

DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

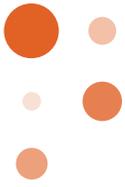
- At the beginning of the video, Mr. Koukl asks, “Do you know what the word ‘tolerance’ means? If you do, I salute you, because I have no idea anymore. I did... once. Everybody did... once. But now, thanks to the Left, the word is totally up for grabs. Actually, it’s worse than that. Tolerance now means the opposite of what it once meant. Tolerance now means intolerance. And intolerance now means tolerance... To be ‘tolerant’ today, simply means you agree with politically-correct, that is, Left-wing, positions. That’s all it means.” Why do you think that the Left endeavors to change the meaning of commonly used vernacular? Explain. In what ways, specifically, do you think the Left is able to accomplish changing the meaning of certain terminology in order to fit their agenda? Explain.
- After Mr. Koukl notes that if you differ with the Left on any issue they label you as intolerant, a ‘hater,’ etc... he goes on to explain: “The classic definition of ‘tolerance’ means to recognize and respect others’ beliefs and practices without sharing them. Notice, the element of disagreement is key to tolerance. Without it, true tolerance is not possible. This is critical. We don’t ‘tolerate’ people we agree with- we’re on the same side! We only ‘tolerate’ people we differ with, yet still choose to treat decently and with respect. This vital ingredient of real tolerance is completely missing in the politically correct version. Nowadays, if you differ with others on culturally sensitive issues, like sexual orientation or religious beliefs, you’re labeled intolerant no matter how you treat them.” Why do you think that the Left actively chooses not to make the significant distinction between a person and a person’s ideas? Why do you think that the Left presumes that their position is the only valid position? Explain.
- Later in the video, Mr. Koukl points out: “The Left says all behaviors and ideas have equal value- that no behavior or idea is any better than any other, [but] they don’t act that way. Tolerance is a one-way street for the Left... But not only is disagreement not intolerant, it’s morally and logically essential. Think about it. All ideas, all behaviors are not equally valid. Some are better. Some are worse. And discussion and disagreement and debate are how we sort out the good from the bad. Civilization depends on it.” Why is it so important to sort out good ideas from bad ones, in terms of what is best for a society? Explain. Do you find the fact that the Left claims to value equality so much yet doesn’t give equal weight to views that differ from their own as hypocritical? Why or why not?
- Mr. Koukl later paraphrases Professor Krayft, stating, “...treat some ideas as better than other ideas. Why? Because they are. Some are good, some are bad. Some are smart, some are dumb. Some are dangerous. And we ought to have the liberty to figure out which is which in our discussions, without being called names, and certainly without fearing we’ll lose our jobs- or our careers.” Why do you think that the Left is so rigid and close-minded, in terms of debating and discussing ideas? Why might some people actually lose their jobs when voicing a differing opinion? Do you think that they should lose their jobs for openly evaluating ideas? Why or why not?
- At the end of the video, Mr. Koukl concludes: “True tolerance applies to how we treat people we disagree with, not how we treat ideas we disagree with. All people have equal value- all points of view do not.” Do you agree with Mr. Koukl? Why or why not?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Martina Navratilova

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “Martina Navratilova criticized for comments about trans women in sport,” then answer the questions that follow.

- Who is Martina Navratilova, and what claim did she make that the Left is now criticizing her for? What was the main point she made in her tweet? What happened to Ms. Navratilova’s position after she did more research on the subject? What is Trans Actual, and what did they have to say about Ms. Navratilova? In response, what did Ms. Navratilova state that she deplores? Who is Renee Richards, and how is she important to the story? Who is Caster Semenya, and what did Ms. Navratilova have to say about Caster’s situation?
- Do you think the fact that Ms. Navratilova is homosexual has any bearing on her position on the topic? Do you think it should? Why or why not? Do you think the fact that Ms. Navratilova is a woman has any bearing on her position on the topic? Do you think it *should*? Why or why not? Why do you think that the Left exclusively views Ms. Navratilova as attacking transgender people, and fully dismisses the fact that Ms. Navratilova is advocating for women? Do you think that transgender men should be allowed to compete in women’s sports? Why or why not?
- Do you think that the Left’s methodology of conflating a person’s character with a person’s opinions is valid? Why or why not? Do you think that it is important to judge the merit and quality of ideas separately from the source of those ideas? Why or why not?



