

Today I speak on behalf of my transgender boyfriend, who could not be attendance today.

When I first heard about Iowa's plan to remove our civil rights, I was scared. But then, the confusion set in. I tried for hours to figure out a reason why this was happening, as nothing in this bill would benefit any Iowa citizen. It took me a while to reconcile with the truth; there is no logically sound reason for this act. Our civil rights, the rights we fought so long for, do not pose any threat to anyone in Iowa. The only support for this bill is emotional, and our civil rights are no place for your emotions. I challenge you to put your emotions aside just for a moment, and think about it logically. What do you, or anyone, stand to gain by stripping us of our rights? By passing this act, you admit to not only us, but to the United States as a whole that you believe emotions to be a valid argument in the face of the law.

Our country is supposed to value freedom and fairness above all else, so when it comes to people like us, why is it any different? We are human, please, stop treating us like monsters. We want to live and love, just like everyone else. We are not your enemies.