Human Rights Network & LGBT Allies Indoctrination Issues

To: Local, County, and State Officials

From: Dick Pence – Coordinator, Big Sky Worldview Forum

Premise:

Currently, one of the most dominant socio-political debates revolves around issues related to LGBT and gender realities. These issues are generating significant division within America and are driven by Progressive ideology, not science. As in any struggle, those who control the debate will acquire the power and untimely influence the public. If that debate is manipulated to be one-sided in the public square, community understandings of reality will be impacted. The results will transcend public deception, they will result in the adoption of solutions that are counter to the welfare of the group being discussed.

Understanding the Issue:

On December 4th, the Montana Human Rights Network (HRN) conducted training labeled *Trans 101 Training*. <u>Tumbleweed</u> of Billings partnered with them and the <u>BillingsWorks Big Sky Economic Development</u> and United Way of Yellowstone County also facilitated this training. Invitational information was provided in <u>a letter of information</u> sent out from the BillingsWorks and Trans101 (See LINK above) from Tumbleweed. The speaker was 26 year old Trans <u>Shawn Reagor</u>. Shawn works for the Human Rights Network and has been a community organizer-activist advocating for *Protected Class* status for LGBT groups. He has been advocating for things like Non Discrimination Ordinances. He was a player in defeating the Locker Room Initiative aimed at protecting our young woman. He also touted his work to resist Republican Legislators effort to overturn the Health and Human Services unilateral decision to allow changes of sex identification on birth certificates without documentation from the courts. **Shawn was the solo speaker** – there was only one point of view offered.

This meeting was offered for Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credits for Billings Public School employees. In communicating with the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI), I discovered that approval for these credits did not come from their office. Apparently, approval is delegated. It came through School District II

in Billings, presumably coordinated by Jennifer A. Smith Executive Director of Indian Education, Suicide Prevention Program Coordinator and Title III Program Coordinator. A letter offering credits was circulated in School District II under her signature. In follow-up communications with the Superintendent's office at **OPI**, apparently they were unaware of how these credits were being assigned and they indicated that this procedure would be reviewed.

It has also come to my attention that the HRN has conducted similar training offering CEU credits in other communities. Notably in Great Falls with an MSU connection. Reagor did make mention of conducting many meetings on topics of LGBT interests. **Obviously, this is happening across the state with little awareness or oversight from local or state authorities**.

I have concerns about the Billings agencies being involved in this training, but our particular concern is the indoctrination effort aimed at our education professionals. As I will describe in more detail below, this was a very one-sided look at the Trans issue in particular and associated LGBT issues in general. While I wish to be fair minded, any objective person would agree that this was indoctrination. Only one point of view was presented. While the crowd (predominantly women) of just over 50 was obviously made of LGBT sympathizers, there was bound to be many who had little idea of the social implications being described.

From my professional experience, I am aware that CEU's *should require* that the instructor(s) have substantial credentials, a detailed outline is normally offered in advance that demonstrates professional content, and professional credibility that is not just opinion it should be the platform.

It is fair and responsible to ask - does Shawn Reagor (and do these meetings) - meet these standards? It appears that Shawn's training at Carroll College was primarily in math and chemistry. If he has Social Science credential, they were not presented. Shawn's imbalanced experience as an activist hardly qualifies him to educate our teachers relative to sex and gender issues?

What It Was: Overview of Billings Meeting – Its Tone and Nature

(A few observations from this two-hour meeting)

Becoming allies and supporters of LGBT lifestyles and issues was the central theme of the presentation. There was much discussion aimed at indoctrinating students and the general public to use the "preferred pronouns." I use the word indoctrinate because there was only one opinion offered. Issues like not "outing" (disclosing) LGBT peoples' identify - even when most seemed to know – was harped on. Had I been among that group, I would have been displeased with how Shawn suggested we needed to be mollycoddled.

Almost everything you learned about sex (male-female), gender, and sexual orientation is JUST WRONG. Very authoritative, no room for disagreement! While the tone of this was not harsh, it was arrogant. It was all about how to be totally supportive of LGBT people even at the expense of anyone except them - change all communications and thinking to accommodate an LGBT Protected Class. Great emphases was encouraged on treating these people not just with respect, but with a kid-gloves. All the LGBT activist rhetoric was promoted.

