

Transgendered Students and School Bathrooms

March 19-23, 2014

As the issue of the rights of transgendered people comes more and more to the foreground, schools across the country have been confronted with a new issue: how to handle gender-specific bathrooms and locker rooms. While a state law passed in California allows transgendered students to use the bathroom of their choice, some school districts in other areas across the country have faced criticism for mandating that students use the facilities of the gender they were born with.

Most Americans aren't comfortable with the idea of transgendered students picking which bathroom or locker room to use. 59% think transgendered students should use the facilities of the sex or gender they were born as, while 26% think they should be allowed to use the bathrooms and locker rooms of their preferred gender.

Women (29%) are slightly more receptive to the idea than men (23%), but there are even greater differences by age. While just 23% of Americans 30 and over think transgendered students should be able to pick which facilities to use, this rises to 35% of Americans under 30.

Transgendered Students Should Use the Bathrooms/Locker Rooms of Their...

	Total	18-29	30+	Men	Women
Birth gender	59%	49%	61%	62%	56%
Preferred gender	26	35	23	23	29

There are political differences as well. Republicans (71%) are more likely than Democrats (56%) and independents (55%) to think transgendered students should have to use the bathrooms and locker rooms of their birth gender, as are conservatives (69%) in comparison to liberals (50%) and moderates (55%).

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	<u>Party Affiliation</u>			<u>Political Philosophy</u>		
	Reps	Dems	Inds	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Birth gender	71%	56%	55%	50%	55%	69%
Preferred gender	16	33	26	42	27	16

This poll was conducted by telephone from March 19-23, 2014 among 1,016 adults nationwide. Data collection was conducted on behalf of CBS News by SSRS of Media, PA. Phone numbers were dialed from samples of both standard land-line and cell phones. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The error for subgroups may be higher. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. This poll release conforms to the Standards of Disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

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SM-9. Do you think school-aged children who believe they are transgendered – that is, someone who identifies themselves as the sex or gender different from the one they were born as – should they be allowed to use the bathrooms and locker rooms of their preferred gender or should they have to use the bathrooms and locker rooms of the gender they were born as?

	***** TOTAL RESPONDENTS *****				
	Total	Men	Women	Age 18-30	Age 30+
	%	%	%	%	%
Preferred gender	26	23	29	35	23
Born as	59	62	56	49	61
Don't know/No Answer	15	15	16	15	15

Total respondents: 1,016