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**Why did we present a motion for
nullity of Judgment T-179-2025
of the Constitutional Court of
Colombia?**



Because the Court decides that a male who self identifies as a woman, and plays in female teams of the Antioquia League:



1

Is A WOMAN, although he is not biologically

2

Considers that his rights to equality, sports and gender identity were violated when sex exclusion did not allow him to continue playing in female volleyball teams.

3

Orders the Antioquia League to apologize to him and eliminate sex exclusion from their rules and regulations.

4

Orders the Ministry of Sports to review all rules and regulations of female volleyball teams to ensure they follow with the decisions of this judgement.

Causes of the Motion for Nullity



01

BEING A WOMAN

Wrong legal
definition of what a
woman is

02

FAILED TO CONSULT

The main actors
involved: female
athletes and
sportswomen

03

EVIDENCE

Omission of scientific
evidence on the
advantage of males
over females in sports

04

JURISPRUDENCE PRECEDENTS

Omission of
precedents that
protect women in
sports

The Court failed to consult...

1. Female volleyball players who will have to accept males on their teams or play against them.
2. Athletes from all disciplines where this jurisprudence could be used to include males on their teams.
3. Parents concerned about injuries and lack of opportunities for their daughters.
4. Organizations, experts, and civil society concerned about the erasure of women and their rights to accommodate exceptional and forced “inclusion.”





Being a Woman

- There is no human right to “gender identity.” “Trans” and “cis” are neologisms that are not binding in our constitutional framework, and they are unverifiable.
- We do not need to accompany the word ‘woman’ with “biological,” “cis,” or “trans.” Nor do we need to neutralize language with “menstruating person,” “pregnant person,” etc, to be inclusive.
- Women do not have to sacrifice our recognition to protect others. We have rights *to non-discrimination based on our sex* (Art. 1, CEDAW).
- *Gender* refers to sociocultural conditions, roles, and stereotypes associated with being a woman, which give rise to unequal relationships between men and women. (RG CEDAW 28)
- States must eliminate “gender,” not promote it.

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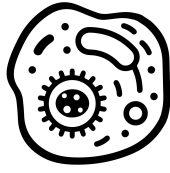
Being a Woman

Denying the legal consequences of biological differences perpetuates discrimination (...).

Once again, men can speak on behalf of women. What's more, by becoming one, they end up deciding not only what women should do, but who is a woman.

Dissenting Opinion, Judge Cristina Pardo

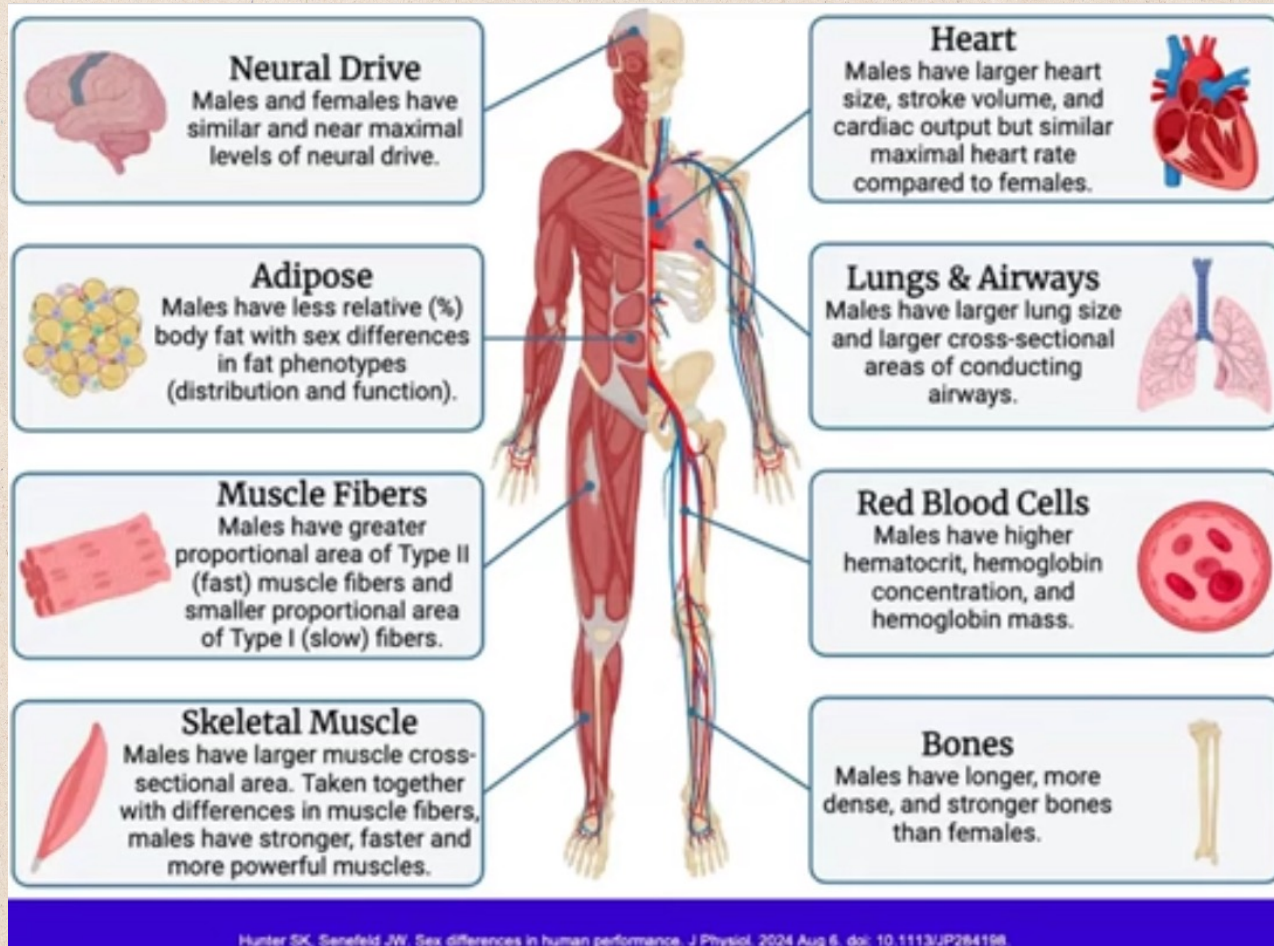
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Basic Biology

