

From: [Elizabeth Droesch](#)
To: [Public Testimony](#)
Subject: Resolution 230385
Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 8:05:23 AM

Dear Council,

You need not know anything about me: you only need to know what I see.

Temet Nosce
"Know Thyself"

I see people who have lived their lives denied of this opportunity. I see human beings marching boldly into self-discovery, smiling at the camera, at the mirror, at their friends, and looking {genuinely} happy. That is the look of someone discovering themselves for the first time, after only ever seeing a stranger in the mirror staring back at them, mockingly.

This, and so much more, is what it means to be transgender.

But being transgender, in this age, also means blind hate, and constant fear of retaliation and rejection. All because people choose to be angry, choose hate and ignorant intolerance over compassion and understanding.

I see people so happy and proud and comfortable in their skin facing fear every day. I see loved ones watching the news, horrified that today will be the day their medication gets taken away. I see a future where more young people trapped in a shell that isn't them are denied something as simple as self-expression.

I see a people beset on all sides by hate and horror, where basic human rights are being shunned without second thought. I see

I have seen what future this can lead to: a mourning mother, and a family gathered around fresh tombstone, erected far too soon.

And I see a beautiful City full of life, colour, and inclusivity. I see a City working to be better than its history. I see a city where every human being has the right to simply {be}, to Know Thyself and be happy.

Who are we to dictate for someone else who they are and are not?
Since when is it our right to stand in the way of a human being and what they do for their own body, their own heart, their own sanity?
How can we call ourselves Americans while denying someone their pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness?
How can we call ourselves a people of virtue and morals without reaching out a hand to uplift and protect our neighbour?

As a member of this community- perhaps the person beside you, or in line at the grocery store, or in the park across the street- I urge you to pass this resolution.

Let Kansas City be an oasis not ruled by fear and intolerance. Let us be a People united in

safe-guarding our neighbours.

This is the future I, and so many, want to see.

And so I most ardently plead for you to rule this fair City a Sanctuary.

Your humble neighbour,

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