

# PFLAG Monroe

Welcome to our June meeting!

# What is PFLAG's Mission?

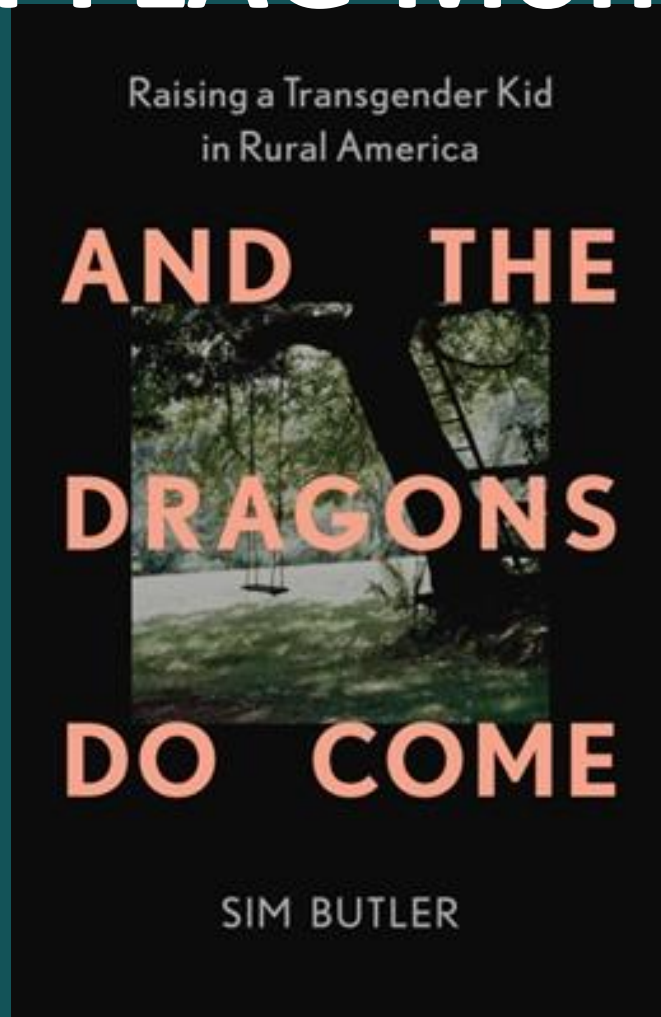
Today, PFLAG is the largest organization in the U.S. dedicated to supporting, educating, and advocating for LGBTQ+ people and their families. With hundreds of chapters nationwide, it fosters inclusive communities through outreach, public education, and legislative advocacy, all rooted in love and acceptance.



**Confidentiality** is a fundamental component of our PFLAG meetings & everyone here has the right to expect anything they say, even their very presence here to not leave this meeting. Although we come here because of our common interest in sexual orientation and gender identity issues, we do come from a variety of religious, ethnic, social, economic, and even political backgrounds. Please respect these differences and honor everyone's right to have and express their own opinions.



# PFLAG Monroe Book Club Selection



“Before we can find solutions to our challenges, we have to find support because support provides a solid footing to help us through the struggles that inevitably come in this process.” -Sim Butler

## Disclaimer

Any content and/or discussion within this presentation does not constitute or replace any medical and/or legal advice. The information provided is with intent to educate and enrich discussion about the book, *And The Dragons Do Come* and the topics wherewithin.

Sim Butler's *And the Dragons Do Come*

# Key Themes

Dead Names

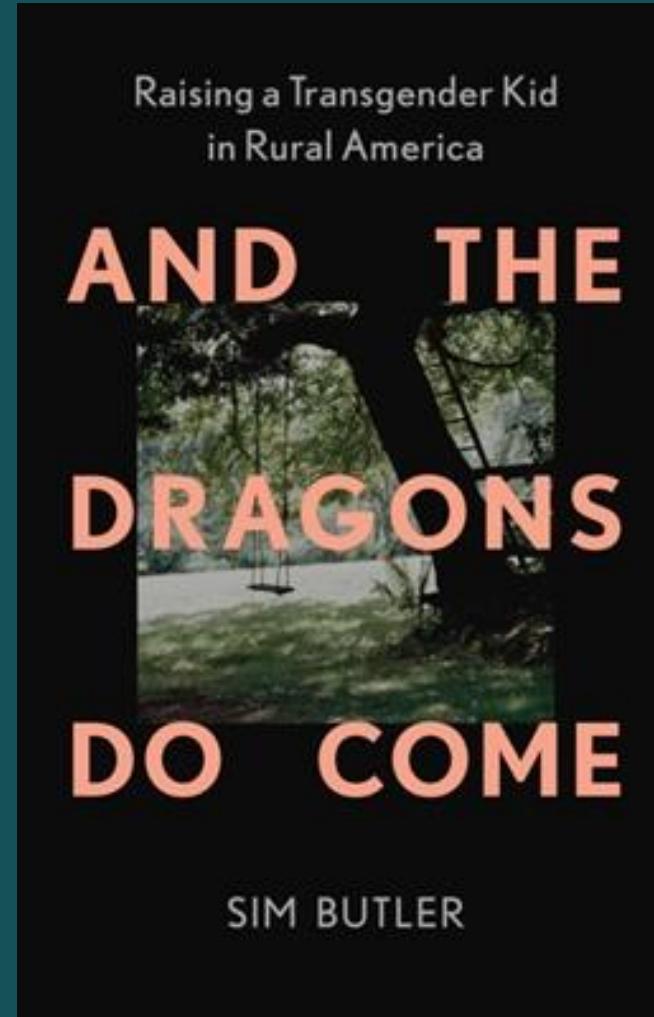
Puberty Blockers

Social Transition

Medical Transition

Stay or Go (Relocation)

Safety Fallacy



# What is social transition?

Social transition is when an individual changes their appearance, (hairstyle, clothing, and accessorizing), pronouns, name change, and using the toilet labeled a binary-prescribed sex. Here is a [guide](#) on social transitioning.

