



Alex Howe dreaded the long walk he had to take just to use the bathroom at his Texas high school — two unisex stalls in the middle of the sprawling building, far from his classrooms.

Because he's a transgender boy, his school district barred him from the much more convenient boy's restrooms. "It was isolating and alienating," Howe, who was identified at birth as female, told POLITICO, the first time he has spoken publicly about being a transgender high school kid. And it didn't stop there.

Conservative parents told the debate coach they didn't want Howe sharing a room with their sons on trips to competitions. The frustrated coach argued that Howe should be treated the same as the other kids, but school administrators sided with the parents and wouldn't budge. He roomed alone, singled out again.

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