**Update from New Zealand from December 2021 to December 2022**

**LEGISLATIVE CHANGES**

**9 December 2021**

**Births Deaths Marriages and Relationships Act Passed.**

This Act allows for Sex Self ID for the birth certificate.

However it does allow for some protection for the preservation of female only spaces, currently provided for in the Human Rights Act.

 S79(2) of the BDMRR Act allows for considerations other than the

birth certificate to be taken into account, when determining someone’s sex.

This can be seen as a partial victory for the women who campaigned against Sex Self ID.

The Act is due to come into force in 2023*.*

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**18 February 2022**

**Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Act Passed.**

[**https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2022/0001/latest/whole.html**](https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2022/0001/latest/whole.html)

Despite 100,000+ submissions, a large proportion of which were opposed, the Act was passed by a large majority of parliament, with only a handful of the National Party opposition not voting for it.

The Act prohibits “conversion therapy” on the grounds of both sexual orientation and gender.

Section 5 (1) defines a conversion practice as any practice which attempts to change or suppress a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

The Act may protect some practitioners from prosecution, who don’t automatically affirm someone’s gender, where it defines “what is not a conversion practice” in Section 5 (2).

 This definition includes a “health practitioner” exercising “their reasonable professional judgement” and who “complies with all legal, professional and ethical standards. “ However, counsellors and other practitioners who are not registered health practitioners may not be protected by this.

Section 5 (2) also includes “assisting an individual who is undergoing, or considering undergoing, a gender transition”. This would appear to fully protect those who recommend or administer puberty blockers, cross -sex hormones or surgery to young people with gender dysphoria, from prosecution.

Other definitions in Section 5, which might apply to parents, counsellors, religious advisors, or others are open to interpretation which may need testing in court.

**GENDER CRITICAL GROUPS UPDATE**

***(See the list of NZ Gender Critical Groups in the 2021 Report)***

**May 2022**

**Resist Gender Education** website created (*see* *EDUCATION).*

[https://www.resistgendereducation.nz/](https://www.resistgendereducation.nz/?fbclid=IwAR2g5a0L6l8POvTNlC7XVil4PlEMS-RY1L464EaJwdY5sO1klE0qCGZ3v9A)

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**19 July 2022**

**Speak Up for Women NZ** announced a new leadership team and direction.

<https://www.speakupforwomen.nz/post/speak-up-for-women-leadership-changes-with-new-direction>

The two new spokeswomen were Katrina Biggs and Suzanne Levy.

(From SUFW Newsletter):

“**A broader focus**

Now that the need for a single-minded focus on the sex self-ID bill has gone, SUFW has established a broader focus but still keeping the message 'sex matters' very much central to it. You can keep up with what's going on by liking and following our Facebook page [Speak Up For Women NZ | Facebook](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/daOBoXZDQ/c?w=eupk3RLIpTSWN2QH_y6aiO_Vj9Ox45TQHjBRh4Si1iE.eyJ1IjoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZmFjZWJvb2suY29tL1NwZWFrVXA0V29tZW5OWiIsInIiOiJmMWVhZDNjNi04NjQ1LTQ3NTMtMWI1My01OTdjZDcyYmZlOTMiLCJtIjoibWFpbCIsImMiOiI1OWEyNjhlYy0wYzk2LTQ4MjYtOGUzNi1lNjRiZjNhZWZhZTIifQ) and checking our website [Speak Up for Women | Because Sex Matters](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/daOBoXZDQ/c?w=AQhJoOWYLB-BlR6Ju6h6xqknNasHnhQoQxaaNTk5LhU.eyJ1IjoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuc3BlYWt1cGZvcndvbWVuLm56LyIsInIiOiJmMWVhZDNjNi04NjQ1LTQ3NTMtMWI1My01OTdjZDcyYmZlOTMiLCJtIjoibWFpbCIsImMiOiI1OWEyNjhlYy0wYzk2LTQ4MjYtOGUzNi1lNjRiZjNhZWZhZTIifQ).”

