

House Democrats Refuse to Address Supreme Court Sports Ruling

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Clear Facts

- The Supreme Court ruled 6-3 to allow states to ban biological males from competing in women's sports
- House Democrats largely avoided commenting on the ruling, claiming other issues are more important
- Several Democratic representatives attempted to dismiss the topic as a distraction from economic concerns

House Democrats largely refused to address the Supreme Court's landmark ruling allowing states to protect women's sports from biological males competing as transgender athletes. Instead, they deflected to talking points about the economy and what they characterized as "culture wars."

"I think we spend far too much time obsessing over that," Rep. Jim McGovern, D-Mass., told reporters when asked about the ruling. "And what people should be focused on right now is the dysfunction here in Washington."

Rep. Sydney Kamlager-Dove, D-Calif., similarly dismissed the issue.

"I think the focus should be on this economy and getting us out of this war of choice and bringing down gas prices so that folks do not have to make real decisions about if they're going to put food on their table or gas in their tank, to take their kids to the hospital or to school."

She added that "the culture wars that we allow to divide us don't do anything to feed our kids."

The Supreme Court's 6-3 decision represented a significant victory for fairness in women's athletics. The ruling upheld state laws that reserve female sports categories for biological females, rejecting arguments from transgender student-athletes who claimed such policies violated the Constitution.

When confronted with questions about the decision, multiple House Democrats either claimed ignorance of the ruling or quickly changed the subject. Their reluctance to engage on the issue suggests discomfort with a topic that has proven unpopular with American voters. "This place is a disaster," McGovern complained. "And, you know, and the incompetence here is... I've never seen this before." "I think what people should be focused on is that Washington is not working, and it's really sad."

Rep. Seth Magaziner, D-R.I., argued the matter should be handled at even lower levels of government than the state. Despite the Court already leaving the decision to individual states rather than imposing a nationwide standard, Magaziner wanted to push responsibility down further.

"Let like the school athletic associations, let parents, let people at the local level decide which sports and which age groups should be co-ed or what the rules should be." Magaziner then pivoted to his preferred talking points.

"I frankly like don't think that this is something that politicians in Washington should be involved in," Magaziner said. "We should be focused on lowering inflation, we should be focused on ending the war, we should be focused on preserving our democracy." "Congress should be focused on the big picture things," he added.

The reluctance of Democrats to engage substantively on this issue stands in stark contrast to polling that shows overwhelming public support for protecting women's sports. Their strategy of dismissing legitimate concerns about fairness in athletics as mere "culture wars" appears designed to avoid accountability for their party's unpopular position.

Rep. Sarah Elfreth, D-Md., was among the few Democrats willing to offer direct criticism of the Supreme Court ruling.

"Unfortunate for a lot of folks in across this country," Elfreth said. "Like I said, they didn't get a lot right today."