

Manifesto Dofemco



Feminist Teachers for Coeducation (DoFemCo) stems from the need to regain an education without sexist stereotypes. DoFemCo advocates parenting and education based on respect to youngsters' free development. We aim to eradicate sexist attitudes from early childhood and thus facilitate actual equality between men and women. That is why we must teach our children:

- Abilities are not limited by sex.
- To identify and avoid toxic attitudes and abuse to interact equally in every context: with friends, partners, classmates or at work.
- That women are not consumer goods on sale or to rent.

The recent events in Spanish law and education, such as the implementation of education policies advocating the early detection of so-called trans childhood, make clear the need to regain common sense. As feminist teachers we do not believe that children's identities should define their sex. As feminist teachers we reject stereotypes to deal with free, natural children's behaviour occurring despite prejudiced adult views.

Coeducation originates from the need to achieve real equality between men and women through a sexism free education based on respect. For this reason we state that education policies urging teachers to detect trans kids in many regions are not only unnecessary but also harmful, particularly when the detection procedure is based on such simple and natural behaviours as boys enjoying dolls or girls enjoying soccer.

We also reject and state our concern that detection may aim puberty blockers and surgery prescriptions on kids. It is indeed worrying that kids' statements may be considered to make a start on their transition because we, the teachers, know that kids do not have enough maturity or cognitive development to make decisions with life-long consequences. We are also concerned about parents who may feel compelled to give in to avoid losing their children's custody because of legal and institutional threats although disagreeing with these policies.

We believe that education policies to detect alleged trans childhood reinforce sexism and risk our youngsters' psychological, emotional and physical health. Consequently, we do not consider being forced to join in a procedure starting when children express their wish to carry out activities or show preferences not aligned with social expectations according to their sex.

To sum up, we stand for a society of free citizens capable of setting healthy relationships and strive to achieve it inside and outside the classrooms. We wish that our students take action for a fairer and more equalitarian society where sex does not determine their position in the world nor limits their capacities.