**September 2022**

 SUFW published a list of NZ gender critical groups:

<https://www.speakupforwomen.nz/gc-groups>

Carol Bartle and Katrina Biggs, from Speak Up for Women, gave an update to WDI of women’s gender critical activism in New Zealand.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h14v9OeeOF0&t=1073s>

**1 December 2022**

SUFW hosts Michael Biggs online livestream,

talking about puberty blockers.

<https://www.speakupforwomen.nz/event-details/sufw-presents-dr-michael-biggs-wellington-2022?fbclid=IwAR16_mm2-e3cfX6moqhOYw6HfrY3N58qlkEfqQosHTv2KzP2gIEAKiFNv5Q>

**December 2022** Katrina Biggs stood down from the spokesperson position. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Around July 2022**

**LGB Alliance Aotearoa New Zealand** was formed.

It created a facebook group and Twitter page.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083329721635>

 <https://twitter.com/LGBAllianceNZ>

Terf talk discussing the new group with Terri and Tania:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLYwev5qKGo>

**Around September** **2022**

representatives from the LGB Alliance met with Police to discuss their policy about LGB matters.

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A facebook page which was not mentioned in 2021, is

**New Zealand Feminist Meme Explosion** <https://www.facebook.com/Takenoshitdonoharm>

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**CHILD AND ADOLESCENT THERAPISTS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**

**May/ June 2022**

**The Child and Adolescent Therapists Association (CATA**) announced their upcoming Conference to be held in Nelson on 5 August:

“Children Adolescents and Gender, Impacts of Transgender Ideology **“**

<https://www.cata.org.nz/new-events?fbclid=IwAR1HecmZJrZ5tKIRsGhVHlG_NtHvk1ZQSaOJReNB3IJP1-9vWznaVe-Vhr8>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/128897870/transgender-conference-sparks-fierce-national-backlash?fs=e&s=cl&fbclid=IwAR0p2RqIbYurIgpFzQEkGxPJsHhqP19jofYRE25rbYNEUS>

CATA is critical of the affirmation approach to gender dysphoria.

The keynote speaker was the renowned psychotherapist , Stella O’Malley, from Ireland, who supports a developmental model including gender exploratory therapy .

NZ speakers included members of SUFW and Resist Gender Education, and some lawyers

Many transactivist organisations opposed it and there was an effort to get speakers de-platformed or to lose their jobs. A petition was organised against the conference and a counter-petition in favour of it.

The New Zealand Association of Counsellors (NZAC) issued a statement against the CATA Conference. It was quite threatening in tone to any NZAC member practicing, in their words, “conversion therapy.”

<https://nzac.org.nz/publications/notices/nzac-position-on-cata-conference-august-2022/>

The New Zealand Psychological Society opposed the CATA conference:

<https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0eDHFtZ8fwC6pQvPfqZP8cPi2UCQbR7Ug3Ai4o9wEcbdEJgpR1tBkGiq5bgiANxA3l&id=212083762186914>

Whereas the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists

(RANZCP ) position would appear more sympathetic to the CATA position:

<https://www.ranzcp.org/news-policy/policy-and-advocacy/position-statements/gender-dysphoria?fbclid=IwAR33ocsNZFNN7SsylLZQjPr7gll54cjqOjtpacmS8JfOCH7_BHoswhfYRzw>

**5 August 2022**

The **CATA Conference was held**

 at a secret location, so that protestors were unable to disrupt it.

Protesters held a gathering in Nelson after the conference.

Press Release after the conference:

Dated 6 August (Sat)

<https://www.facebook.com/cata.org.nz/posts/pfbid0NidAj9K7s9AZA99meFS3FVGXfMqySMq5KTHHw5nRCNwxSsqSTUq7DNybWyz1KhDrl>

Report on Stella O’Malley’s speech <https://thestandard.org.nz/notes-from-the-cata-conference-keynote-address-by-stella-omalley/>

CATA Conference videos on Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhQF8k91j3KjjHSzOlq-A0iUqLSD3OhlY>

*November 2021-Media Council upholds complaint by Fern Hickson about report about the Cata conference.*

[*https://tinyurl.com/2p8cx5w5*](https://tinyurl.com/2p8cx5w5) *(See- Aftermath of UK Cass Report)*

**MIDWIVES**

**January 2022 +**

Petitions are still up for and against UK birth educator Milli Hill appearing at a NZ Midwives’ Conference at the end of 2021; even though the Conference, which had been planned by the New Zealand College of Midwives (NZCOM), was cancelled because of Covid restrictions. Some complaints have been expressed about the Rainbow Midwives Alliance who started the original petition.

