

## [Will the Supreme Court Help West Virginia Bully Trans Kids?](#)

Imani Gandy: Hello, fellow law nerds. Welcome to another episode of Boom! Lawyered, a Rewire News Group podcast hosted by the legal journalism team that thinks if you don't stand up for trans kids, then you're a bad person. I'm Rewire News Group's editor-at-large, Imani Gandy.

Jess Pieklo: And, I'm Jess Pieklo, Rewire News Group's executive editor. Rewire News Group is the one and only home for expert repro journalism that inspires you to just stand up for trans kids. I mean, come on, seriously. And the Boom! Lawyered podcast is part of that mission. So big thanks to our subscribers, and a welcome to our new listeners and viewers.

So, today, folks, we are gonna talk about a case that could very well have the Supreme Court wading into one of the hottest topics right now. And, that's trans athletes in sports. And, if the Supreme Court wades in, they could issue a blow to trans rights in this country, and a blow to girls' sports in general. But, here's the thing, it gets pretty dicey, because this case is at the Supreme Court right now, on an emergency application. So, Imani, you know what that means.

Imani Gandy: Shadow docket?

Jess Pieklo: Shadow docket.

Imani Gandy: Oy vey, shadow docket. First, let's talk about what this case is about. That's what we're gonna talk about right now. What is this case about? The case involves a young girl named Becky Pepper-Jackson.

Jess Pieklo: What a name!

Imani Gandy: I love this girl's name! "Hi, my name is Becky Pepper-Jackson!" She seems like she's a girl who, like, sells lemonade out by a farm, and just has a pet goat that she loves really a lot. And, you know, she just likes to run. And, that's what this girl does. She's a 12-year-old trans kid, living in West Virginia, who loves running. And, even though she's not particularly great at it, she was really super excited to join her middle school cross-country team.

Jess Pieklo: Imani, this is a 12-year-old kid. That's kind of rude.

Imani Gandy: I don't mean it to be, I really don't mean it to be, I'm not trying to be shady, but I'm just pointing out that the panic surrounding trans kids in general, like, trans kids in sports, it, just, generally has to do with, "but it's not fair, because boys are better with sports than girls. And, if we let," quote, unquote "boys, play with the," quote, unquote "girls, then it's not fair to the," quote, unquote "girls."

But, that's not the case in most instances, right? And, that's not the case here. Conservatives are taking draconian measures to remove trans kids from sports, based on a made up problem that isn't even a problem. And, in West Virginia, they're taking draconian measures to target one girl, one 12-year-old girl, named Becky Pepper-Jackson.

Jess Pieklo: I mean, as if these people ever gave a chicken-fried fuck about girls' sports, unless, and until, it gives them an opportunity to attack trans kids.

Imani Gandy: You said it, sister! I dunno why, "You said it, sister." Right on sister, so. Becky Pepper-Jackson just wants to run around with her friends, right? She wants to play, she wants to be a fucking kid, but West Virginia Governor Jim Justice, yeah, his name is Jim Justice. Jim Justice signed the "Save Women's Sports" legislation into law, and nearly blocked Becky Pepper-Jackson from being able to join her school cross-country team.

Jess Pieklo: I'm just gonna let this whole Jim Justice thing go.

Imani Gandy: But, Jess, that's his name, Governor Jim Justice! Do you know that he solves crimes with Briscoe Cain?

Jess Pieklo: I know, it's like the total spot for finger guns, but, look, I am letting it go because we've got, like, serious business at hand. "Jim Justice," that's not a real name. I'm sorry. It's not. All right, here's what's going on. Lawmakers in West Virginia claimed a need for legislation to ensure that sports were as safe and fair as possible, right? And, thus, the "Save Women's Sports Act" was born. Now, get this, I'm sorry, my stomach already hurts. The stated purpose of this legislation is to address claims of, quote, "biological males increasingly competing against, and beating, females in women's sports events."

Imani Gandy: Nope, nope. No, because that's not really a problem. There is not an epidemic of trans athletes beating out cisgender athletes, right? Sports organizations at the professional level have protocols to determine if a particular athlete is fit for playing on the team that aligns with their gender identity, right? The IOC, the International Olympics Committee, for example, has margins for testosterone levels. So, if you fall outside those margins, you can't compete. The World Athletics Association, same deal. They require that trans women athletes reduce testosterone levels for 12 months prior to competing. So, this is, that's at the professional level.