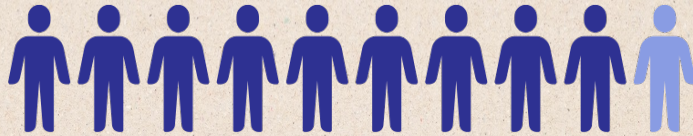
- There are only two types of gametes in humans, and body designs that produce either sperm or eggs.
- All cells in the body have chromosomes that clearly belong to XX, encoding female characteristics, or XY, encoding male characteristics.
- Even for people with Disorders of Sex Development (DSD)—a minority—sex can be determined by genetic, hormonal, or morphological markers.
- There is no way to eliminate sexual dimorphism by eliminating or reducing testosterone.
- It is impossible to change sex, because all the cells in the body and the developed anatomy would have to change.

Biological Differences Between males and females



It is much more than just about testosterone levels!

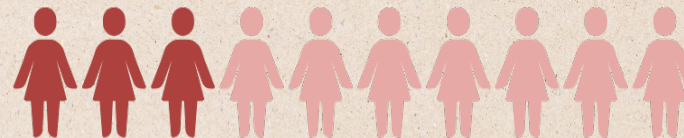
Male Advantage in Sports



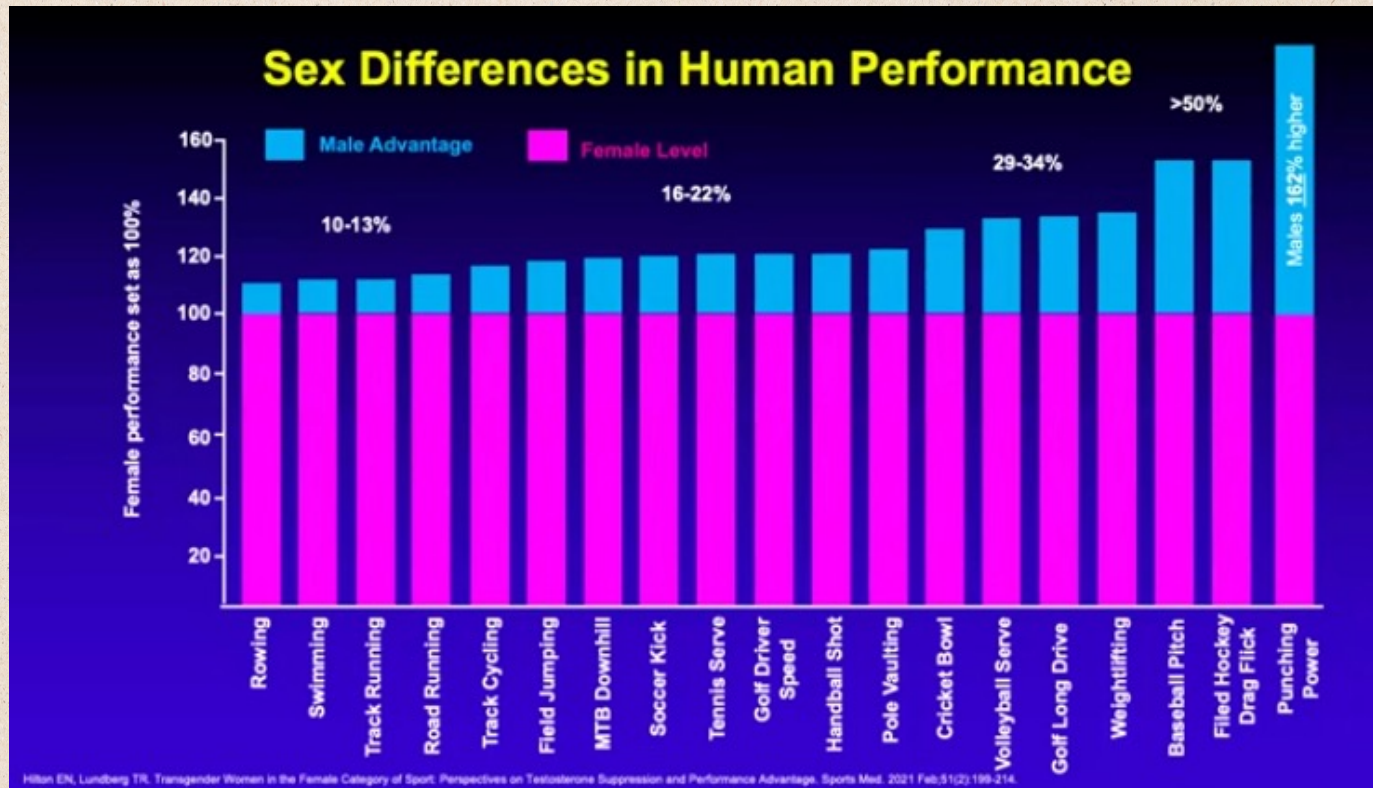
1. Increased lean mass
2. Less fat
3. More muscle mass
4. Increased strength
5. Longer bones
6. Narrower pelvis
7. Stronger tendons
8. Larger lungs and capacity
9. Increased cardiovascular performance

Female additional disadvantage

1. Monthly hormonal changes
2. Pregnancy, breastfeeding
3. Motherhood
4. Voluntary and involuntary termination of pregnancy
5. Menopause



Sex differences in Human Performance



The differences range from 10% to 162% depending on the sport, in terms of power, strength, speed, and endurance.

We are neither better nor worse than men.
We are different. That is why we need sex-specific categories in sport.

