

GENDER IDENTITY DELUSION AT DEFENSE DEPARTMENT

by Elaine Donnelly, President, Center for Military Readiness

Months before President Obama left office, he imposed on the U.S. Military his most extreme social experiment yet: a policy regarding transgenders in the military that orders all personnel to deny scientific facts regarding human biology.

In response, Pentagon officials imposed unrealistic guidelines for implementation that offered little help to local commanders trying to make sense out of nonsense.

The **Center for Military Readiness** has examined Defense Department instructions, and prepared a comprehensive **CMR Policy Analysis** that describes how far the Obama administration was prepared to go to implement **LGBT law** in our military.

In essence, the Defense Department decided to treat confusion about one's sexual identity as a "civil rights" issue. Henceforth, sexual minorities would be given special rights that reflect LGBT fantasies and ideology, not tangible reality. A Pentagon Handbook presents 19 "scenarios," which are supposed to help local commanders figure out how to implement the new transgender policies. Some of these stories are simply bizarre.

For example, a military commander may have to deal with a transgendered man who announces that he is "pregnant." Another scenario suggests that

should rely on a curtain to protect their privacy.

A man undergoing "feminizing" hormone therapy may not be able to meet physical requirements for his job. And two scenarios explain what commanders should do when a person undergoing transition wants to live a double life — sometimes male and sometimes female. All of these scenarios pretend that "communication" will solve all problems.

The tiny minority of people who are confused about their sexual identity are not the real problem. Political leaders and appointees who indulge LGBT activists, including single-minded contractors, consultants, and politically-motivated civilian appointees, are the real source of controversies and social tensions that hurt morale and readiness.

Full implementation of Obama's policies would require a host of policy changes affecting far more people than the transgender minority. These will include mandatory indoctrina-

tion in unscientific theories about gender in all Department of Defense schools and academies, infringements on personal privacy in conditions of forced intimacy, demoralizing pressures on military doctors and nurses to violate

and diversion of scarce time and resources in pursuit of social agendas that are not consistent with core values in the military.

Unnecessary policies that create multiple problems will not benefit or strengthen the armed forces in any way.

Retired Army **Colonel William J. Gregor** notes that LGBT directives turn sound priorities upside down. Instead of putting the needs of the military first, officials are promoting recruitment and retention of a small cohort of persons suffering from gender dysphoria.

Under LGBT law, it doesn't matter that the condition requires major, long-term medical treatment with uncertain results, often resulting in higher rates of depression and suicide. The new transgender policy has turned the military into just another "equal opportunity employer."

Policies that put political correctness and individual desires above the needs of the military are a radical change that will weaken the selfless culture of the All-Volunteer Force. No one has explained how the recruitment of psychologically troubled individuals can possibly improve military readiness.

Gender issues distract attention from what must be done to strengthen our military and its readiness to defend the country. The few people who suffer from gender dysphoria deserve compassion and competent medical care, not substandard care in a politicized military health system. The Trump administration and the Department of Defense must conduct a full, objective review of the consequences of social engineering in the military, and issue new orders that put military readiness first.

The Center for Military Readiness is also following Senator John McCain's push for a new national commission that would mandate conscription of all young men *and women* for military, national, or public service. Eagle Forum adamantly opposes drafting our daughters into military combat, and we oppose mandatory national or public service. (<http://bit.ly/2jA8hgw>)

military women who don't want to shower with biological males

religious convictions or medical ethics, erosion of trust in leadership,

