

Unherd article on transgender chess ban 18.8.23

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unherd.com/the-post/why-i-support-the-trans-ban-in-womens-chess/

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Mike Buchanan

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It's so refreshing to see some acceptance of innate gendered differences. Feminists' denial of significant differences in gender-typical brains is only one of their most ludicrous denials.

Where men and women compete on a level playing field – metaphorically, but sometimes literally – at the top levels men will always beat women. That's the simple reason there are women's sports and even pastimes such as chess.

It would be interesting to read an article by Julie Bindel on this chess issue. I doubt we'll see one because she isn't a big fan of male superiority, however undeniable, as here.

Mike Buchanan

JUSTICE FOR MEN & BOYS

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Richard M

🕒 19 hours ago

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My view is that women in competitive sport at all levels deserve their own protected category based on biological sex. We have all observed male performance advantage in dozens of sex-affected sports many thousands of times, from school sports days to every Olympic 100 metres finals. It is real.

Unless the evidence shows either that there is no or negligible male performance advantage in a given sport or that male performance advantage can be safely reduced to zero or negligible, then trans-women should not be admitted to women's competitive sport. Alternative means should be sought by governing bodies to make their sports welcoming.

The situation in sports like Canadian powerlifting is ludicrous. A trans-woman crushing the field in a women's competition is not a victory for anything other than misogyny. But I'll admit I'm more hesitant about the case of competitive chess. Is there really a sex-based male performance advantage or is it social and cultural factors which largely account for men's dominance?

I don't know the answer but an example from classical music does come to mind. Traditionally concert violinists were predominantly male and it was assumed men were simply better, but over the last few decades women have become the majority. It turned out that it was largely social and cultural factors keeping them out. In fact, if there is a sex-based advantage to playing the violin

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