Social transition is an individual's own journey and something a person can initiate **without** a healthcare provider.

Not all trans-identifying and non-binary-identifying individuals socially transition. Transitioning is not a requirement for being trans, nonbinary, or any gender identity. Access to resources and support also shapes whether an individual transitions.

# What is medical transition?

Medical transition is the process of aligning a individual's body with their gender identity under the guidance of professional healthcare providers.

Medical transition includes hormone therapy, puberty blockers, gender-affirming surgeries, voice training, and/or fertility preservation. Here is a [resource](#) identifying medical transitioning for trans-identifying and/or non-binary-identifying individuals.

These interventions are made in accordance with WPATH (World Professional Association for Transgender Health) standards of care and the American Medical Association's guidelines for transgender healthcare.

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## Medical Transition

In the book, the author details the difficult decisions his family and daughter Kate faced regarding their daughter's healthcare. The first time Kate receives puberty blockers at UAB Children's Hospital, Kate "passes right out...collapsing like a noodle in the hall."

What insight does the author cultivate about the experiences of a parent witnessing their child medically transition?

What does the author identify and center about Kate's experience and/or well-being throughout her medical transition? What missed opportunities can you see and/or identify the author could have incorporated to center Kate's journey?

Open discussion about parental grief and parental anxiety of witnessing their child transition socially and/or medically. Identify support mechanism and measures.

# What is relocating?

Relocating is the act of moving from a trans-identifying and/or non-binary-identifying individuals' and/or family's "home" to another safer and/or more affirming location due to legislation restricting gender-affirming care. These attacks are being tracked [here](#).

As Erin Reed has [reported](#) over 400,000 individuals have moved within the United States often referred to as "the great transgender migration."

Resources like [relocation guides](#) and [relocation organizations](#) both within the United States and internationally to aid individuals seeking state shield laws, cities with sanctuary declarations, and communities known for their avid support networks and mutual aid organizations.

## Relocating

In the book, the author's family moves from Alabama in May 2023, a direct result of the legislature's passage of the Vulnerable Child Protection Act (VCAP) in 2022. VCAP made it a Class C felony for medical professionals to provide gender-affirming care—including puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and surgeries—under the age of 19. The law also requires school personnel to notify parents if a student expresses a gender identity inconsistent with their biological sex.

Given anti-trans and anti-LGBTQAI+ legislation has only grown and expanded within the United States and internationally, are these efforts an extension, in part or in whole, of modern segregation?

If legislators and/or elected officials continue to support bills which seek to scapegoat minority populations, what efforts are being used by constituents to use municipal recall mechanisms?

Open discussion about what if relocating is not an option for individuals and/or families with trans-identifying and/or non-binary-identifying individuals.

# What is the appeal to safety fallacy?

The safety fallacy (also known as the argumentum ad metum or appeal to fear) is the false belief that the absence of past harm guarantees future security, and/or that reactive protective measures is a substitute for removing underlying hazards. This flawed logic creates a false sense of security, encouraging riskier behavior and ignoring root causes.

Anti-trans legislation often operates on a "safety fallacy," a political tactic where lawmakers introduce restrictive policies such as banning gender-affirming care and bathroom bills under the guise of protecting public safety. In reality, research and data consistently shows these policies do not mitigate risks. Instead, they endanger the transgender community by stripping away medical care and increasing minority stress.

## Safety Fallacy

In the book, the author asks, "How did we, as a society, conclude that we are okay with only some kids being safe?"

How does the book challenge or support your view on the rights of all children to exist and feel safe in their communities?

What does the book suggest about why certain groups of children face higher stakes for their safety than others?

Open discussion about how the safety fallacy is being used to scapegoat trans-identifying and/or non-binary identifying individuals, and what parents, allies, and community members can do to educate others about how it is being weaponized, and how and what can be done to support and also protect the trans-identifying and/or non-binary identifying community.

## References

# References

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<https://www.s-r-a.org/trans-transitions>

<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/gender-identity/transgender/what-do-i-need-know-about-transitioning>

<https://www.hrc.org/resources/attacks-on-gender-affirming-care-by-state-map>

<https://www.erininthemorning.com/p/over-400000-transgender-people-have>

<https://translash.org/resources/trans-relocation-guide-finding-trans-asylum-and-safe-havens/>

<https://www.rainbowrailroad.org/>

<https://transrescue.org/>



**Come visit us at  
Monroe Pride 2026!**

***SAT. June 27  
11:00-7:00 pm***

**St. Mary's Park  
Monroe, MI**

**[monroe.pflag.org](https://monroe.pflag.org)**

**[pflagmonroe@gmail.com](mailto:pflagmonroe@gmail.com)**