This is a middle school cross-country team!

Jess Pieklo: Yeah, it doesn't matter, Imani, because we are in full-fledged trans-panic fever right now, right? Because, states really care about girls' sports, like, so much. They care so hard, that they use this as an opportunity to collect private health data on girls in sports, to impose invasive procedures onto teens and pre-teen girls, all to ensure that no trans kids are trying to sneak their way onto an inappropriate sports team. That's what they're gonna do.

Imani Gandy: But, they're cherry picking cases, right? They're cherry picking cases where trans athletes beat out cis athletes, even though, the overwhelming evidence suggests that it is perfectly fair for trans athletes, particularly, again, at the middle school and high school level, it is fine for trans girls to compete on the teams that align with their gender identity. And, let's be clear, they're mostly concerned about trans girls. They don't care about trans boys. They don't care about trans boys.

Jess Pieklo: No. Well, I mean, look, here's what West Virginia Solicitor General Lindsay See had to say about it, all right? I'm sure this is gonna be great.

This quote, "The Sports Act ensures fair and safe play in women's and girl's sports. It restricts no one from trying out for men's, boys, or co-ed teams. The act, thus, aims to promote equal athletic opportunity for the female sex."

Imani Gandy: I hate it.

Jess Pieklo: "Due to inherent differences of biology that make it unfair, or even dangerous, for males to compete against female athletes."

Imani Gandy: I hate it. I hate it.

Jess Pieklo: I mean, that's what they're saying. So, the argument basically goes like this, right? Every time a transgender woman earns a roster spot, or wins a medal, she is denying her cisgender opponents of a federally protected opportunity. There's a right to be precious!

Imani Gandy: A book by Sapphire. Sorry. But, Jess, that's not backed by science. Like, all the stuff that you just said, is not backed by science.

Jess Pieklo: Yeah, yeah. I know. It doesn't matter though, Imani, because it feels true. It feels true.

Imani Gandy: Like, Stephen Colbert and the truthiness? Is that what we're doing now?

Jess Pieklo: Yeah. Like, I'm feeling it in my third chakra.

Imani Gandy: My third chakra. Okay. All right. Be that as it may, even if we're gonna concede all of that, that it's not fair because it's, you know, girls are fragile vessels, and all this nonsense. That's not the case here, right? And, this is a case about Becky Pepper-Jackson who just wants to run on her school cross-country team. Okay, Becky Pepper-Jackson, we love you, but you're not that great at running, right? Like, if you look at her stats.

Jess Pieklo: I'm sorry, sweetie.

Imani Gandy: She routinely placed last, or second to last, in her competitions. But, you know what? I think that makes her more of a badass because she's just out there doing it for fun. She doesn't care if she's coming in last. She doesn't care if she has to get dragged off the mountain, on a snowmobile. Wait, no, that was me snowboarding. Nevermind. I'm just, I'm having flashbacks. I'm having flashbacks. But, it's not always about the competition, right? Sometimes, it's about being on that mountain and having fun with your friends, until the snowmobile has to drag you off the mountain. It's about running cross-country in middle school with your friends, and placing last and not caring, because you know what? You're outside. And sometimes school sports, interscholastic sports, is more than about competition. It's about camaraderie, it's about community. It's about hanging out with your doggone friends.

Jess Pieklo: Absolutely. And, you know, I mean, that's basically what the district court said, and ruled in this case the first time it took a look at it, before the judge decided to take an entire 180. I hate it.

Imani Gandy: Okay. So, what are Becky's arguments?

Jess Pieklo: Yeah, what are they? Let's get into the law here.

Imani Gandy: All right, here we go. The decision to prevent her from playing sports violates her rights under the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. Makes sense. And Title IX. She argues that West Virginia's ban violates equal protection by discriminating, based on transgender status. Makes sense to me.

Jess Pieklo: Seems pretty straightforward.

Imani Gandy: Denying opportunities based on sex, right? There's that based on sex language, the law requires an exceedingly persuasive justification. Right? Exceedingly persuasive.

Jess Pieklo: That's a pretty high constitutional standard. Becky Pepper-Jackson also argues, that's such a great name. But, she also argues that it's a clear violation of Title IX, and that's the law that grants equal access opportunities in education, regardless of sex or gender. Right? So, she says that it's a clear violation of Title IX, that an institution that receives department funds, look, they have to operate its education program or activity in a non-discriminatory manner. That's what the law says. Free of discrimination based on sex, including sexual orientation and gender identity.