<https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/keep-milli-hill-as-keynote-speaker-at-midwifery>

<https://our.actionstation.org.nz/petitions/call-for-nzcom-to-remove-transphobic-keynotes-speaker-make-conference-a-safe-space-for-all>

**August 2022**

**Midwives’ Pay and Conditions**

 The NZ College of Midwives,a professional association of midwives,lead a class action by contracted midwives against the government for breach of contract, and calling for better wages and conditions.

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/473792/midwives-taking-ministry-of-health-to-court-over-pay-support?fbclid=IwAR0-6dvzbM2Nw8BoAAck4yWFhRSIF7OFFR1rtHavvUGz-wCBcjWhKxTZUVM>

This is with a background of a crisis in the NZ Health system, including midwifery. It is chronically underfunded and understaffed.

**7 November 2022**

**Midwifery Council proposes to erase words for Woman and Mother**

NZ Midwifery Council, an administrative body, revising its midwifery Scope of Practice guidelines, proposed scrapping the words Whāea and Wahine, Mother and Woman, and replacing these words with words like “whanau” meaning family.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/pou-tiaki/130398403/midwifery-council-proposes-dropping-the-words-mother-and-woman-from-its-guidelines>

The NZ College of Midwives chief executive, Alison Eddy , said that the **College of Midwives** would **not be removing these words**.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=840104370465965>

The Midwifery Council’s proposals were strongly objected to by **Mana Wāhine Kōrero.**

<https://sarahhenderson.substack.com/p/from-mana-wahine-korero-to-the-midwifery?utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=auto_share&r=1qr7lp&fbclid=IwAR1nzp0_7Yn7-8QOEeCUi1lJGwAYwgunYGJlN3mzZHkmOrt7XAfTIyfAyFA>

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**PRISON POLICY**

**Concerns about Males being placed in Women’s Prisons.**

**The Department of Corrections** are developing new **Regulations** about placement of prisoners in the light of the **BDMRR Act**, which provides for Sex Self ID for sex on the birth certificate. The BDMRR Act is due to come into effect around mid- 2023.

Corrections are already placing male prisoners who identify as women, in women’s prisons, usually without a birth certificate. Corrections’ current Regulations require them to place a prisoner in the prison corresponding to the sex on their birth certificate, if a birth certificate is produced. The BDMRR Act doesn’t require this, though, as S 79 (2) says that the birth certificate is not the sole determinant of someone’s sex. So it makes sense to change the Regulations, so that Corrections doesn’t have to do this. Having said all that, Corrections has not demonstrated concern about the safety of women prisoners in the known choices that it is making.

**September 2022**

 Corrections called for submissions to a Consultation Document about these changes.

Speak Up for Women NZ and Women’s Liberation Aotearoa were among the many submitters, concerned about the safety of women prisoners.

Submitters pointed out that Section 55 of the Human Rights Act, provides for the provision of single sex accommodation in institutions.

[https://www.corrections.govt.nz/news/2022/corrections\_is\_consulting\_on\_options\_to\_improve\_rehabilitation,\_reintegration,\_and\_safety\_outcomes?fbclid=IwAR3tMi5hutUjrjjGHZ5FU](https://www.corrections.govt.nz/news/2022/corrections_is_consulting_on_options_to_improve_rehabilitation%2C_reintegration%2C_and_safety_outcomes?fbclid=IwAR3tMi5hutUjrjjGHZ5FU)

<https://www.speakupforwomen.nz/post/department-of-corrections-amending-legislation-to-enable-changes-in-operating-practice?fbclid=IwAR3lJNf6S4cXHs0CFpJYdRwZp-A4vi_1tnq-C4tzXXcGLMVr75XVz3XJRXo>

**November 2022**

A news item about a violent male placed in a women’s prison, indicates that Corrections are not listening to women’s concerns. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/news/130471744/restaurant-triple-stabber-jailed-for-nine-years-and-three-months?fbclid=IwAR2UP-TX4w8Pz9YmLTuLxxHbIRp7Vrn6klf1FCGmPf9bXH7d4kTzb0kqtN8>

**FREE SPEECH**

**Hate Speech Legislative Proposals**

 **16 March 2022**

Justice Minister Kris Faafoi announced that the government was not committed to introducing hate speech legislation this term.

