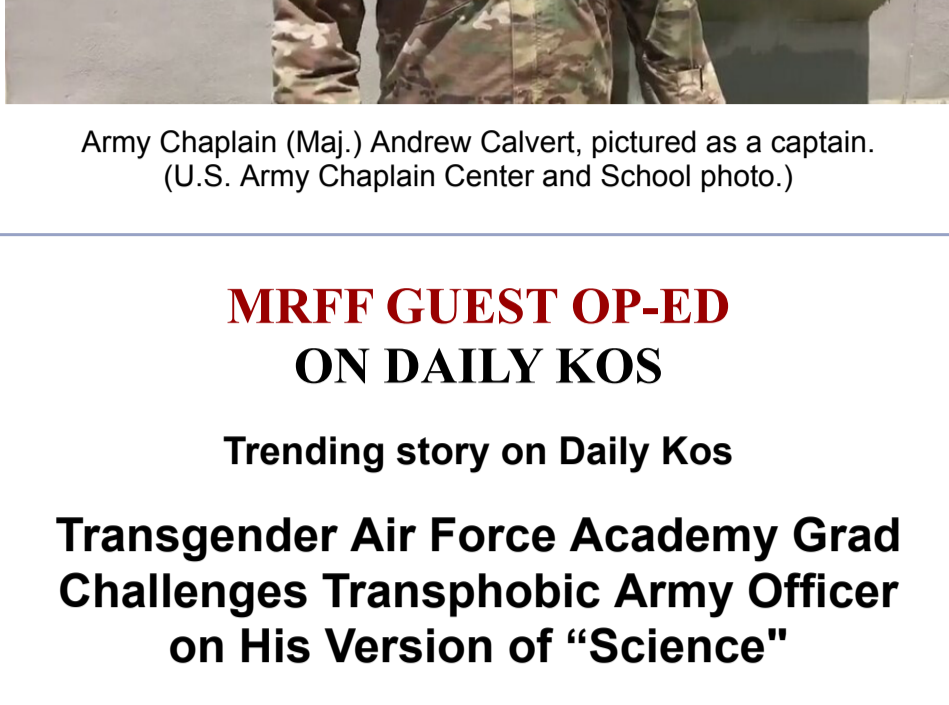




**MRFF TRANSGENDER U.S. AIR FORCE
ACADEMY GRAD CLIENT SCHOOLS
ARMY CHAPLAIN UNDER FIRE FOR
TRANS-BASHING FACEBOOK POSTINGS**

Army Chaplain (Maj.) Andrew Calvert, recently punished by the Army for his transphobic Facebook postings asserting that being transgender is "evidence that a person is mentally unfit (ill)" and "a MedBoard for Mental Wellness waiting to happen" gets a lesson in science from a transgender Air Force Academy graduate, retired USAF officer, aerospace engineer, and MRFF client.

In January, MRFF demanded that Chaplain (Maj.) Calvert be court-martialed not only for his maligning of transgender service members but for his denigration of non-fundamentalist Christians.



Army Chaplain (Maj.) Andrew Calvert, pictured as a captain. (U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School photo.)

**MRFF GUEST OP-ED
ON DAILY KOS**

Trending story on Daily Kos

**Transgender Air Force Academy Grad
Challenges Transphobic Army Officer
on His Version of "Science"**

By: Transgender U.S. Air Force Academy Graduate
MRFF Supporter and Client

Friday, May 14, 2021

(Excerpts from LA Progressive/Emphasis added by MRFF)

As a transgender veteran, supporter and client of Mikey Weinstein's **Military Religious Freedom Foundation** (MRFF), I feel compelled to respond to Army Chaplain Major Andrew Calvert's [January Facebook comments](#) that landed him [in hot water with the Army brass](#).

The Major implies that acknowledgment of a transgender individual is "rejecting biology." He ostensibly believes rejecting science constitutes **mental illness** and disqualifies transgender individuals from serving in the military.

Major Calvert, you obviously didn't major in science.

There are many studies and articles that explain the transgender experience from a scientific perspective. I will paraphrase and quote from an article that appeared in [Scientific American](#) in June 2019.

"A newly fertilized embryo initially develops without any indication of its sex. At around five weeks, a group of cells clump together, the bipotential primordium. These cells are neither male nor female but have the potential to turn into testes, ovaries or neither." The SRY gene then influences the cells. These cells can respond in harmony or out of sync.

But the SRY gene just gets things started. There are other genes involved at different times of development that influence sexual characteristics. Still, this just defines the physical sex and does not address behavioral sex, or gender. There's a whole other set of complex processes going on that define gender. Sometimes things line up and sometimes not.

To boil it down, and as it has been so well said by others on this very same subject, the Major seems incapable of recognizing that gender is between the ears, sex is between the legs, and sexual orientation is between the sheets.

[...]

Neither sex, gender, or sexual orientation have any impact on a soldier, sailor, airman, Marine, or guardian's ability to serve their country. In fact, the courage they have shown in the face of social stigma, ridicule, hate, discrimination, and physical threats bear witness to the strength and integrity they bring to their military mission every single day. (ref: [palmcenter.org/publication](#))

[...]

