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 **TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC"**  
**DON'T BE DISMISSIVE**  
**in the**  
**GENDER/RESTROOM**  
**DEBATE! THAT WON'T**  
**ADVANCE THE BALL!**



By Stephen L. Bakke  April 21, 2016

*Here's what provoked me:*

*A letter about the gender/restroom debate was too dismissive and silly to be believed. Here's how I see it.*

*Here's my response:*

**Don't Be Dismissive in the Gender/Restroom Debate! That Won't Advance the Ball!**

A letter about "Transgender Alternatives" on April 21, seemed to relay some surprise about reactions to the gender/restroom debate. The writer tells about a woman who seemed alarmed about "allowing boys and girls to use the same restrooms in schools throughout the state."

The writer's somewhat flip and totally dismissive answer to the woman was: ".....we have been following that same practice at our house for years and it seems to work very well."

I'd like to suggest that when this "authority" (retired editor of Politics in Minnesota) has a chance to educate others on this issue, the opportunity should be seized upon! An invalid equivalency such as offered by this writer to a concerned person, is sure to worsen the anxiety and delay any ultimate understanding. Dismissing a sincere person with an observation as silly as that smacks of arrogance, adds fuel to the fire, and does nothing to advance the debate.



Grow up and be part of a "grown up" discussion!