Speaker: Walt Heyer brings a lifetime of personal testimony, knowledge and experience into the discussion about gender identity.

Heyer’s gender distress started at the age of 4 when his grandma began dressing him up in a purple chiffon evening dress in 1944 and culminated in his completing hormonal and surgical transition at the age of 42. Heyer lived as “Laura Jensen” for eight years, then came to realize unresolved childhood trauma drove the overwhelming desire to escape into another gender.

Through hard work and effective psychological counseling, Heyer resolved the wounds of the past and the desire to be a woman dissipated. He re-identified as Walt Heyer legally and socially, removed the breast implants, and with the support of an amazing group of friends, built his life anew, this time on psychological wholeness. He has been happily married to a biological woman for over 22 years now.

Having been given a second chance at life, Heyer feels compelled to share this hope with others by writing and speaking out against the lie that “regret is rare” and to expose the lies of the sex change movement from an insider’s perspective.

Heyer has written six books and has had more than 50 articles published since 2015 in *The Federalist, USA Today, The Washington Times, Public Discourse, Daily Signal* and more.

Heyer’s website, sexchangeregret.com, provides hope and resources to anyone who wants them and offer a listening ear to those in distress—the thousands of people who transitioned, found it wasn’t for them, and want their “true self” back.

**TITLE:** Dismissing the left’s falsehoods about gender identity and reclaiming the truth about male and female

**ACTION ITEMS:**

The topic of transgenderism and gender identity is broad and has a learning curve. The action items below are followed by common misconceptions and outright lies told to an uninformed public, followed by the truth which can be hard to find.

**Protect children in public schools**

Action items:
1. Take children out of public schools or be prepared for children to be indoctrinated into transgender falsehoods and question their gender. Be vigilant and wary.

2. Push back on gender curriculum in schools and transgender books in school libraries.

3. Push back on transgender bathroom gender policies.

4. Do not affirm children in cross-gender identities.

Falsehoods and truths:

A. Falsehood: Public schools are safe for children.
   Truth: Public schools are LGBTQ indoctrination centers, starting in kindergarten.
   Public schools violate girls’ privacy by enacting transgender bathroom policies which allow boys to use the girls’ restrooms and locker rooms. Abuse of girls by boys has occurred.

B. Falsehood: Children who cross dress or express the desire to be the other gender should be encouraged to live as their preferred gender (“affirmed”).
   Truth: Doctors admit they cannot identify which children with gender distress will grow out of it and which will not. Studies show that most children grow out of it if they are not affirmed.

**Fight Dangerous Legislation**

Action items:

5. Fight against legislation banning therapy for children and adults.

6. Fight against legislation that elevates gender identity to a protected class for civil rights.

7. Sign up for newsletters to stay updated. Write your elected representatives. Sign petitions. Show up to hearings.

Falsehoods and truths:

C. Falsehood: “Gender identity” needs to be added as a protected class to existing civil rights laws.
   Truth: Such legislation, such as “The Equality Act,” will strip free speech and force Christians to disobey their consciences and bow to political correctness. The baker will have to bake the cake. The church will not be permitted to preach that gender doesn’t change and genders are only male and female. Women’s and girls’ sports will be forced to include men and boys who identify as women.

D. Falsehood: Reparative or “conversion” therapy is harmful, and it must be outlawed, for children and for adults.
   Background: The left has been very effective in turning public opinion against “conversion” therapy and getting it outlawed in 16 states, without defining what it is or even allowing the counseling profession to police dangerous practices and therapists. Instead, they write legislation such that the only therapy allowed between a willing client with gender identity issues and their therapist is one which affirms the client in the alternate gender. Where these laws have been enacted, a therapist is legally barred from exploring why the client has the desire to change gender identity, such as childhood abuse.
The punishment is loss of license to practice.
Truth: The truth is that when willing clients enter therapy, no subject should be off-limits because of a law. Most people who write me report that their counseling was effective and essential to their healing of past wounds.

**Equip yourself with truthful information**

Action items:

8. Educate yourself about gender identity topics using reputable sources and stay updated.
   
a. A good starting place is sexchangeregret.com which gathers research, articles and first-person testimonies.
   
   

Falsehoods and truths:

E. Falsehood: Sex change regret rarely occurs.
   Truth: Sex change regret is high.

F. Falsehood: Gender identity is independent of bodily sex. For example, a boy can have periods and a man can give birth.
   Truth: Gender and sex cannot be separated. A person’s bodily sex determines gender. A man cannot become a woman and a woman cannot become a man.

G. Falsehood: Transgender people are born that way. It’s biological.
   Truth: Gender identity confusion can result from sexual fetish disorders, early life childhood trauma, body dysmorphia, bipolar, dissociative, depression and anxiety disorders.
   For children, the desire to change genders can be caused by school indoctrination in transgender ideology, social contagion among peers, internet and social media, and/or the desire to stand out or be accepted and celebrated.

H. Falsehood: Gender is fluid and there are many genders.
   Truth: There are only two genders/sexes, male and female.

I. Falsehood: Brain scans prove transgender women have female brains.
   Truth: The brain is elastic. It changes with influences. Brain scans on living people only show a point in time and are influenced by hormone use. Other studies use brain tissue from dead people (cadavers) who took cross-gender hormones for years. The extensive hormone use altered the brain.

J. Falsehood: Intersex is the same as gender identity.
   Truth: Intersex is a biological condition; gender confusion is not. Individuals with intersex conditions are born with variations, abnormalities or ambiguity in sex characteristics including chromosomes, sex hormones, or genitals. In contrast, transgender-identifying individuals are born without smidgeon of biological intersex elements.