

TV

# Channel 4 sparks backlash over Gender Wars doc with anti-trans Kathleen Stock: ‘No way can this be good’

Apr 18 • Written by Chantelle Billson

 [Share](#)  [Save for later](#)

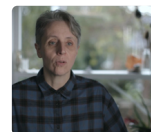


Kathleen Stock speaking at a university debate. (YouTube)

**Channel 4 has announced a number of new programmes set to air in spring 2023,**

Advertisement [Remove ads](#)

## Related articles



**Opinion**

**All the ways Channel 4 failed trans people with controversial Gender Wars documentary**

May 31 • 6 min read

## including a documentary *Gender Wars*, which focuses on trans-exclusionary professor Kathleen Stock.

The documentary claims to attempt to answer the dog-whistle question “what is a woman?”

Details of the forthcoming show, written alongside a photo of Stock, state: “This film is looking for a way forward, an opportunity to listen and the possibility of finding common ground”.

**Channel 4 claims** the documentary will have “unique access” to Stock, who has previously spoken with and written articles for UnHerd, The Times, the BBC, The Guardian, Sky, The Telegraph, Daily Mail and Holyrood magazine.

The show’s description goes on to state that Stock “was hounded out of her university job over her view on gender identification and now campaigns from a gender critical viewpoint”.

**Stock quit her role** at the University of Sussex in October 2021.

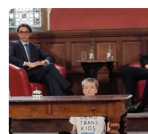
Prior to quitting her role, Stock said that “many trans women are **still males with male genitalia**“, and argued against their inclusion in single-sex spaces, something protected by the Equality Act 2010.

**She has also argued that self-ID** “threatens a secure understanding of the concept ‘lesbian’”, rooting her rhetoric in a belief of immutable biological sex.

The news of Stock’s participation in a documentary about gender identity has left Twitter users gravely concerned.

## ‘There is no way that this can be good for trans people’

One user commented “definitely won’t devolve into a publicly televised hate crime”, while another responded: “The use of the words ‘hounded out’ tell you beforehand where this programme is going and whose side it on.”



### Activism

Activist glues hand to floor in front of Kathleen Stock wearing ‘no more dead trans kids’ shirt

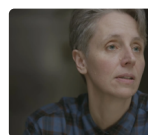
May 31 • 5 min read



### Trans

Kathleen Stock dismisses protests at Oxford Union as ‘student shenanigans’

May 31 • 4 min read



### UK

Gender Wars slammed as Kathleen Stock ‘puff piece’ giving ‘false legitimacy’ to anti-trans hate

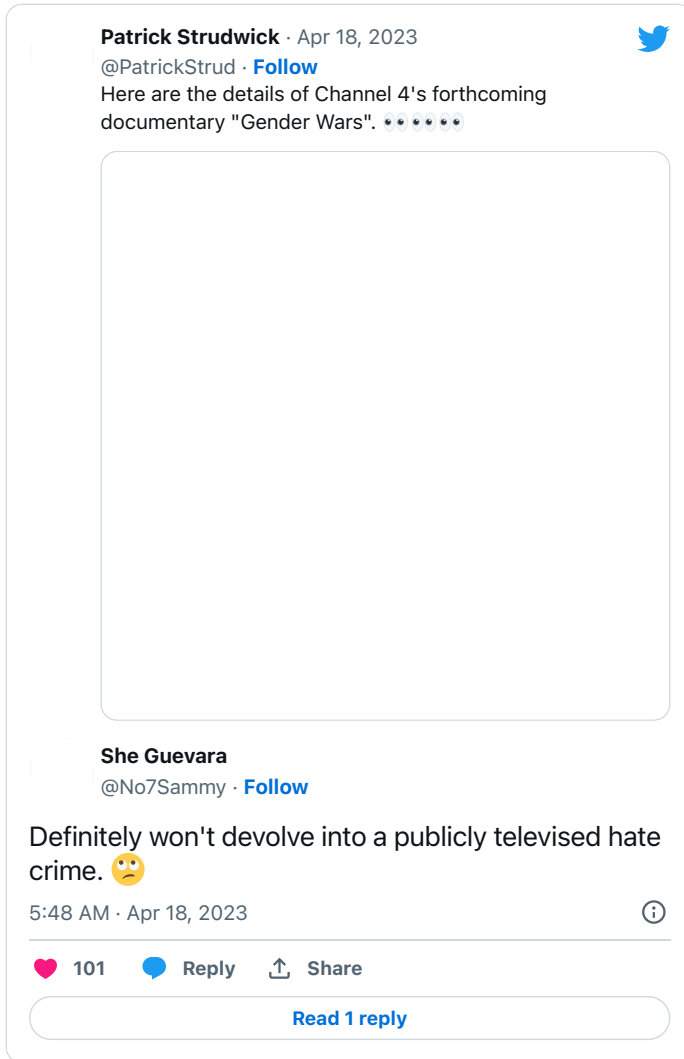
May 31 • 3 min read

### Trans



Gender Wars: Channel 4’s controversial doc ‘adds fuel to anti-trans fire’, contributors say