[**https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/128056669/justice-minister-kris-faafoi-wont-commit-to-passing-hate-speech-and-crime-laws-before-election**](https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/128056669/justice-minister-kris-faafoi-wont-commit-to-passing-hate-speech-and-crime-laws-before-election)

The original proposal had included amending the Human Rights Act to include gender as a category of unlawful discrimination, and as a category of hate speech.

**18 November 2022**

Justice Minister Kiri Allan proposed only adding religion to the list of protected grounds and making no further changes to hate speech law.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/300743361/hate-speech-reforms-drastically-watered-down?fbclid=IwAR1a_mT69OZtAQo3RzyUOgjeJWfwn4DA5BXebbq8Ioua-T9wVbJY8b-YRlU>

The latest proposals would no longer add gender as a category of unlawful discrimination or hate speech at this time.

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**Free Speech Issues**

**Late April 2022**

**AUT Attempts to Cancel Talk on Feminism and Free Speech**

Auckland University of Technology (AUT) tried to cancel Daphna Whitmore, from speaking on Feminism, Advocacy, Censorship, on behalf of the Free Speech Union. The event went ahead as a union event for union members, as the university couldn’t legally cancel that.

[**https://thedailyblog.co.nz/2022/04/27/free-speech-alert-aut-university-disgracefully-cancel-feminist-event-on-campus/?fbclid=IwAR18LLcHpjy40iixRrPRfEkveeWGWpF2w23**](https://thedailyblog.co.nz/2022/04/27/free-speech-alert-aut-university-disgracefully-cancel-feminist-event-on-campus/?fbclid=IwAR18LLcHpjy40iixRrPRfEkveeWGWpF2w23)

**Around August 2022**

Rex Landy, of **Mana Wāhine Kōrero,** received a formal warning from the police about a complaint by a trans- identified male, about a video on MWK’s Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTBLB0CizsFTu-oLb_Onq0g/about>

Rex Landy successfully challenged this and the formal warning was removed.

Rex Landy now has her own Youtube Channel

[**https://www.youtube.com/@rexlandy2996**](https://www.youtube.com/%40rexlandy2996)

**December 2022**

Rex Landy reported that she was suspended from fyi.org.nz ( the site for Official Information Act requests) when she asked the Minister of Corrections, Kelvin Davis, how many male transgender prisoners were in the male and female estate.

**6 December 2022**

The Supreme Court dismissed an appeal by the Free Speech Union against the cancellation of an event hosting two far right speakers; but reinforced a decision of a earlier High Court case that Speak Up For Women had the right to use Council facilities. (***See Court Cases)***

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**EDUCATION**

**13 April 2022**

**Ministry of Education Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Resource Pack announced.**

[**https://www.facebook.com/EducationGovtNZ/posts/350731200427885**](https://www.facebook.com/EducationGovtNZ/posts/350731200427885)

**The Resources:**

[https://bit.ly/3O65nLl](https://bit.ly/3O65nLl?fbclid=IwAR0kfxtHBYcKAQEyU_wghBdAck2U4-RlxcSwrcGj3a6OoOtVaUkcS6WRWzs)

**These Resources supplement the Relationships and Sexuality Guidelines 2020**

[**https://hpe.tki.org.nz/guidelines-and-policies/relationships-and-sexuality-education/**](https://hpe.tki.org.nz/guidelines-and-policies/relationships-and-sexuality-education/)

**and updated in November 2021**

[**https://hpe.tki.org.nz/guidelines-and-policies/relationships-and-sexuality-education/**](https://hpe.tki.org.nz/guidelines-and-policies/relationships-and-sexuality-education/)

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**May 2022**

**Resist Gender Education** websiteis created, for parents and teachers who are concerned about the promotion of gender identity in New Zealand schools.

