

New Poll: 76% Say Trans Care For Trans Youth Should Be Decided By Parents Or Doctors

A new poll shows that the majority of people believe that decisions around gender affirming care with trans youth should be left to parents or doctors, not elected lawmakers.



ERIN REED

NOV 17, 2023

195

11

15

Share



Photo by [Karollyne Videira Hubert](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Please support my independent reporting and advocacy on transgender legislation by subscribing. You help me keep this going and keep people informed.

Over the past three years, 21 states have implemented bans or severe limitations on gender-affirming care for transgender youth. These prohibitions were enacted despite significant resistance from parents and medical professionals who have emphasized that such care is lifesaving for transgender youth in need. Despite this, numerous Republicans have expressed the belief that targeting on transgender youth is a “political winner” for their re-election prospects. However, in the 2023 elections, candidates who featured attacks on trans youth at the forefront of their campaigns suffered significant defeats. Now, a new [Data For Progress survey](#) reveals that the broader public does not favor legislative interference in transgender issues. Instead, a decisive 76% of likely voters believe that the decision regarding access to care for transgender youth should rest with parents or medical practitioners.

In the poll, likely voters were asked who they thought should be able to make the final decision on who can access gender affirming care. 54% of respondents stated that the parents of trans youth should make that decision, while 22% said that the decision should belong with the doctors of the trans youth. Only 12% of people answered that the elected state lawmakers should be able to make the decision around whether or not a trans youth should be able to access gender affirming care. Moreover, even Republicans opposed legislative interference in trans care; only 16% of Republicans answered that such decisions should be handled by the legislature.

The survey also questioned respondents about the creation of a transgender bill of rights.

This year, [Senate Resolution 144](#) was proposed which would codify the right to medical care, education, housing, employment, and more for transgender people. Such a resolution also has a plurality of public support, with 48% supporting such a bill and 43% opposing it.

You can see the [crosstabs](#) here:

[3] Who do you think should be able to make the **final decision** about whether or not a transgender minor can access gender-affirming medical care?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino	No, I do not personally identify as LGBTQ	Yes, I personally identify as LGBTQ
The minor's parents	54	51	52	59	52	57	43	60	53	57	53	56	47	56	44
The minor's doctor	22	29	24	12	23	20	31	17	19	26	20	22	20	19	45
The elected state lawmakers where the minor lives	12	10	10	16	11	13	14	10	13	9	10	11	19	13	3
Don't know	13	11	14	13	15	10	11	13	15	9	17	11	13	13	9
Weighted N	1,209	447	338	424	647	562	421	788	775	434	133	878	151	1,055	121

[4] Some lawmakers in Congress have proposed developing and implementing a Transgender Bill of Rights. This legislation would protect the rights of transgender and nonbinary people under the law by ensuring their access to medical care, shelter, safety, and economic security.

Do you support or oppose a Transgender Bill of Rights?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino	No, I do not personally identify as LGBTQ	Yes, I personally identify as LGBTQ
Strongly support	25	46	22	5	29	21	32	21	23	29	35	24	21	21	68
Somewhat support	23	26	26	17	22	24	22	23	21	27	17	24	20	23	21
Somewhat oppose	13	10	14	14	12	14	14	12	13	13	16	12	17	14	3
Strongly oppose	30	10	24	56	27	34	24	33	34	23	19	34	27	34	5
Don't know	9	7	14	7	10	8	7	10	9	8	13	7	14	9	3
SUPPORT (TOTAL)	48	72	48	22	51	45	54	44	44	56	52	48	41	44	89
OPPOSE (TOTAL)	43	20	38	70	39	48	38	45	47	36	35	46	44	48	8
SUPPORT (NET)	+5	+52	+10	-48	+12	-3	+16	-1	-3	+20	+17	+2	-3	-4	+81
Weighted N	1,209	447	338	424	647	562	421	788	775	434	133	878	151	1,055	121

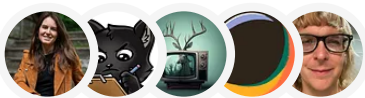
Though previous polling has been unclear around transgender issues, one continuing theme of polls taken on this question is that voters oppose making attacks on trans youth a political priority. Earlier this year, a [Fox News](#) poll stated that 86% of people in the United

States view attacks on trans youth as a major problem or a minor problem. That same poll also found that only 1% of voters name “trans/woke issues” a top priority. Another poll found that a majority of people believe that there is too much legislation targeting trans people and that these bills are wedge issues.

This year, voters considered candidates across the United States who made trans issues a top priority. Those candidates **did not fare very well** on election night. Moms For Liberty and Project 1776 backed candidates lost **70% of their races**. Virginia saw the House and the Senate go to Democrats after **Governor Glen Youngkin campaigned** for his party on a platform that targeted trans youth throughout the state. Governor Beshear in Kentucky faced a **torrent of ads** for his veto of a gender affirming care ban on trans youth, and yet he won by more than he did in his first race. Clearly, this issue has not delivered political victories for Republicans. This new poll may explain why that is the case.

Now, heading into 2024, candidates who have made trans issues a major priority and have passed bans on trans care for youth will face a real test on the popularity of their positions. If this poll is correct, they may face an uphill battle in swing districts nationwide.

Please support my independent reporting and advocacy on transgender legislation by subscribing. You help me keep this going and keep people informed.



195 Likes · 15 Restacks

11 Comments



Write a comment...



Caitlin Nov 17

That's still a really ridiculous amount of people who think lawmakers with no medical expertise should be making medical decisions... which is insane.

LIKE (28) REPLY SHARE

2 replies



Tara Writes Tara's Substack Nov 17

I don't think they see this as a political winner so much as they just don't care. Republicans have made it clear they would prefer to gerrymander, rig elections, do whatever it takes to stay in power without answering to the majority of voters.

LIKE (14) REPLY SHARE

9 more comments...