QUIZ

THE INTOLERANCE OF TOLERANCE

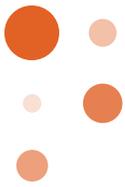
- 1. To be 'tolerant' today simply means _____.**
 - a. that you are open-minded
 - b. that you respect differing opinions
 - c. that you agree with Left-wing positions
 - d. that you generally think for yourself

- 2. If you disagree with any Leftist position, what label do they place on you?**
 - a. intolerant
 - b. racist
 - c. hater
 - d. all of the above

- 3. The classic definition of 'tolerance' means to recognize and respect others' beliefs and practices without sharing them.**
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 4. What did the Left call Martina Navratilova, after she said it was unfair for women to have to compete against trans-athletes?**
 - a. feminist
 - b. transphobic
 - c. racist
 - d. tolerant

- 5. True tolerance applies to _____.**
 - a. how we treat ideas we disagree with
 - b. how we treat opinions we disagree with
 - c. how we treat people we disagree with
 - d. how we treat history we disagree with



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

THE INTOLERANCE OF TOLERANCE

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4. What did the Left call Martina Navratilova, after she said it was unfair for women to have to compete against trans-athletes?
 - a. feminist
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 - c. racist
 - d. tolerant

5. True tolerance applies to _____.
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<https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/18/tennis/martina-navratilova-trans-women-comments-spt-scli-intl/index.html>

Martina Navratilova criticized for comments about trans women in sport

By James Masters, CNN

Updated 7:09 AM ET, Mon February 18, 2019



Martina Navratilova has been criticized for her article on transgender athletes.

(CNN)Tennis great Martina Navratilova has been criticized after claiming it is a form of "cheating" for transgender women to be allowed to compete in women's sport.

The 18-time Grand Slam winner wrote in *The Sunday Times* that it was "insane" that "hundreds of athletes who have changed gender by declaration and limited hormone treatment have already achieved honors as women that were beyond their capabilities as men."

This is not the first time Navratilova, a gay rights campaigner who suffered homophobic abuse when she came out in 1981, has caused controversy with her remarks on transgender athletes.

In December she was criticized after tweeting: "You can't just proclaim yourself a female and be able to compete against women. There must be some standards, and having a penis and competing as a woman would not fit that standard."



Martina Navratilova won 18 Grand Slams during her tennis career.

Her comments led to her becoming embroiled in an online argument with cyclist Rachel McKinnon, the first transgender woman to win a world track cycling title in October 2018.

Navratilova, a nine-time Wimbledon champion, wrote on Sunday that this debate had led to her going away to do more research on the subject, adding: "Well, I've now done that and, if anything, my views have strengthened.

"To put the argument at its most basic: a man can decide to be female, take hormones if required by whatever sporting organization is concerned, win everything in sight and perhaps earn a small fortune, and then reverse his decision and go back to making babies if he so desires.

"It's insane and it's cheating. I am happy to address a transgender woman in whatever form she prefers, but I would not be happy to compete against her. It would not be fair."



Trans Actual
@TransActualUK



We're pretty devastated to discover that Martina Navratilova is transphobic. If trans women had an advantage in sport, why aren't trans women winning gold medals left, right & centre? Coz trans women don't have an advantage. Look up the changes that oestrogen makes to the body.

♡ 1,182 12:31 AM - Feb 17, 2019



💬 489 people are talking about this



Her comments were labeled "transphobic" by trans rights group Trans Actual, which tweeted: "If trans women had an advantage in sport, why aren't trans women winning gold medals left, right & center?"

McKinnon reacted to Navratilova's article by tweeting: "It's a wild fantasy worry that is an irrational fear of something that doesn't happen. An irrational fear of trans people? Transphobia."

This is, in her own words with the time of forethought and authorship, Martina Navratilova's 'core' argument against trans women athletes.

It's a wild fantasy worry that is an irrational fear of something that doesn't happen. An irrational fear of trans people? Transphobia. pic.twitter.com/RAX3ynGyTI

— Dr. Rachel McKinnon (@rachelvmckinnon) February 17, 2019

Navratilova rejected accusations of transphobia, adding that she deplores "what seems to be a growing tendency among transgender activists to denounce anyone who argues against them and to label them all as 'transphobes.'"

She also highlighted her friendship with Renée Richards, the transgender tennis player who campaigned to be able to play at women's US Open.

According to current rules issued by the International Olympic Committee in 2016, trans men are allowed to compete without restriction.

Trans women, however, must show that their testosterone level has been below a certain level for at least 12 months before their first competition.

Navratilova's comments came the day before the case of Caster Semenya, the double Olympic 800-meter champion, went before the Court of Arbitration of Sport on Monday.



Caster Semenya celebrates with flag after winning the 800-meter final during the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The South African athlete has a condition known as hyperandrogenism which means that her testosterone levels are naturally elevated.

Semenya is challenging a case being launched by the sport's governing body, the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), that would require testosterone levels to be limited in female athletes competing in races between 400 meters and a mile.

The IAAF's proposal would mean she would need to take medication to reduce those levels.

Her case has already won support from the South African government as well as Navratilova, who wrote: "I hope she wins."

"She has never taken medication or sought an advantage," Navratilova added. "She has just trained and run."