[https://www.resistgendereducation.nz/](https://www.resistgendereducation.nz/?fbclid=IwAR2g5a0L6l8POvTNlC7XVil4PlEMS-RY1L464EaJwdY5sO1klE0qCGZ3v9A)

Article about Resist Gender Education in the SUFW website

<https://www.speakupforwomen.nz/post/teach-kids-facts-not-wishful-thinking?fbclid=IwAR0lkaQLcHybIK3HucT_RpiYvOhotpm9b9d9CU1_OL_wRH9uzBGE_nVioDk>

**Resist Gender Education Critiques the RSE Guidelines/Resources**

[**https://www.resistgendereducation.nz/information/flying-blind**](https://www.resistgendereducation.nz/information/flying-blind)

**30 May**

**Laura Lopez Critiques the RSE Resource Pack.**

[**https://argumentswithfriends.substack.com/p/the-ministry-of-educations-relationships?s=r&utm\_campaign=post&utm\_medium=web**](https://argumentswithfriends.substack.com/p/the-ministry-of-educations-relationships?s=r&utm_campaign=post&utm_medium=web)

**COURT CASES**

**August 2022**

**Child rape case where consent used as defence.**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/aug/05/calls-for-changes-to-new-zealand-law-after-rapist-claims-sex-with-12-year-old-consensual?fbclid=IwAR0PYrDXxr44NFvRl-xO0LS8dPnpBGfOQsPwwEM79zXU8zSNB5JU5etkcS4>

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**25 August 2022**

**Gloriavale women challenge slave-like employment conditions.**

Six women brought a case to the Employment Court, claiming legal status as workers not volunteers in the Gloriavale Christian Community. They said that they lived in slave- like conditions. This followed a similar case by three men in May .

[**https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/473518/gloriavale-set-to-face-employment-case-alleging-slave-like-conditions**](https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/473518/gloriavale-set-to-face-employment-case-alleging-slave-like-conditions)

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**6 December 2022**

**Supreme Court Ruling on Speech.**

The Supreme Court released a decision which dismissed an appeal made by the Free Speech Union against the decision of Regional Facilities Auckland Limited to cancel an event with two far right Canadian speakers in 2018. The appeal was dismissed on the grounds that RFAL didn’t have the resources to control promised protest actions.

It’s noteworthy that in its judgement, the Supreme Court agreed with the 2021 High Court decision of Whitmore vs Palmerston North City Council, that the Council did not have the right to deny Speak Up for Women the right to use its venue in that case.

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**NZ MEDIA**

**Aftermath of Hilary Cass Report and Tavistock Closure.**

**February 2022**

UK Hilary Cass Interim Review published.

<https://cass.independent-review.uk/publications/interim-report/?fbclid=IwAR3APs1tN9SFmKmaRKavfXM9jHrib3dxG9t0_xrILN4xnlSUv3DUG5KONaE>

**14 May 2022**

**Kim Hill interviewed Kathleen Stock on Radio NZ (RNZ)**

This was a breakthrough, for a gender critical view to be engaged with at some length on the government -owned radio station.

[**https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/saturday/audio/2018841934/kathleen-stock-the-professor-who-lost-her-career-amid-toxic-gender-debate**](https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/saturday/audio/2018841934/kathleen-stock-the-professor-who-lost-her-career-amid-toxic-gender-debate)

**28 July 2022,**

**Announcement, Tavistock Clinic to Close**

It was announced in the UK that the Tavistock GIDS Clinic was to close, and the NZ media ignored the news for about three weeks.

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2022/jul/28/nhs-closing-down-london-gender-identity-clinic-for-children#:~:text=%E2%80%9CThe%20aim%20is%20to%20close>,

**August 2022**

An article appeared, asking why there was no NZ response to the Tavistock Clinic closure.

