

# The Victims of SOGI Laws

Across the country, government officials and others are using state and local SOGI laws (laws that add sexual orientation and gender identity as protected classifications) to threaten Americans' constitutionally protected freedoms. Any SOGI laws or policies—even ones such as the so-called "Fairness for All" that contain narrow exemptions for certain groups—are fundamentally unfair, unjust, and unnecessary because they infringe upon free speech, conscience, and bodily privacy.

## Meet the Victims

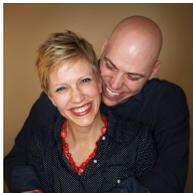
**Government officials use SOGI laws to target small business owners who serve everyone but can't express every message or celebrate every event.**



Just weeks after **Jack Phillips**, owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop, won a 7-2 victory at the U.S. Supreme Court, which wipes away the Colorado Civil Rights Commission's punishment of Jack under Colorado's statewide SOGI, the same Commission used the same law to launch a new attack on Jack to force him to create a custom cake to celebrate a gender transition.



Washington State and the ACLU sued **Barronelle Stutzman** and her shop, Arlene's Flowers, under Washington's SOGI because she declined to create custom floral arrangements celebrating the same-sex wedding ceremony of a long-time friend and customer, whom she had served for nearly a decade. She now faces the risk of losing everything she owns.



Telescope Media Group owners **Carl and Angel Larsen** are filmmakers who use the storytelling power of film to celebrate marriage. But the Minnesota SOGI forces them to create films about marriage that violate their beliefs under threat of civil penalties, criminal penalties, fines, and up to 90 days in jail.



An advocacy group filed a complaint under Lexington, Kentucky's municipal SOGI against **Blaine Adamson**, who owns Hands On Originals, a promotional printing company, for declining a request to print a particular design. Blaine serves everyone but can't print messages that conflict with his conscience.

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## Government officials use SOGIs to violate bodily privacy and safety.

*SOGI laws and policies are relied on to ignore common sense and give men who claim to be female (and vice versa) unfettered access to intimate places designated for women only, including showers, locker rooms, and restrooms at schools, summer camps, and even women's shelters.*



**Pascha Thomas'** five-year-old daughter was sexually assaulted in her school restroom by a male classmate who identified as "gender fluid" and was allowed to use the female restroom under the Decatur, Georgia school district's SOGI policy. School districts across the country have used similar SOGI policies to violate students' privacy and dignity.



The **Downtown Hope Center**, a women's homeless shelter that provides a safe place for women who have suffered rape, physical abuse, and domestic violence, is being investigated by city officials in Anchorage, Alaska, who claim that the city's SOGI requires the shelter to house biological men alongside women in its overnight sleeping facilities.



During her junior year at Boyertown Area Senior High School in Pennsylvania, **Alexis Lightcap** was shocked and embarrassed when she walked into the girls' restroom at school and found a boy inside. The school district had quietly adopted an "open door" SOGI-like policy that permitted boys who claim to be female to use the girls' locker rooms and restrooms.

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## Government officials use SOGI laws to force churches and faith-based organizations to violate their sincerely held beliefs.



Iowa and Massachusetts officials interpreted their statewide SOGIs to apply to **churches**, meaning they could be prosecuted for operating consistently with the church's doctrines or for ensuring visitors use sex-specific restrooms and changing areas.



Shortly after putting out an urgent call for 300 more foster families, the City of Philadelphia relied on its SOGI to shut out **Catholic Charities'** foster-care program because of the nonprofit's commitment to placing children in homes with a mother and father.