

My name is Samantha Kilcline, but I go by Willow. I am Nonbinary and bisexual. People are already afraid to be themselves and come out, and this will happen more often if this bill is put in place.

In 9th grade I came out to my mom as bisexual. she told me that I was not, and I was saying that because to be in a relationship with a male. She did not believe me until 12th grade when I started dating a female. I started doing research on a name that would feel more appropriate for me. I did not come out as nonbinary until after school, because I had a couple teachers that would not call queer students their preferred name and pronouns.

I also had my mother telling me that they/them pronouns were inappropriate and grammatically incorrect. She would ask me why people were using they/them pronouns and I will tell her they feel more comfortable, because they don't identify as male or female, or they identify as both/neither. I would get a long lecture about how they are incorrect from a grammatical standpoint. The sad thing is, I had to have my fiancé explain being nonbinary, and they/them pronouns more in depth to my mother for her to understand and actually use them, and call me by my chosen name.