

## 1 December 2020

In the case of <u>Bell v Tavistock</u> the UK High Court today ruled that puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones are experimental treatments and should not generally be prescribed to children without authorisation of the court.

The Sydney group of Australian Parents Questioning Gender welcomes the landmark judgement and have released the following statement:

"We once again invite Australian politicians, medical practitioners and psychologists to pause and consider the growing numbers of detransitioners around the world who tell stories of what this fast tracking has done to their lives.

We hope that the complex distress our children are experiencing will no longer be compounded by a rush to experimental medical treatment which has lifelong ramifications.

In particular, we expect that professional therapists will retain their right to responsibly apply their training and explore underlying issues with gender questioning youth rather than having the state mandate an affirmation only response.

We thank the few public voices in Australian politics, journalism, law and therapeutic practice for calling for more careful consideration of these issues. We hope this judgement will encourage more considered reflection by others."

According to Anna Kerr, Principal Solicitor of Feminist Legal Clinic Inc.: "This decision is in accordance with international human rights provisions which protect the rights of the child and are reaffirmed in Article 9 of the <u>Declaration on Women's Sex-Based Rights.</u> The decision is being celebrated by gender critical feminists around the world."

For further comment, please contact.

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