICINE



Vanderbilt Medical Center Suspends Gender-Transition Surgeries for Minors following Backlash



Campus of Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. (Sean Pavone Photo/Getty Images)

By CAROLINE DOWNEY  
October 10, 2022 9:40 AM

[Listen to article ▶](#)

# TRANSGENDER RESOURCES

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