May 30 • 6 min read

Advertisement [Remove ads](#)



One user tweeted sarcastically: “Wow this looks like a really good attempt at creating common ground – I too would have centred it around a known transphobe and called it *Gender Wars* – makes so much sense...”




**Tom Ryalls**   
@BoyAndPen · [Follow](#) 

Wow this looks like a really good attempt at creating common ground - I too would have centred it around a known transphobe and called it Gender Wars - makes so much sense...

**Scott Bryan** @scottygb  
Channel 4 have announced a new slate of programmes at an event this morning.

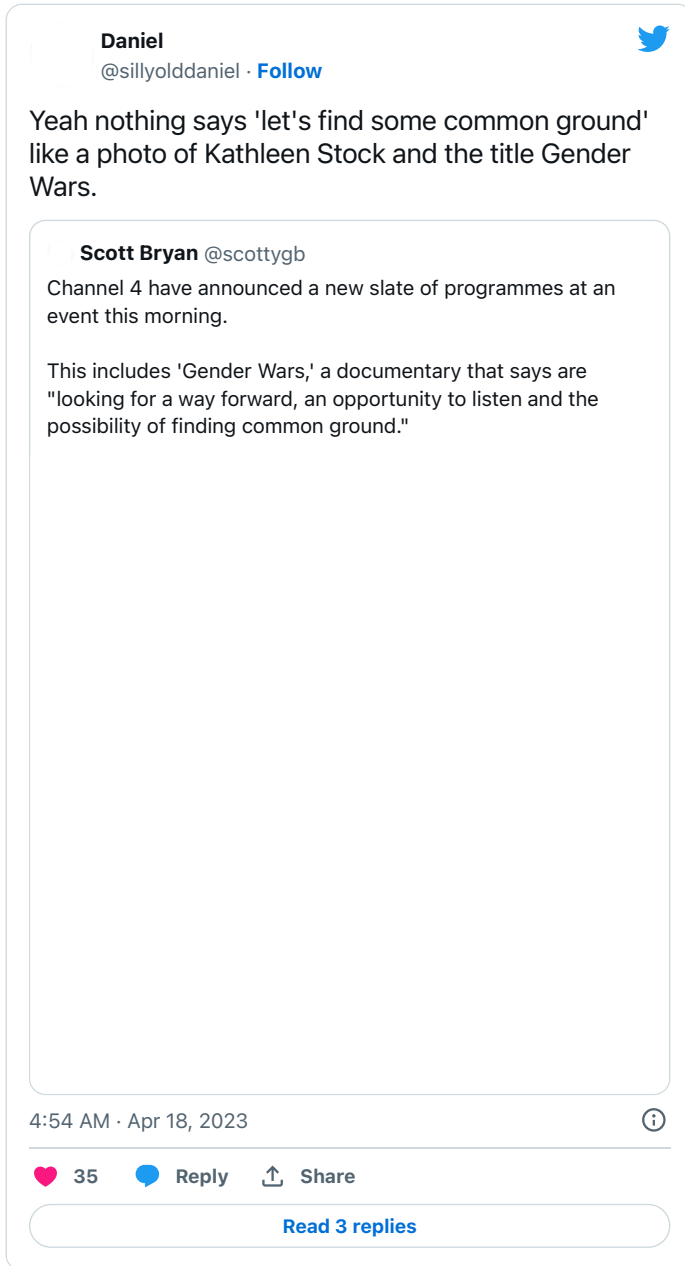
This includes 'Gender Wars,' a documentary that says are "looking for a way forward, an opportunity to listen and the possibility of finding common ground."

5:57 AM · Apr 18, 2023 

 7  Reply  Share

[Read more on Twitter](#)

“Yeah nothing says ‘let’s find some common ground’ like a photo of Kathleen Stock and the title *Gender Wars*,” another posted.



**Daniel**  
@sillyolddaniel · [Follow](#)

Yeah nothing says 'let's find some common ground' like a photo of Kathleen Stock and the title Gender Wars.

**Scott Bryan** @scottygb

Channel 4 have announced a new slate of programmes at an event this morning.