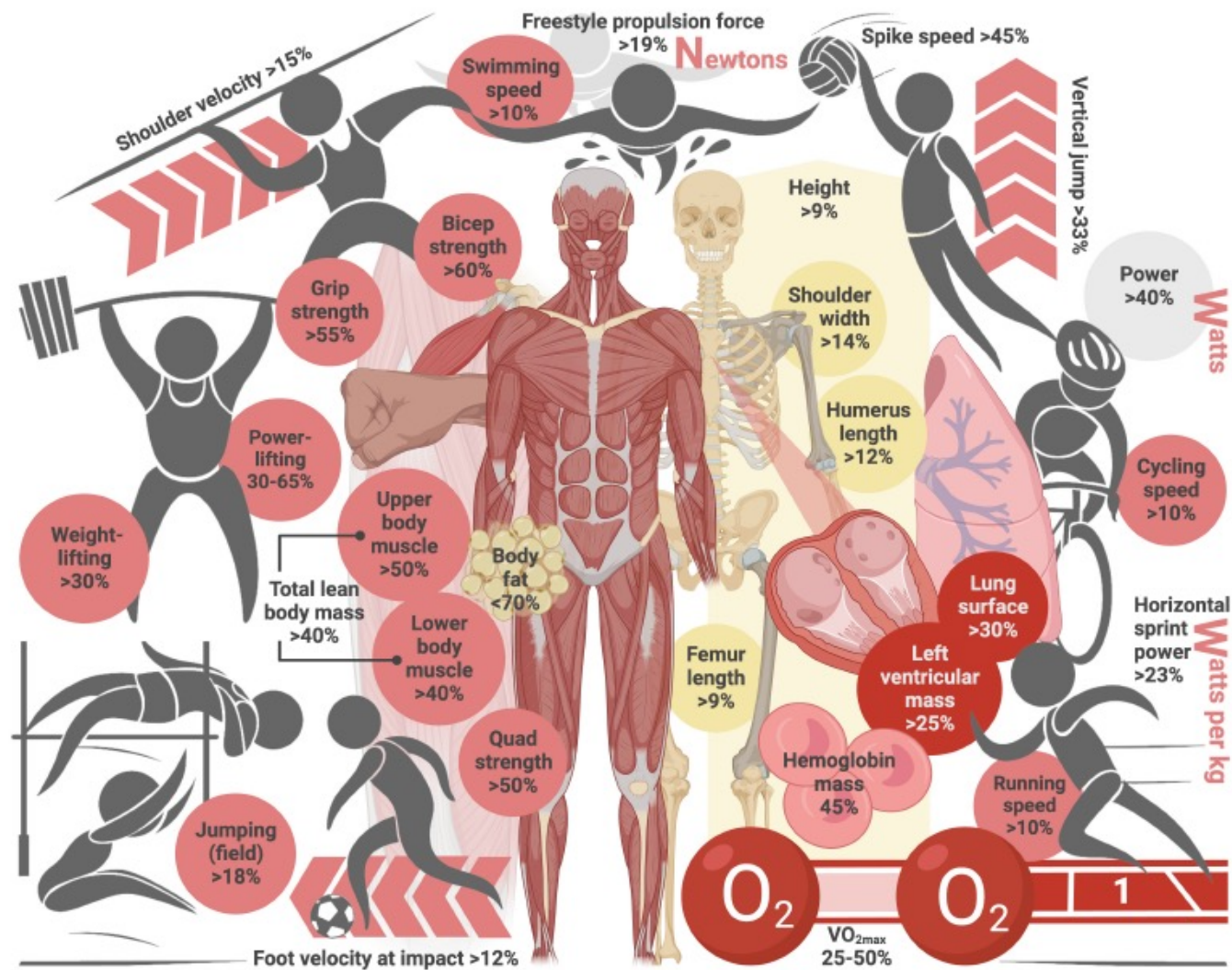


FIGURE 1 Physiological differences and resultant performance implications in males and females. Males are bigger and stronger, have higher lean mass and lower fat mass, have a differently shaped skeleton, and have higher aerobic capacity than females, generating a 10%–65% performance advantage for different attributes across athletic sports.^{23–25,27–40} VO_{2max}, maximal oxygen consumption. Created with BioRender.com.

Impacts

Of males who self identify as women and play in female sport categories

1. Fractures of fingers, legs, skull, concussions of women on opposing teams.
2. Fear of injury and psychological distress when participating.
3. Loss of intimacy and privacy in locker rooms and bathrooms, sexual harassment.
4. Loss of opportunities, sponsorships, scholarships, support, and as a life choice.
5. Cancellation in public life for expressing opinions based on science and common sense.

Female volleyball game at Seneca College in Ontario, Canada features 5 biological male trans athletes



6. Withdrawal from games, less participation, lower income, loss of skill development, frustration, self-exclusion of women.

Report by the United Nations Rapporteur
on Violence against Women in Sports
Reem Alsalem (2024)



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We Request:

- Admissibility of the request for annulment.
- Decree annulment due to serious violation of due process, evasion of matters of constitutional relevance, and disregard of constitutional precedent.