This should be a pretty straightforward slam dunk case. Advocates claim West Virginia's reasoning for excluding Becky, specifically, does not meet this standard of scrutiny. In fact, here's what Josh Block from the American Civil Liberties Union and all-around real smart guy, had to say about it.

Imani Gandy: So smart. That dude is so smart.

Jess Pieklo: So smart, so smart. But, I mean, he hits it. Here's what he has to say. "Here, you have a law that has this categorical exclusion of trans girls." Like, literally, if you are a trans girl, no sports for you, functionally. "And, the alleged justification for the law is that there are athletic advantages associated with the changes that happen during puberty, that can't possibly provide an exceedingly persuasive justification or, you know, meet the constitutional standard for excluding Becky from the team, because none of those justifications actually apply to her."

Like, none. She hasn't gone through puberty.

Imani Gandy: Nope, nope, nope, nope, nope, nope. So, let's talk about how the court ruled, right? That's the second thing we're gonna talk about. It's a goddamn mess. It's an absolute mess. So, U.S. Court, U.S. District Court Judge Goodwin, issued a preliminary injunction blocking this ban in 2021. Right? He looked at the West Virginia ban, and was like, "Nope. Blocking it."

At the time he pointed out that Becky Pepper-Jackson had been taking puberty blockers, right? And, thus, she had not accrued any of the purported, quote, unquote, "purported physical advantages," that would allegedly flow, from going through male puberty. She hasn't gone through puberty. And so, Goodwin suggested that Becky stood a good chance of proving that excluding her from the girls team would violate her rights under the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment, and it would violate her rights to be free from discrimination because of sex under Title IX. Right, Jess just talked about that.

Goodwin also concluded that Becky would suffer irreparable injury, and that allowing her to play would not disadvantage other girls, right? This is one 12-year-old girl, one girl in West Virginia. The whole system is not gonna collapse if the one girl, who's actually not that great at running, is permitted to join the goddamn cross-country team. Love you, Becky Pepper-Jackson. But, you know, we're advocating for you here, so this is all part of the advocacy process.

Jess Pieklo: I mean, it sounds good, so far, right? Except it's not, because Goodwin reversed course and found that the legislature's definition of "girl," is being based on biological sex, is substantially related to the important government interest of providing equal athletic opportunities for females, so.

Imani Gandy: I mean, please. "Important government interests" my ass. When is the government ever cared about women's sports? Come on, man. I can't.

Jess Pieklo: I mean, anyway, so we've got this split, right? And, then the party submitted a bunch of evidence, and as a result, he became convinced that trans girls are not similarly situated to cisgender girls for purposes of sports competition, and that Title IX's ban on discrimination because of sex, should not be interpreted to apply to biological, or, I'm sorry, should be interpreted to apply to biological sex and not gender identity. So, let me say that again. The party submitted a bunch of evidence and through that, Goodwin became convinced

that trans girls are just not the same as cisgender girls for purposes of competition. And, he granted summary judgment to West Virginia. I hate this, Imani.

I mean, it's, like, smoke and mirror stuff. So, in that summary judgment ruling, he ruled that West Virginia had the right to legislate sports rules on the basis because of sex and physical characteristics that flow from it, because they're substantially related to athletic performance and fairness in sports. It's an essentialist argument.

Imani Gandy: It's a bitch-ass move is what it is. I'm sorry, but it absolutely is.

Jess Pieklo: She's not wrong, folks. She's not wrong.

Imani Gandy: It's just rank bitch-assedness is what it is. Because, Goodwin pointed out that at the time that this law was passed, there was no widespread reports of transgender girls participating in sports. Right?

This one girl, Becky Pepper-Jackson. That's it! Becky Pepper-Jackson. And so, he said that it was apparent that the statute was, at best, a solution to a potential, but not yet realized, problem. He knew that this wasn't a problem, but decided that he had to weigh in, anyway, and, essentially, bully a 12-year-old girl out of being able to participate on the sports team. What the heck, man?

Jess Pieklo: Sometimes you can just say nothing, sir.

Imani Gandy: Sometimes just let Becky Pepper-Jackson run on the cross-country team.

Jess Pieklo: I mean, come on. So, Becky's attorneys did the very reasonable thing and appealed the hell out of that decision, right? They asked the Fourth Circuit to step in, and the Fourth Circuit agreed to, and ruled in February that Becky could resume running. Hallelujah, right? This ruling applies only to her and nobody else.