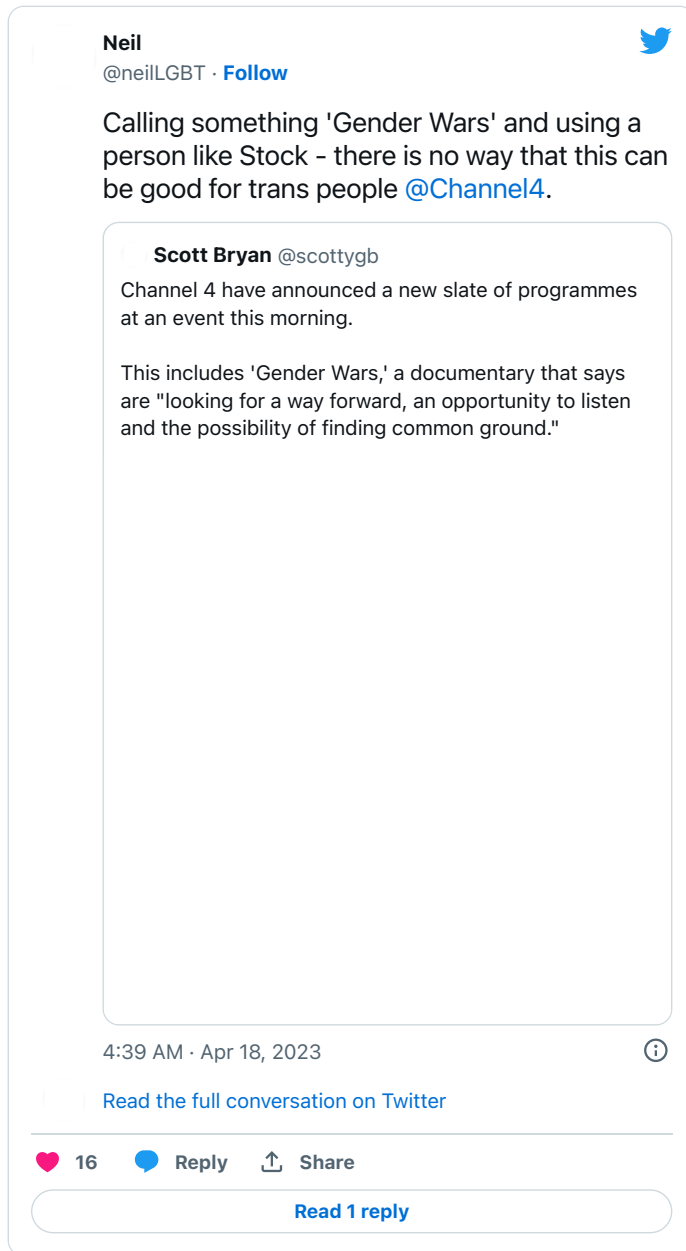
This includes 'Gender Wars,' a documentary that says are "looking for a way forward, an opportunity to listen and the possibility of finding common ground."

4:54 AM · Apr 18, 2023

35 Reply Share

[Read 3 replies](#)

Another simply said: "Calling something 'Gender Wars' and using a person like Stock – there is no way that this can be good for trans people."



Channel 4's chief content officer, Ian Katz, has said the new line-up of programmes aim to get people "thinking, arguing and asking questions about the world in which we live".

**New titles** alongside the Kathleen Stock documentary include *Depp V Heard* – a three-part series examining the defamation trial of Jonny Depp and Amber Heard – *The Pill* featuring Davina McCall who investigates the myths and misconceptions around contraception and a new documentary, *Partygate the True Story*.

Channel 4's announcement of *Gender Wars* follows its **controversial debate on gender in 2018**, which was heavily criticised after trans panelists were heckled throughout by the audience.

The channel's *Genderquake: The Debate as part of Genderquake* – a series of programmes exploring the changes in how gender is seen in modern society – featured Republican Caitlyn Jenner and trans activist Munroe

Bergdorf, as well as author Germaine Greer and [journalist Sarah Ditum](#).

Following the debate, Bergdorf spoke out about the heckling she had experienced during the show, some of which was not audible to the audience at home.

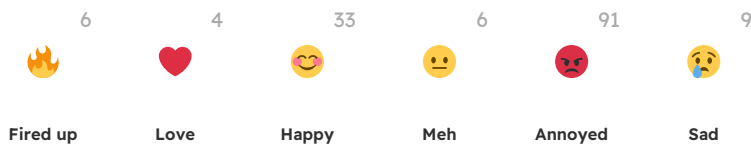
LGBTQ+ charity Stonewall said they would submit a formal complaint to communications regulator Ofcom regarding the programme.

