

(unofficial transcript) Rand Paul Confronts Biden's Transgender Health Nominee About "Genital Mutilation"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3y4ZhQUre-4>

Genital mutilation has been nearly universally condemned. Genital mutilation has been condemned by the WHO, the United Nations, Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund. According to the WHO, genital mutilation is recognized internationally as a violation of human rights. Genital mutilation is considered particularly egregious because as the WHO notes, it is nearly always carried out on minors and is a violation of the rights of children. Most genital mutilation is not typically performed by force, but as WHO notes that by social convention, social norm, the social pressure to conform, to do what others do and have been doing, as well as the need to be accepted socially and the fear of being rejected by the community, American culture is now normalizing the idea that minors can be given hormones to prevent their biological development of their secondary sexual characteristics. Dr. Levine, you have supported both allowing minors to be given hormone blockers to prevent them from going through puberty as well as surgical destruction of a minor's genitalia, like surgical mutilation, hormonal interruption of puberty can permanently alter and prevent secondary sexual characteristics. The American College of Pediatricians reports that 80 to 95 percent of pre-pubertal children with gender dysphoria will experience resolution by late adolescence if not exposed to medical intervention and social affirmation. Dr. Levine do you believe that minors are capable of making such a life-changing decision as changing one's sex?

Dr. Levine: Well Senator thank you for your interest in this question. Transgender medicine is a very complex and nuanced field with robust research and standards of care that have been developed, and if I am fortunate enough to be confirmed as the assistant secretary of health, I will look forward to working with you and your office and coming to your office and discussing the particulars of the standards of care for transgender medicine.

Senator Paul: The specific question was about minors. Let's be a little more specific since you evaded the question. Do you support the government intervening to override the parents consent to give a child puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and/or amputation surgery of

breasts and genitalia? You have said that you're willing to accelerate the protocols for street kids. I'm alarmed that poor kids with no parents who are homeless and distraught you would just go through this and allow that to happen to a minor. I would hope that you would have compassion for Kyra Bell who's a 23-year-old girl who was confused with her identity at 14. She read on the internet about something about transsexuals. She thought well maybe that's what i am. She ended up getting these puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones. She had her breasts amputated but here's what ultimately she says now, and this is a very insightful from someone who made a mistake but was led to believe this was a good thing by the medical community: "I made a brash decision as a teenager as a lot of teenagers do, trying to find confidence and happiness except now the rest of my life will be negatively affected, she said adding that the medicalized gender transitioning was a very temporary superficial fix for a very complex identity issue. What I'm alarmed at is that you're not willing to say absolutely minors shouldn't be making decisions to amputate their breasts or to amputate their genitalia. For most of our history we believe that minors don't have full rights and the parents need to be involved. So I'm alarmed that you won't say with certainty that minors should not have the ability to make the decision to take hormones that will affect them for the rest of their life. Will you make a more firm decision on whether or not minors should be involved in these decisions?

Levine: Senator, transgender medicine is a very complex and nuanced field uh and if confirmed to the position of assistant secretary of health, I would certainly be pleased to come to your office and talk with you and your staff about the standards of care and the complexity of this field.

Senator Paul Rand: Let it go into the record that the witness refused to answer the question. The question is a very specific one: should minors be making these momentous decisions for most of the history of medicine we wouldn't let you have a cut sewn up in the ER, but you're willing to let a minor take things that prevent their puberty, and you think they get that back. You give a woman testosterone enough that she grows a beard you think she's going to go back looking like a woman when you stop the testosterone? You have permanently changed them. Infertility is another problem. None of these drugs have been approved for this. They're all being used off label. i find it ironic that the left that went nuts over hydroxychloroquine being used possibly for COVID are not alarmed that these hormones are being used off label. There's no long-term studies, we

don't know what happens to them. We do know that there are dozens and dozens of people been through this who regret this happening and a permanent change happened to them. And you know if you've ever been around children, 14-year-olds can't make this decision. In the gender dysphoria clinic in England, of the kids are between the ages of three and ten, we should be outraged that someone's talking to a three-year-old about changing their sex. I can't believe that. (end)