So, we have West Virginia filing an emergency application now, asking the Supreme Court to reverse what the Fourth Circuit did, to reverse a ruling that applies to one child. They want the entire weight of the Supreme Court to step in. West Virginia's asked Chief Justice Roberts to vacate that Fourth Circuit stay, arguing that it, quote, unquote, "upsets the way things traditionally work in school sports." What the fuck, man? It's one kid.

Imani Gandy: One kid. And, I noticed you said that they filed an emergency application.

Jess Pieklo: They did.

Imani Gandy: So, that's a little bit shadow docket for me. It's kinda not. We're talking shadow docket here, right?

Jess Pieklo: Yep, yep. This is a shadow docket case, folks.

Imani Gandy: Okay. I'm gonna need you to explain again to our lovely listeners and viewers, what the fuck is the shadow docket, and why does it exist? The dictionary defines docket as.

Jess Pieklo: In the beginning of time. The Supreme Court is a, famously, non-transparent institution, right? One of the only ways that we even know what the fuck is going on with the Court, ever, is its docket. And, the docket is literally where they put the Court, the cases on, and it says what they're hearing, what the arguments are. It's how the regular folks can pay attention to what's going on at the Court. The shadow docket is, like, the Supreme Court's side piece, right?

It's the docket that exists that nobody ever wants to talk about, but has substantial influence on policy.

Imani Gandy: Oh my God. The shadow docket is basically Pete Davidson, right? I'm just saying, we, that's a whole other episode. But, I feel like Pete Davidson is the shadow docket.

Jess Pieklo: The shadow docket helps the Court move from one risky policy decision to another, basically. That's a metaphor that's gonna keep on going. But, so, really, the shadow docket is a place where the Supreme Court hears cases, not that it's going to decide on the merits, right? The merits is like the substance of the law, but on these procedural points, and they can have huge impact. One, you don't get the like meat and potatoes of the argument on the shadow docket. You just get this procedural stuff. But, and then, two, there's never any actual arguments made by attorneys. The courts are just ruling however the fuck they wanna rule on it. The shadow docket is what got us the Texas bounty hunter, you know, any random mother-fucker, abortion ban. That's how it went into effect. So, the shadow docket is bad news.

Imani Gandy: Aye-yi-yi. It's giving me heartburn.

Jess Pieklo: And, this case on the shadow docket, is real bad news.

Imani Gandy: I mean, we're talking about the human rights of the most vulnerable population in this country, right now being determined behind closed doors. Because one girl wants to run cross-country, badly.

Jess Pieklo: And, the state of West Virginia just can't handle it. It's breaking it's fucking brain.

Imani Gandy: All right, so we need to talk about a third thing, and that's whether or not the Supreme Court is going to wade into this mess, right? Like, alright, the law surrounding trans people is scarce at the Supreme Court, right?

The federal courts haven't even sorted themselves out when it comes to trans rights. Four years ago, picture this, Washington, D.C., 2019, right? The Supreme Court declined to take a case out

of the Third Circuit. It was *Boyertown v. Doe*. Remember that case? It's the case where they found that cisgender students just don't have a right to privacy in bathrooms, and locker rooms, that outweighs a trans kid's, right to use a bathroom, that aligns with their gender identity, right?

That was back in 2019. The Supreme Court, you know, went up to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court said, "nah, we're not dealing with this, we're not doing this today." And, that's basically all of the law that exists, when it comes to sports, and bathrooms, and trans people, at the Supreme Court level.

Jess Pieklo: Yeah. We do have the *Bostock and Stephens* case though. That's true. And, that involves Title VII, which is the federal employment law, that prohibits discrimination in your job, basically. And, we talked about this on our last trans rights episode, right? So, Title VII is a federal civil rights statute, like Title IX. They all, kind of, go together, and we generally, "we" being, like, lawyers and the people, read these statutes the same.

So, if Title VII says you can't discriminate on the basis of sex, and that includes gender identity, which the *Bostock and Stephens* cases do, then Title IX should be read the same way, because why would you have one statute that says you can discriminate on the basis of sex, this way, and another that says the exact opposite? Like, that's chaos, right? The law doesn't like that, so if we have a shadow docket application that's saying, "actually, read Title IX in conflict with Title VII," that's a sideways attack on the *Bostock* decision. Also, perfect fodder for the conservatives on the Supreme Court, the FedSoc Six to, you know, enact some fuckery here.

