



Written by [Staff](#) on July 22, 2022

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Inside Track

Church of England Has “No Official Definition” of a Woman



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The Church of England has admitted that it cannot define what a woman is. A man named Adam Kendry, a lay member of the denomination’s General Synod, plainly asked, “What is the Church of England’s definition of a woman?”

And the umbrella church of the Anglican Communion, which boasts over 100 million members, couldn’t answer the question.

“There is no official definition, which reflects the fact that until fairly recently definitions of this kind were thought to be self-evident, as reflected in the marriage liturgy,” said Senior Bishop Rt Rev. Robert Innes, as reported by *The Telegraph* July 10.

“The [Living in Love and Faith] project however has begun to explore the marriage complexities associated with gender identity and points to the need for additional care and thought to be given in understanding our commonalities and differences as people made in the image of God,” the bishop added.

The Living in Love and Faith (LLF) initiative began in 2020, with the goal of enabling “the Church of England churches across the country to participate in a process of learning and praying together as part of discerning a way forward in relation to matters of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.”

So, while the Church of England can’t answer the question right now, Anglicans worldwide can rest assured they’re working on it.

Rev. Angela Berners-Wilson, who in 1994 was, ironically, the first woman — (how did they know?) — to be ordained as a priest in England, seemed to have a problem with Innes’ answer, although she conceded that the church needs to be sensitive to the needs of the LGBTQ community.

“I’m not totally happy with it. I mean, I do think certain things like men can’t have babies, just to say the complete obvious thing,” Berners-Wilson said. “But I think we need to be very sensitive and maybe we need to reexamine our boundaries.”



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By James Murphy

Starbucks Closes Stores in Crime-ridden Blue Cities



Increasing crime, including assault, drug use, and theft, has forced Starbucks to close 16 stores in an attempt to protect its employees.

The stores, which were closed by July 31, were in “blue” cities: five in Seattle, one in Everett, six in the Los Angeles area, two in Portland, and one each in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. Employees at those stores were allowed to be reassigned to other stores.

A company spokesperson told the *Seattle Times* July 11 that the decision on which stores to close was based on how many crime-related complaints were logged at each store and if attempts to lower those rates were successful.

In a memo to employees released July 11, Starbucks Senior Vice Presidents of U.S. Operations Denise Nielsen and Debbie Stroud said the changes were in response to store manager and employee complaints. “You’ve been open and honest with us about your experience.... You’re seeing firsthand the challenges facing our communities; personal safety, racism, lack of access to healthcare, a growing mental health crisis, rising drug use, and more. With stores in thousands of communities across the country, we know these challenges can, at times, play out within our stores too. We read every incident report you file — it’s a lot.”

The memo covered Starbucks’ reaction to employee input, which they said “directly shapes our policies, programs and benefits to ensure employees feel more supported and empowered.” Starbucks’ efforts to make the work environment safe for employees and patrons include “designing safe and welcoming stores,” “robust safety trainings,” increased benefits, and “clear policies and procedures.”

Starbucks noted that it would consider “Modifying operations, closing a restroom, or even closing a store permanently, where safety in the third place is no longer possible.” This was an admission by Starbucks that the stores in question could no longer find reasonable and safe ways to effectively run their businesses.

By David Kelly



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Student Masking Has No Effect on Covid-19 Case Rates, Study Finds



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A Research Square study, posted July 1, of two adjacent North Dakota school districts, one of which mandated student masking and one of which did not, found “no significant difference” in Covid-19 case rates between the two.

The researchers, who received funding from the University of Southern California, noted that “randomized data about the effectiveness of mask mandates in children is still entirely lacking.” Indeed, they wrote, “While observational studies of school mask mandates have had conflicting results, randomized studies have failed to detect an impact of masking on participants under 50 years of age.”

These researchers, however, were fortunate enough to discover “a unique natural experiment to study school-based mask mandates.” Specifically, they analyzed data from two Fargo, North Dakota, school districts: Fargo Public Schools (FPS) and West Fargo Public Schools (WF). Both districts have very similar demographics, although WF has slightly higher percentages of minority and low-income families.

The only significant difference between the two districts’ approach to the virus was that at the start of the 2021–2022 school year, FPS required students to be masked throughout the day, while WF did not. On January 17, FPS also made masks optional. This gave researchers an opportunity to compare Covid-19 case rates both when the districts had different policies and when they had the same policies.

The researchers observed: “This study found that K-12 school mask mandates were not associated with significantly lower COVID-19 student case rates. This is consistent with adult randomized data on community cloth masking, multiple observational studies of school mask mandates and a systematic review of medical or surgical cloth masking for influenza.”

“In conclusion,” the researchers wrote, “school mask mandates were not found to be associated with significantly lower student SARS-CoV-2 case rates. This is consistent with a growing body of scientific literature and should be taken into consideration and weighed with the harms and discomfort of masking in the educational setting.”



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By Michael Tennant

Pentagon: China Far Outpaces U.S. in Weapons Acquisition



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While the U.S. military goes woke, the Chinese military is rapidly preparing for the next major war.

Major General Cameron Holt, who serves as deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition, made the startling declaration that China is significantly surpassing America in the acquisition of new military equipment.

According to The Drive, Holt, during a June 15 speech at the 2022 Government Contract Pricing Summit in San Diego, said Beijing is obtaining equipment with “five to six times” greater speed than the United States.

In addition, China is apparently spending far less to acquire its equipment than America.

“In purchasing power parity, they spend about one dollar to our 20 dollars to get to the same capability,” The Drive quoted Holt as saying. “We are going to lose if we can’t figure out how to drop the cost and increase the speed in our defense supply chains.”

Holt pointed to several factors he claimed are setting America back, including the “slow and stodgy” budgetary framework that funds the acquisition of new equipment. But he argued that the resourcing system is the biggest issue.

“If we don’t change our resourcing system, none of the rest of it matters,” said Holt.

Holt advocates what he describes as the “cash flow” model, which includes provision for some Pentagon movement of funds but seeks to ensure Congress retains more oversight over this process and has the option to intervene in a more timely manner.

For Holt, the current system served the country well during the Cold War but is ill-adapted to today’s fast-moving technological world.

But why should we worry about China outpacing us in weapons acquisition when we’re winning the war of social justice? While Beijing has focused on getting its armed forces combat-ready, our political class has prioritized using the military to fund abortions and “gender reassignment” and get to the bottom of



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“white rage.”

By Luis Miguel



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