At one point Shawn mentioned how the intersex population is about the same as the percentage of people with red hair. His point being that the intersex population is much larger than most think.

A little research uncovered the "LGBT story" behind this comparison and it's about much more than the actual intersex population. The comparison exposed Shawn's source for this assessment.

Anne Fausto-Sterling, a professor of Biology and Gender at Brown University was one of the leaders in promoting a much higher percentage of intersex. In a rebuttal of her work, Leonard Sax, MD, PHD wrote How Common is Intersex? In this technical paper, Sax reveals that Fausto-Sterling's figure of about 1.7% put the intersex population about 100 times higher than classical science would. Just short of 2 in a hundred instead of just short of 2 in 10,000 A Social Scientist friend said what Sax almost did — "like all good Progressives do, she just made it up."

But much more important, Fausto-Sterling used this higher number **for a scientific leap** to promote the radical idea that was in the tone and nature of Shawn Reagor's entire presentation. Fausto-Sterling said:

"...**male and female stand on the extreme ends** of a biological con/tinuum,... The implications of my argument for a sexual continuum are

profound. If nature **really offers us more than two sexes**, then it follows that our current notions of masculinity and femininity are cultural **conceits**.

What was she saying? That the idea of sex being just male or female was a conceited "social construct." **Don't miss her arrogance – we are arrogant for believing sex is just man or woman**. This says volumes about her beliefs and obviously Reagor is on the same page.

As Shawn said, it was JUST WRONG to hold this unenlightened view of sex! This Progressive construct that sexual identity is a continuum and not just male or female undergirded much of his presentation.

My research suggests that this is the <u>radical</u>, <u>unscientific foundation</u> upon which almost all of current LGBT theory is based. **1.)** It is ideology, not science based. **Indeed**, the most <u>recent proposals for "gender care"</u> assert that it need not be based on any diagnosis of gender dysphoria at all and action can be taken... without needing to get approval from a therapist or other mental health provider.

Why was intersex an issue for Shawn? For the same reason it was for Fausto-Sterling and her fellow travelers. Leonard Sax puts it succinctly:

Fausto-Sterling's argument that human sexuality is a continuum, not a dichotomy, rests in large measure on her claim that intersex births are a fairly common phenomenon

Conclusions? Dr. Fausto-Sterling is among the leaders promoting the idea that Jesus got it wrong when he said to the Pharisees "Have you not read, that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE" (Matt. 19:4 quotation from Genesis 1:27 and 5:20 NAS) We were not created male and female, but sexuality is a continuum, a spectrum, not one or the other. She came to her conclusion by believing a pseudo-science of her own creation. Like the majority of LGBT activists, Shawn Reagor swallowed it and teaches as truth that sexuality is a continuum. Again, the idea that we are either male or female is JUST WRONG! Consequently, biology is complex, gender is determined by who you think you are - how you identify and it can be fluid.

Victimhood and oppression were constant themes. Shawn told a long story of how his family rejected and abused him. Several times he referred to his "highly religious parents." He joked about how they would probably have disowned one

of the children if it was discovered that they voted for a Democrat. He told of those who refused to hire him even after being employed by the company previously.

These same themes were prominent in the data that was presented. Shawn mentioned an LGBT data source (that I did not capture) for data like incarceration rates, percentages of those rejected by family members, LGBT people that experience housing and job issues, 90% of Trans experience harassment etc.

Reagor is quiet proud of his work (as is Tumbleweed) to stop the Locker Room Privacy Bill and the follow-up petition to get the issue on the ballot. No mention was made of letting Montana voters express their opinions. Several times, the parallel bill in North Carolina was mentioned as being *nationally devastating* to the LGBT community.

Politics – quietly Shawn suggested that people/teachers needed to be involved. Erika Willis, Executive Director of Tumbleweed strongly urged the crowd to get involved in political issues at the state and local level asserting that "the NDO is coming up."

During the Q&A, Shawn repeatedly encouraged teachers to acquire some of the e Pro-LGBT and Pro-Trans books for students to read. He also directed them to Facebook and internet sources.

I found his explanation of how he recognize that he was Trans confusing and sketchy.