Imani Gandy: Well, here's another big problem. The cultural zeitgeist, when it comes to trans rights, has shifted dramatically over the last six or seven years. I mean, if you remember in 2016, for example, right? We're in the middle of March Madness right now, right? In 2016, after the bathroom bill that North Carolina passed, which said that in public, places of public accommodation, you have to use the bathroom that aligns with your biological sex.

If you recall, the NCAA actually pulled the basketball tournament games from North Carolina. And, then, North Carolina repealed that bathroom bill, 'cause it was a bullshit bill, and everyone was all outraged, and then the NCAA said, "okay, all right, we got you." And then, rewarded them by putting the games back in North Carolina.

Jess Pieklo: Yeah, it was a whole thing.

Imani Gandy: It was a huge deal. Like, you know, it's a huge deal when the NCAA is like, "eh, we're gonna protect our trans athletes." Or, "even if there are no trans athletes that are playing in these games, we're gonna protect trans athletes, generally. We don't agree with this bigoted bullshit, we out."

Jess Pieklo: Yeah, yeah! And, when we were prepping for this episode, Austen, one of our producers, pointed out that the NBA was involved in this decision, as well, too. So, it was the NCAA, it was professional basketball, it was the entire community coming together and saying,



"hey, let's not be jerks. Like, let's actually just not do any of this." But, where are we now? We've got the NCAA tournament having games in Texas.

Imani Gandy: Texas.

Jess Pieklo: No shade to our Texans. We love you. But, your state is one of the most hostile states right now, to trans rights. Like, and nobody's even talking about this. It's not on the radar at all. It's just like, "go play basketball."

Imani Gandy: Yeah. And, we also have to talk about the court shift, right? It wasn't just a cultural shift, it was a shift in court personnel, right?

In 2019, when the Supreme Court declined to take that Boyertown case that I just talked about, and said that cis girls don't have a right to privacy in the bathroom, that outweighed trans girls right to use the bathroom that aligned with their gender identity. In 2019, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was still with us, right? And, Amy Coney Barrett was just a professor at Notre Dame. She was just, eh, nobody knew who the hell she was. Was she a professor, or was she on the Seventh Circuit by then? I think she was still.

Jess Pieklo: Either way she was doing something not great.

Imani Gandy: Either way, she wasn't on the Supreme Court. So, we have a cultural shift, and with transgender politics now becoming the third rail of Christofascism, right? Like, if you need to prove your Christofascist bonafides, you gotta attack trans people. Like, them's the rules.

So, it is taken, as a matter of fact now, that trans people are pedophiles, and they're groomers, and any conservative worth their salt, if they have an opportunity to stick it to trans kids, they'd better take that opportunity, or else they're gonna see themselves, just, outside of the political process, when it comes to conservatism. So, we have that personnel shift that at the court, that doesn't bode well for trans rights. And, our producer Austen, has told us that she joined the Seventh Circuit in 2017. So, I'm sorry, I was mistaken when I said that she was still a professor in 2019. She was actually on the Seventh Circuit, stealing a Black woman's seat, by the way, if you don't remember.

Jess Pieklo: I love instant outrage. Instant spontaneous outrage, by Jess and Imani is one of my favorite moments.

Imani Gandy: That needs to be, like, a side podcast, right? "Instant Outrage With Jess and Imani." So, you know, we have that, sort of, personnel ship that doesn't bode well for trans rights now, in a way that was different four years ago. Also, did you know that there's an org, that the organization in West Virginia, the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission, this organization oversees scholastic sports?

They have said that they have not received a single complaint about transgender athletes on girl's teams.

Jess Pieklo: I mean.

Imani Gandy: Not a single complaint. What the fuck, bro?

Jess Pieklo: I'm not surprised because this has always been a solution looking for a problem, by conservatives, right? And, I mean, look, it's, if it wasn't clear before, it should be very clear now, that this is just ginned-up nonsense by culture war conservatives, who have decided to train their ire on trans people, since, look, I mean, they kind of caught the car on the abortion issue, and it's hard to get folks as riled up there, as they used to, you know? I'll say this though, at least the Biden administration's on the right side of this case.