Major, since it appears you are the one rejecting science, maybe, by your own logic, that makes you unfit to serve. I think that sums up your General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand.

Fortunately, there are **tenacious civil rights advocacy organizations such as the MRFF** who recognize and [fight Major Calvert's type of disloyalty](#) to the troops. MRFF fights for all military members to be able to get the mission done without the overburden, interference, or fear levied by religious zealots who misuse and abuse faith to justify their ignorance and apathy for their fellow human beings.

[Click to read on Daily Kos](#)

**ARMY TIMES
COVERS CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) CALVERT'S
PUNISHMENT BY ARMY**

**Army major fights punishment for
anti-transgender social media posts**

By: Davis Winkie

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Army Times article covers Chaplain (MAJ.) Andrew Calvert's transphobic Facebook postings, his recent punishment by the Army for his postings, and that he is now unsurprisingly represented by the fundamentalist Christian legal organization First Liberty Institute.

[Click to read on Army Times](#)

**In January, MRFF demanded that
Chaplain (Maj.) Calvert be court-martialed
not only for his maligning of transgender
service members but for his denigration
of non-fundamentalist Christians**

[1/27/21 – MRFF Demands Court-Martial of U.S. Army Chaplain Major Calvert for Bigoted Online Maligning of Transgender Servicemembers](#)

MRFF has been on the forefront fighting for military members of the transgender community:

[4/15/19 – MRFF Client Who Identifies As Transgender Speaks Out Against Pentagon's Despicable Ban](#)

[1/22/19 – MRFF's Statement on Supreme Court Ruling Banning Transgender Personnel from Serving in the U.S. Military](#)

[3/26/2018 – Mikey Weinstein's Op-Ed: "Of Trump's Transgender Hypocrisy and Bolton's War-Love"](#)

[12/11/17 – MRFF's Statement on Today's Court Ruling Allowing Transgenders to Enlist in the U.S. Military](#)

[8/25/17 – Mikey Weinstein's Statement Against Trump's Heinous Directive Banning Trans Military Recruits and Prevention of Funds for Medical Treatment Regimens for Trans Service Members](#)

[7/28/17 – Mikey Weinstein Op-Ed on HuffPo & Daily Kos: "Of Trump, Transgenders, and Toilet Paper"](#)

[7/26/17 – MRFF Vehemently Opposes Trump's Transgender Ban in the U.S. Military](#)

[7/21/17 – Chris Rodda Op-Ed Featured on HuffPo Shuts Down Air Force Reserve Chaplain Sonny Hernandez, Who Said "There's No Such Thing as Transgenderism"](#)

[6/5/17 – MRFF Files Official Supplemental Complaint with DoD/IG's Office Against Trans-bashing USAF Chaplain \(Capt\) Hernandez & USAF Lt Col Jonathan C. Dowty](#)

[06/30/16 MRFF Statement on Pentagon Ending Transgender Military Ban](#)

**INCOMING HATE
MRFF'S INBOX**

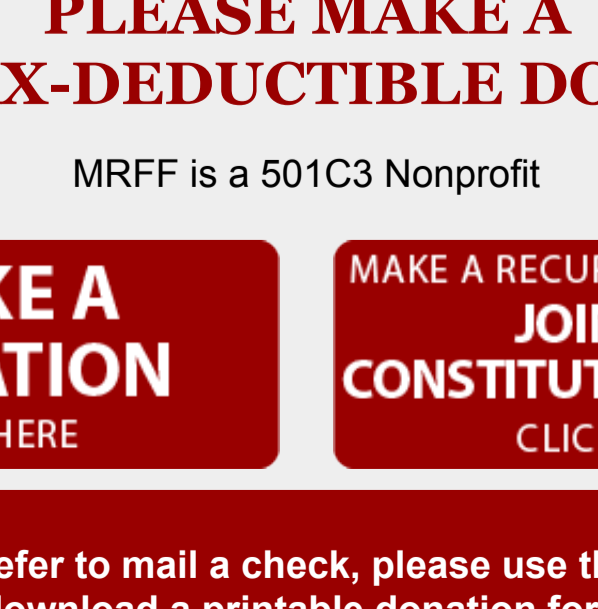
"Please read"

I pray that you repent, your sole purpose is to deny Jesus and promote atheism. Look, we will all stand before Jesus one day, Romans 14:11 says that every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus is Lord. So you can deny him all you want, it's your choice, but there is only one truth. Just because you deny him, doesn't mean anything, you will still answer to him at the end of your life. The chose is yours of how you'd like your eternity: smoking or non-smoking. You've been warned, so now you are without the excuse (Romans 1:20).

(name withheld)

To see responses from MRFF Advisory Board Members Mike Farrell and Ted Furlow, MRFF Board Member John Compere, MRFF Supporter James Chamberlain and other MRFF Supporters:

[Click to read in Inbox](#)



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