



Eagle Council 50

Saturday, 9/24/22

4:30 pm

Speaker: Donnelly, Elaine – Elaine Donnelly is president of the Center for Military Readiness, an independent, nonpartisan public policy organization that specializes in military/social issues. Founded in 1993, CMR advocates high, single standards in all forms of military training and sound priorities in the making of military/social policies. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger appointed Mrs. Donnelly to be a member of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) for a three-year term (1984–1986). In 1992, Pres. George H. W. Bush appointed her to the Presidential Commission on the Assignment of Women in the Armed Forces.

She is the author of a chapter titled “Defending the Culture of the Military,” which was published by the Air Force University Press in the book *Attitudes Are Not Free – Thinking Deeply About Diversity in the U.S. Armed Forces*, released in May 2010 and now in its third printing. In May 2007, the Duke University Journal of Gender Law & Policy published her comprehensive, peer-reviewed article titled “Constructing the Co-Ed Military.” She attended Schoolcraft College and the University of Detroit. She and husband Terry are the parents of two grown daughters and reside in Michigan.

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Title: *America’s “Woke” Military – Is It Still OK?*

Overview:

After 30 years of social change, concerned observers are wondering whether our “woke” military is fully prepared to defend America. Civilian Pentagon leaders with social agendas have changed priorities, making it clear that “Diversity, Equity, Inclusion” (DEI) and related mandates are more important than meritocracy, morale, and superiority on the battlefield.

Starting in 2021, worldwide “standdown” sessions focused on a minuscule number of “extremists” in uniform. These sessions and pervasive woke educational programs have promoted divisive critical race theory (CRT) indoctrination. Troops espousing traditional values are being accused of unacceptable attitudes, and thousands have been forced out for expressing medical or religious objections to unreasonable COVID vaccination mandates.

Women who want to serve but not be treated like men in combat arms units such as the infantry are experiencing greater risks of debilitating injuries and other personal or health problems. The

Army's attempt to have "sex-neutral" standards in a new Combat Fitness Test failed, due to high failure rates among women, and Pentagon reports show steep increases in cases of sexual assault.

The Biden Administration also is imposing an extreme LGBT agenda on all military personnel, forcing even medical personnel and chaplains to embrace and act on the unscientific belief that men can become women, and vice versa. LGBT events in June have expanded to include "family friendly" drag queen story hours and other sexualized drag performances on military installations. Women's athletic teams, including military service academy teams, may soon be forced to accept biological men in private facilities and teams reserved for women.

These woke mandates have contributed to an unprecedented [recruiting crisis](#) in all branches of the service. The armed forces are alienating traditional families – their own base constituency. Pending "Draft Our Daughters" legislation that would register women with Selective Service for a possible future draft would harm women and slow mobilization at the worst possible time.

Action:

Ask members of the U.S. Senate and House to oppose the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for 2023, which includes ["Draft Our Daughters" legislation](#) and would change the purpose of Selective Service. Ask House and Senate candidates whether they support measures to end woke policies in the military – several of which were offered but failed by a few votes in the current Congress. In the 2024 presidential election, ask candidates what they will do to end woke policies and preserve superiority in the only military we have.