Okay. In a recent filing, the Department of Justice said, "a state law that limits or denies a particular class of people's ability to participate in public, federally-funded educational programs, and activities, solely because of their gender identity, does not, or solely because their gender identity does not match their sex assigned at birth, violates both Title IX and the Equal Protection Clause. West Virginia's law does exactly this." And, hey, look, the Biden administration isn't even taking, like, a radical position. They are just reading Title IX the same way the Supreme Court read Title VII. So, if the Supreme Court has any consistency here, it should read Title IX, the same way it read Title VII.

Imani Gandy: And that's all she wrote, folks. So, look, if you, we've talked a lot. We've spewed a lot of words into your face. So, here's the lowdown. If you're at a cocktail party, and you wanna talk about Becky Pepper-Jackson's case, here's what you need to know.

She is one 12-year-old girl who wants to run cross-country on her middle school team. She lives in a state, West Virginia, where there has been not a single complaint about a transgender athlete playing on a girl's team. Her entire team accepts her. She's not particularly good at running anyway. So all of the excuses about how it's unfair and she's taking away opportunities from, quote, unquote, you know, "girls," that's all horseshit, right?

This is just as Jess has said, a ginned-up culture war by conservatives who know that the zeitgeist have shifted, right? In 2016, people were anti these bills that attack trans people. It's now 2023. We've got Amy Coney Barrett on the court, RBG, rest her soul, is no longer with us. And, so now, it's stick it to trans kids, or else you're not a true conservative, right? And, that's what you need to know.

Jess Pieklo: Ot is, it is a sideways attack on Bostock, and sticking it to trans kids. One child, the conservative freedom movement has trained its entire force on one kid, outta West Virginia.

Jess Pieklo: And her name?

Jess and Imani: Becky Pepper-Jackson.

Imani Gandy: Keep fighting, Becky Pepper-Jackson.

Jess Pieklo: We got you. And, okay, before we close, folks, we've got some exciting news for you. Like, I'm a little sweaty about this, I'm not gonna lie. But, Boom! Lawyered is coming to D.C.

Ahh! We're on the road, baby. I almost said "bitches." So, here's what's happening. This is so exciting. We are coming to the Summit for Religious Freedom. What is the Summit for Religious Freedom? It is the hub for our collective fight against white Christian nationalism, right now. Imani and I are gonna be there with our show. Ah! This is feelin' so good. All right, so, hosted by Americans United for Separation of Church and State, the Summit for Religious Freedom is a big tent. Longtime advocates and new activists will be there. Believers, non-believers, experts, people just waking up to the threat posed by Christian nationalism. It's audience ripe for the pickin', Imani.

So, if you go to [theSRF.org](http://theSRF.org), it's got all the information about this new conference. It's April 22 to the 24, that's when we will be there. Folks can attend in person in Washington DC, virtually from anywhere. This is gonna be our first real, true, live show. Folks.

Imani Gandy: We're ready for our close up.

Jess Pieklo: The fight for true religious freedom, and church/state separation, is the fight for the progressive issues that we care the most about. That's what we talk about on the show all the time, right? LGBTQ rights, reproductive rights, protecting public schools, our institutions, like, this is the threat. So, we are thrilled to bring Boom! Lawyered there, and can't wait for the programming that comes out.

Imani Gandy: It's gonna be fantastic. Again, that website is THESRF, T-H-E-S-R-F.org. And if you would like to talk to me or Jess about anything, anything at all. Succession?

Jess Pieklo: Oh, I have thoughts.

Imani Gandy: Jess has thoughts.

Jess Pieklo: Bruce Springsteen's current tour.

Imani Gandy: Bruce Springsteen's ass. We're all, I mean that, that's a topic of discussion that we might wanna get into, you can find me on Twitter, @AngryBlackLady. You can find Jess on Twitter, @Hegemommy. You can guarantee that neither of us have paid for our check marks.

We're trying to get rid of 'em. He just won't take them away. You should follow Rewire News Group, also not paying for its check mark. You should follow us on Instagram, Rewire News

Group on Instagram. And on YouTube. If you follow our YouTube channel, you will get notifications for when our podcasts go live. And, if you don't wanna watch us live, which, why wouldn't you? You can find our podcast, wherever you normally get your podcast, Google Play, Apple Music, Nordstrom Rack, GeoCities, whatever, you know, finger guns, winks, yada, yada. And, on that note, what are we gonna do, Jess?

Jess Pieklo: We're gonna see you on the tubes, folks.

Imani Gandy: We'll see you on the tubes, folks.