**Parents of gender-questioning children in NZ being let down.**

**Dr Sarah Donovan**

<https://www.newsroom.co.nz/ideasroom/gender-questioning-kids-being-let-down?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter&fbclid=IwAR0WJr01nf9KC-o5exIvpo0uBYh_6Nf41zwXsp6-lnctKkx8MLkAZQwD1rU#Echobox=1660764318>

This prompted the following article in response, by John Palethorpe:

<https://www.newsroom.co.nz/staying-informed-on-gender-healthcare?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR3qd8CszW-91ssfQO5_wH3IwglvE01eOTm0vGeE5CdM-VQ_YPj1tQHsoFA#Echobox=1660953013>

**10 September 2022**

**The NZ Listener** published **Age of Uncertainty,** by medical epidemiologist, **Charlotte Paul,** Emeritus Professor at the University of Otago, calling for a review of the use of puberty blockers. The article pointed out that the NZ Ministry of Health was still saying that Puberty Blockers were reversible.

““My colleagues approached me because they were concerned about the rapid increase in the use of hormones to suppress normal puberty in children and young people who express discomfort with their biological sex.” Charlotte Paul

A link to the article by Charlotte Paul can be found here:

<https://twitter.com/wlaotearoa/status/1566045949062918144>

**13 September 2022**

Article by Jan Rivers on Public Good about the impact of the closure of the Tavistock on practices in New Zealand

<https://tinyurl.com/yckv9ucm>

**Mid -September 2022**

**The NZ Ministry of Health (MOH) removed the claim that “puberty blockers are safe and fully reversible “ from its website.**

The new advice compared to old advice:

<https://twitter.com/wlaotearoa/status/1571348021010657282>

The new advice:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/healthy-living/transgender-new-zealanders/transgender-new-zealanders-children-and-young-people>

**23 September**,

Article by Bernard Lane, in Gender Clinic News:

 **On the defensive: The NZ Ministry of Health no longer claims puberty blockers are safe and reversible**

<https://genderclinicnews.substack.com/p/on-the-defensive?s=r&utm_campaign=post&utm_medium=web>

**25 September 2022**

Later, the MOH appeared to back track on this in an informal statement made to a stuff

stuff journalist:

<https://i.stuff.co.nz/national/health/129962797/puberty-blockers-still-considered-safe-and-reversible-health-ministry-says?fbclid=IwAR1xyNscezGEuK0dbeT4uiFXuCHgujPcaBYpg9AYbb_Ml9CF92eGEi-cz6w>

**29 September 2022**

 RNZ’s Ruth Hill reported that the MOH had removed the claim from its website,

whilst still supporting PATHA ( the Professional Association for Transgender Health Aotearoa) which claims that puberty blockers are safe and reversible.

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/475757/puberty-blocker-use-jumps-as-expert-backs-results>

**29 September 2022**

RNZ Radio Broadcast by Ruth Hill reported that the number of children prescribed puberty blockers in New Zealand is 10 times higher than it was a decade ago, and more than ten times the amount in England and Wales.

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/morningreport/audio/2018860622/number-of-children-prescribed-puberty-blockers-growing>

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**Complaints to Media Council**

**September 2022**, a complaint by Suzanne Levy against the New Zealand Herald, for describing a convicted male rapist, Shane Winter, as a woman, was not upheld.

<https://www.mediacouncil.org.nz/rulings/suzanne-levy-against-nz-herald/>

**20 September 2022**

**Complaint about a Report on the CATA Conference.**

The Media Council upheld a complaint about a report in the Nelson Mail about the CATA Conference in June. The report was also published in stuff.

The Media Council upheld a complaint by Fern Hickson that the Nelson Mail and stuff had incorrectly said that she was a detransitioner, and failed to correct it properly. Although it didn’t uphold a complaint about lack of balance, the Media Council noted that there was an “evolving scientific debate” about medicalised treatments for gender dysphoria, and asked all media outlets to consider whether they are taking a balanced approach.

<https://tinyurl.com/45bz42rk>

**25 November 2022**

Stuff reported on the Media Council decision.

<https://tinyurl.com/2p8cx5w5>

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**19 October 2022**

**Complaint about a Report about a Pronoun Posters Protest at MSD.**

Newshub’sreport about Jennifer Scott’s protest at a Ministry of Social Development office about pronoun posters and the harm of puberty blockers, lead to many complaints to the Media Council.

Many of the complaints were about Newshub’s depiction of her concerns as “false arguments used by anti-transgender people”; and about Newshub’s assertion that puberty blockers were safe and reversible.

In response, Newshub made only one small correction.

