

From: [Julie Castaneda](#)
To: [COB_mail](#)
Subject: FW: "Conversion therapy" proposal
Date: Monday, July 31, 2017 12:42:00 PM

Dear Supervisor,

Consider this, if you will: You are born a certain way. Perhaps you are a certain gender or a particular ethnicity. Perhaps you have certain aptitudes or even disabilities. What would you think the consequences would be if, as a young person, someone tried to coercively change those things that fundamentally define who you are? What kind of potentially irreversible trauma or harm could that cause you?

This is the crux of the issue when it comes to so called "conversion therapy" for LGBT youth. Real harm is done when even potentially well-intentioned persons (including parents or clergy) try to convert young people into something they're not. I know some individuals who were exposed to this as teenagers, and the consequences were disastrous-causing a lifetime of emotional damage. There are even cases where this so called "therapy" has led to suicides.

This proposal to prohibit conversion therapy is really a basic human rights issue. It has nothing to do with governmental intrusion into families, rather it protects the fundamental right every family member or individual should have to BE WHO THEY ARE. This is not a partisan issue, in fact there should be nothing political about it.

I strongly urge you to support this proposal as a family rights and human rights issue. No LGBT person should ever have to endure "conversion therapy" (which has been thoroughly discredited by all reputable components of the medical and psychological community).

Thank you for considering my views.

Chris Magnus
Pima County resident