PinkNews has contacted Channel 4 for comment.

**More:**

[channel 4](#) [kathleen stock](#)

## How did this story make you feel?



## Comments (0)

MyPinkNews members are invited to comment on articles to discuss the content we publish, or debate issues more generally. Please familiarise yourself with our [community guidelines](#) to ensure that our community remains a safe and inclusive space for all.

You must be a **MyPinkNews** member to comment.

[Become A Member](#)

Already a member? [Sign in here](#).

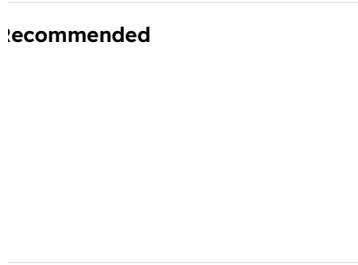
Loading Comments



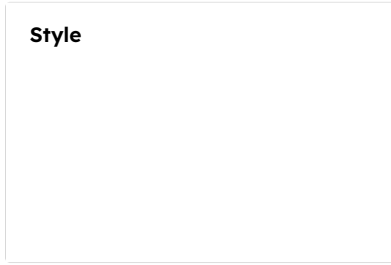
## What to buy now

uncover the best deals on tickets, fashion, beauty and more

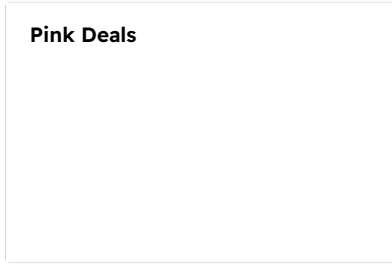




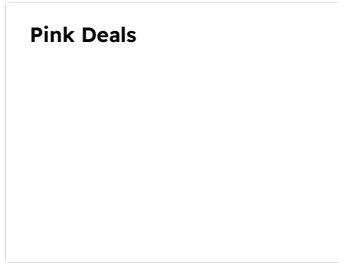
**de Month 2023: all of the  
inds releasing collections and  
porting LGBTQ+ charities**  
16 • 8 min read



**Everyone is buying this Uniqlo  
crossbody bag for the same  
reason**  
Apr 20 • 2 min read



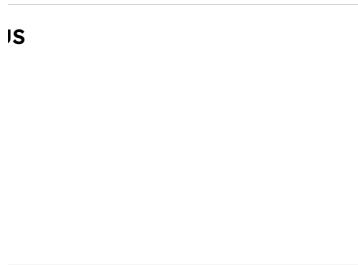
**Hot Octopuss launches huge sale  
to ramp up your pleasure this  
Masturbation May**  
May 05 • 2 min read



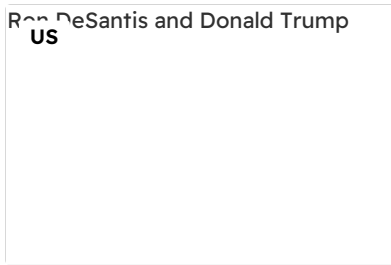
**This easy fitness app is rewri  
the rules for working out**  
Apr 19 • 2 min read

## on DeSantis

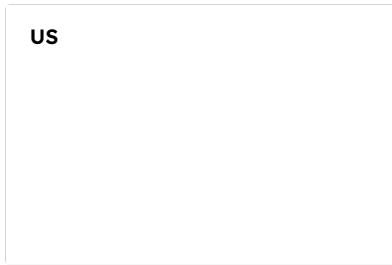
ce for president begins



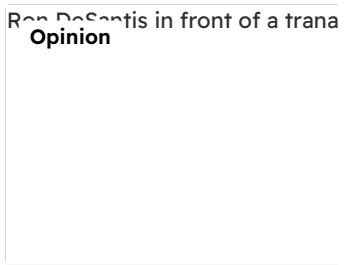
**n DeSantis' presidential bid:  
l attempt to 'export extremist,  
i-LGBTQ+ agenda to the  
ion'**  
25 • 4 min read



**Ron DeSantis and Donald Trump  
US**  
How 'bully' Ron DeSantis could  
be even worse for LGBTQ+ rights  
than Donald Trump  
May 26 • 3 min read



**2024 Republican candidates:  
Who's running and how bad  
would they be for LGBTQ+  
rights?**  
May 25 • 6 min read



**Ron DeSantis in front of a trans  
Opinion**  
Ron DeSantis has blood on h  
hands. He's not fit to be  
governor, let alone president  
May 24 • 3 min read



**Download the PinkNews app**  
Award winning LGBTQ+ journalism



About us

Contact us

Advertise

Work for us

Terms and conditions

Privacy policy