What the Presentation Was Not – Lacking Balance and Truth

There was no examination of how Shawn's politically correct ideas are causing harm – nothing of balance offered:

♣ Never was there a hint of the idea of <u>receiving counseling</u> before transitions. While <u>upwards to 98% of youth</u> experiencing "gender dysphoria" (confusion about their sex) end up identifying with their sex at birth by their late teens if well parented, nothing of this kind was mentioned.

- No mention was made of the concern that it is <u>particularly unethical to</u> <u>intervene in the normal physical development</u> of a child to "affirm" a "gender identity" that is at odds with bodily sex.
- No mention was made of Transgenderism being a <u>worldview</u> that assigns the blame for higher suicide rates on social prejudice rather than the inner struggles.
- ♣ No mention was made of the fact that not only are transition methods not always successful, but there is a 1,910% increase in suicide rates after transition.
- ♣ No mention was made of how <u>courts are forcing parents</u> to accept their child's transition or lose custody, even sighting their religion as grounds.
- ♣ No mention was made of the <u>countless</u> places <u>LGBT activists are bullying</u> individual as they are with the Bozeman Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
- No mention was made of the widespread TRANS "evangelism" and how kids are trying it because it is COOL.
- No mention was made of how TRANS men are <u>entering women's athletics</u> and threatening to totally destroy women's sports.
- ♣ No mention was made of how <u>TRANSING</u> often becomes <u>child abuse</u> and can split families.
- ♣ No mention of how states like Illinois, Indiana, and <u>California</u> are teaching children to <u>celebrate transgenderism</u> and it is state <u>required curriculum</u>.
- ♣ No mention was made of the large number of people even older people who later regret transitioning and attempt to change back.
- ♣ No mention was made of issues like his ACLU allies attempting to pressure our own Yellowstone County Commissioners to provide insurance coverage for transition for county employees. (It was denied)
- ♣ A host of other articles relating to LGBT activism can be seen on our web page at <u>bigskyworldview.org</u> / Resources/Library.

Summary and Suggestions:

First, let me address the elephant in the room. From my considerable study as a Christian advocate, it is clear that much of what the LGBT activists are promoting is in fact harmful to those very people. Trans transitioning is a quagmire. While same-sex attraction can be devastating and is a serious issue – there are better

answers than most of the activist promote. Answers that lead to a considerably more flourishing in life of those involved.

While conservative Christianity is generally dismissed as of no interest or help to same-sex attracted people think about this. Two scholars from Columbia University and UCLA – both LGBT supporters – found that by a factor of two and a half to one, same-sex attracted men and women were more likely to attend churches that took a more conservative, non-affirming view on homosexuality. 2.)

My point? Some of the general assumptions about this segment of our culture – to use Shawn's words – are JUST WRONG. Something inside of them desires a path much different than the vast majority of activists would promote.

LGBT activist like Shawn have every right to make their case and speak on their own behalf. We should welcome and support their free speech rights. If some organizations want to allow CEU credits for the programs they present, that is their choice.

However, when it comes to indoctrinating groups like school employees, and government group and allowing CEU credits for such sessions, we need to raise our voices in objection. We may also chose to question why organizations like Big Sky Economic Development, Tumbleweed, and United Way have their fingers in this pie. This may be their choice, but this activity needs to be exposed to the general public and those who support them.

City Councils and County Commissioners need to be informed so that they can ask questions. Locally, Big Sky Economic Development denies involvement, but their leaders advocated for the event and some of their members attended.

At the state level, Legislators and leaders need to ask questions of our Office of Public Instruction and other government agencies. They need to support efforts to more closely regulate the types of programs that are advertised and presented to these employees and the CEU credits approved.

Endnotes & Suggested Reading:

1) When Harry Became Sally – Responding to the Transgender Movement. (Dr. Ryan T. Anderson, Heritage Center) Suggested Reading, see Ch. 4.

- **2)** The Myth of The Dying Church How Christianity is Actually Thriving in America and the World. P. 60 (Glenn T. Stanton, Focus on the Family)
- **3)** The New Politics of Sex: The Sexual Revolution, Civil Liberties, and Growth of Government. (Stephen Baskerville)