# Article information:

A Public Servant Stood Up for Sex-Based Rights at a Gender Workshop—And Paid the Price
<https://quillette.com/2023/04/13/a-public-servant-stood-up-for-sex-based-rights-at-a-gender-workshop-and-paid-the-price/>

# Article summary:

1. A public servant in British Columbia faced consequences for expressing concerns about a gender workshop that promoted controversial ideas.

2. The workshop, presented by activist Adrienne Smith, included claims that human sexual dimorphism is an "imaginary" artifact of the West's "colonized binary," and that the real struggle for trans rights isn't being waged against conservative transphobes, but rather against "middle-aged white feminists."

3. When a staff member expressed dissent during the workshop, Smith responded testily and accused him of seeking to exclude trans women from feminism.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article discusses two instances of workplace training sessions in Canada, one on decolonization and the other on transgender and gender non-conforming people. The author presents a critical analysis of the content presented in these sessions, highlighting what they perceive as biases, one-sided reporting, unsupported claims, missing points of consideration, missing evidence for the claims made, unexplored counterarguments, promotional content, partiality, and not presenting both sides equally.

The author argues that the decolonization training session presented by Hummingbirds Rising consultancy to staff at British Columbia’s Office of the Ombudsperson contained inaccuracies and questionable content. They highlight how some of the material presented was accurate but that it also included statements such as capitalism being a virus composed of systems that oppress. The author also notes that one slide indicated that the Nazi slaughter of six million European Jews had been directly inspired by the Canadian Constitution. The author suggests that this presentation was poorly vetted and raises concerns about its accuracy.

Regarding the transgender and gender non-conforming people training session presented by Vancouver lawyer Adrienne Smith to staff at British Columbia’s Office of the Ombudsperson, the author argues that it contained biased content. They highlight how Smith argued that trans rights are not being waged against conservative transphobes but rather against “middle-aged white feminists” who still fixate on “genitals” when arguing their policy positions. The author suggests that this approach is unfair to women who have legitimate concerns about male-bodied access to protected women’s spaces.

The article also highlights how dissenting views were not welcomed during these training sessions. In particular, an employee identified as Nick expressed concern about language used in discussions around gender identity and was met with hostility from Smith during the transgender and gender non-conforming people training session.

Overall, while there may be some valid criticisms of these training sessions raised in this article, it is important to note potential biases in the author's analysis. The author appears to have a particular perspective on issues related to gender identity and feminism, which may influence their interpretation of the content presented in these training sessions. Additionally, the article does not provide a balanced view of the training sessions, focusing primarily on criticisms without exploring potential benefits or alternative perspectives.

# Topics for further research:

* Decolonization in Canada: history
* impact
* and current initiatives
* Transgender rights and controversies in Canada
* Workplace training best practices and guidelines
* Intersectionality and its role in diversity and inclusion training
* Critiques of critical race theory and its application in workplace training
* Balancing free speech and respectful discourse in workplace training sessions

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/9d95298944a69c4f61aa8f2ff7465eca>