- Roll back the proceedings and issue a new ruling.
- Suspend compliance with orders issued.



How to achieve fair play between women and men...



1. Everyone has the right to participate in sports, regardless of how they perceive themselves, what they call themselves, how they dress, or how they feel comfortable.
2. However, they cannot pretend to be of a SEX that they are not.
3. All teams must allow people of the same sex to play on their teams based on their athletic performance.
4. Anti-harassment and anti-discrimination measures are needed in all teams.

How to achieve equality and equity for women in sports...

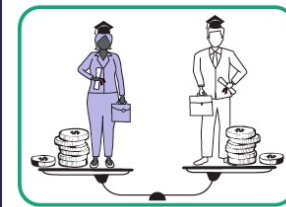
5. Female athletes need substantive equality to resolve their historical discrimination in this area.



Substantive Equality

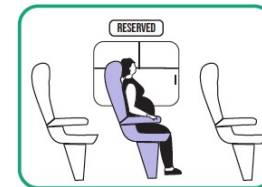
Improve access and equality in fundamental human rights in areas such as education, health, employment, sports, freedom of expression, among others.

General Measures



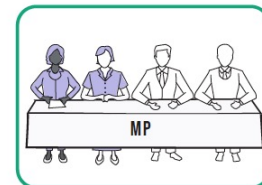
Addressing needs related to women's biological differences, such as menstruation, motherhood, and menopause.

Differentiated Measures



Correct the consequences of past and present discrimination. E.g., quotas, preferential treatment, specific support for women and girls.

Temporary Special Measures





#JuegoLimpioParaLasMujeres

#MujerDeportistaUnete

#NulidadSentencia179

More info:

<https://womensdeclaration.com/en/country-info/colombia/>