<https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2022/10/woman-trespassed-from-ministry-of-social-development-office-in-dunedin-after-getting-upset-over-gender-inclusive-poster.html?fbclid=IwAR2fHQlM8m2bYY9g8BjQSF2cIVyXFYkJJaQstziVZfCzuQP91hVvJfvrk0M>

**23 December 2022** The Media Council Upheld the complaint that the correction made by Newshub was not satisfactory.

<https://www.mediacouncil.org.nz/rulings/jennifer-scott-sarah-henderson-janet-bogle-rex-landy-and-hilary-oxley-against-newshub/>

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**15 November 2022**

Stuff reported in a very biased way about a school counsellor at Bethlehem College, Marli de Klerk, who was deemed transphobic and accused of bullying for not supporting puberty blockers without question.

The article was the subject of many complaints and was withdrawn, possibly because of fears of legal action about libel.

Feminist Meme Explosion:

<https://tinyurl.com/4ekxzfka>

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**CITY COUNCILS**

**Early 2022**

Auckland City Council discussed implementing a policy of giving preference to regular users for the use of Council facilities. This was seen by some as a possible attempt to get round the result of the High Court case Whitmore vs Palmerston North City Council, 2021; which meant that Councils could not exclude gender critical feminists from their facilities .

**Local Body Elections**

**September 2022**

Candidates for Local Body elections are asked their views on women’s single sex spaces, gender critical feminists’ rights to Council Spaces, free speech, by the Free Speech Union and by gender critical feminists. Many candidates said that they support these rights, and referred to the Whitmore v PNCC High Court case of 2021, where Judge Nathan ruled that the Palmerston North Council did not have the right to refuse spaces to gender critical feminists and that gender critical views were not hate speech.

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**Rainbow, Drag Queen Storytime, Drag Santa**

**May 2022**

Rainbow Storytime tour, in libraries across New Zealand .

**August 2022**

Pride celebrations and Drag Storytime in libraries in Auckland

**November to December 22**

A statue of Santa with a raised skirt, stockings and knickers, is displayed in a Ponsonby Street, in Auckland.

Many feminists wrote letters of complaint about these matters.

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**Swimming Pools**

**Ongoing since 2021**

**Christchurch Linwood Swimming Pool**

Women's Wednesdays is open all those who identify as women. Women have been protesting this decision, writing to Council and meeting with Council representatives.

If you wish to raise your concerns, please send an email objecting to males being allowed into women-only sessions at the Linwood Pools to: Nigel Cox, Head of Recreation, Sports & Events (nigel.cox@ccc.govt.nz).

**August 2022**

**Moana Swimming Pool, Dunedin.**

At a meeting of the Dunedin City Council, Jennifer Scott, a nurse, expressed concerns about males using female changing rooms at the Moana swimming pool. She asked for clear rules to protect women's spaces in Council facilities. These concerns were angrily dismissed by mayor Aaron Hawkins. Jennifer was also questioned about whether her views were in line with those of the Nursing Council.

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/dunedin-mayor-slams-concerns-about-transgender-people-at-swimming-pool-as-repugnant/OGPQSUV7PPYKAK2AEZMN7UDJSM/?fbclid=IwAR2V>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=807821997053880>

**September 2022**

Aaron Hawkins was not re-elected as Mayor of Dunedin.

**August/September 2022**

Jennifer Scott’s practicing certificate was suspended by the Nursing Council, after addressing the Dunedin Council about women’s spaces in swimming pools.

<https://4w.pub/license-suspended-transphobia/?fbclid=IwAR2oevIju0Am7hNTnIZptlzpZtnW_ILB_XxVzI5mufwek8dUjoAG1s2iIiE>

**November 2022**

Unconfirmed reports have been received that the Moana Pool’s changing room now has a Females Only sign on the door.

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**SPORT**

**BOXING NZ**

**24 July 2020, Background**

In July 2020 NZ Boxing supported a call from Save Women’s Sport NZ to prioritise women’s safety and to not allow transwomen to compete against female competitors, following the lead of World Rugby.

[**https://www.savewomenssport.com/media-releases/july-24th-2020---boxing-nz-in-women's-corner**](https://www.savewomenssport.com/media-releases/july-24th-2020---boxing-nz-in-women%27s-corner)

**April 2022**

**Rainbow Boxing NZ closed itself down,** partly because Boxing NZ did not accept its proposals for a trans division and also because of Covid restrictions .

[**https://www.facebook.com/gayexpress/posts/371255388349581**](https://www.facebook.com/gayexpress/posts/371255388349581)

**30 August 2022**

**Boxing NZ supports an open category for transgender boxers**

[**https://www.stuff.co.nz/sport/women-in-sport/129721656/boxing-nz-to-create-open-category-for-transgender-fighters**](https://www.stuff.co.nz/sport/women-in-sport/129721656/boxing-nz-to-create-open-category-for-transgender-fighters)

[**https://tinyurl.com/mv3vxwce**](https://tinyurl.com/mv3vxwce)

Boxing NZ said their decision was aligned with the World Boxing Council, World Triathlon, and World Rugby.

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**SPORT NZ**

**6 December 2022**

**Sport NZ** released its **Guidelines on Inclusion of Transgender People in Community Sport.**

<https://sportnz.org.nz/diversity-and-inclusion/transgender-inclusion/guiding-principles-for-the-inclusion-of-transgender-people-in-community-sport/?fbclid=IwAR2_w7uagLzjaf7tGGc4-mYAKp7kkWufmZaZ0cyld-m4lA6gFh8sF58RBKk>

**Save Women’s Sport Australasia (SWSA)** issued this statement in response:

**Sport NZ confirm fairness and safety of women and girls no longer a priority**

[**https://www.savewomenssport.com/media-releases/december-6th-2022---sport-nz-confirm-fairness-and-safety-of-women-and-girls-no-longer-a-priority?fbclid=IwAR1Uv3a5H7pBizdrcmdtV9a4ewfEbpa7nW6NQ3x\_hOP5qoa8BJ8w8DBM5Ok**](https://www.savewomenssport.com/media-releases/december-6th-2022---sport-nz-confirm-fairness-and-safety-of-women-and-girls-no-longer-a-priority?fbclid=IwAR1Uv3a5H7pBizdrcmdtV9a4ewfEbpa7nW6NQ3x_hOP5qoa8BJ8w8DBM5Ok)

**SUFW issued this response**

[**https://www.speakupforwomen.nz/post/media-release-6th-december-2022**](https://www.speakupforwomen.nz/post/media-release-6th-december-2022)

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**BOOK LAUNCH**

**18 October**

Spinifex Press launched the book **Out of the Fog** by New Zealand writer Renee Gerlich.

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=968790&fbclid=IwAR3YUA7-Z6H1xOPKEFS-CJo-Mkon5HwkY02xB8Gy7gxiQYGug5_3iwVOUK4>

**OTHER PROPOSALS BEING DEVELOPED**

**Social Insurance**

**Early February 2022**

**Social Insurance Scheme proposed by NZ Finance Minister.**

This would create a two tiered welfare system, benefitting those already in (well paid) paid employment, and disadvantaging the low paid, and those on benefits, such as sole mothers and the long term sick and disabled.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/opinion/300511079/where-are-women-in-the-social-insurance-scheme-on-the-benefit?fbclid=IwAR14QNVPSl8I-RaH76iVhOUxufOjiaBmblRNSpEJ1g1ZWmud4diKZpFHav8>

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**Surrogacy**

**March 2022**

**Improving Surrogacy Arrangements Bill**, private members Bill, introduced by Tamati Coffey

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/the-house/audio/2018835183/bill-seeks-streamlined-path-through-surrogacy-process>

These proposals are aimed at making the process easier for would-be adoptive parents, and potentially removing some of the rights of the birthing mother, who is currently legally recognised as the first mother of the child.

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**Adoption Law Reform**

**20 June 2022**

The second round of consultations began.

**7 August 2022**

The second round of consultations ended.

Many of these proposals are aimed at creating more openness about adoption and better meeting the needs of the adopted children for connection to their biological whanau.

<https://www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/key-initiatives/adoption-law-reform/>

<https://www.justice.govt.nz/about/news-and-media/news/adoption-law-reform-options-for-creating-a-new-system/>