

JULIE MENCHER MSW

Educator | Consultant | Psychotherapist | Researcher
Gender Diversity and Sexual Identity



Adults, including parents and educators, are often playing catch-up with youth around 21st century notions of sex, sexuality, and gender. Julie Mencher serves as a wise liaison between generations, providing strategic guidance to independent schools.

Ms. Mencher helps translate cultural shifts around gender and sexuality into sound strategy and policy. She prepares educators to support students and their families, and works with administrators to develop interventions that align with each school's unique mission, values, and culture.

Through her research, strategic consulting, and trainings, Ms. Mencher has worked with hundreds of single-sex independent schools around the world. Her approach is school-specific and mission-true, assisting these schools as they continue to champion their single-sex mission in a rapidly changing multi-gender world.

"Julie has been a wonderful support for the National Coalition of Girls' Schools (NCGS) as we have worked to create a position statement and a central place for resources on transgender issues within girls' schools. In both our 2015 National Conference and our 2016 Global Forum, Julie developed and led much of our programming on gender diversity. She is thoughtful, open, and has brought many years of experience and insight to us."

— **Megan Murphy | International Coalition of Girls' Schools Executive Director**

"With all the best intentions, our committee didn't know what it didn't know about gender identity until we began to work with Julie Mencher. In the most thoughtful fashion, she walked us, and then the full board at our long-established boys' school, through the complex issues we needed to understand. But, most important, she imbued our understanding with humanity, so that the policy we eventually crafted with her guidance was not only informed but also empathetic. She helped us keep our focus where it belonged: on students and families."

— **Anna Quindlen | Gender Identity Task Force Co-Chair and Trustee | The Collegiate School (NY)**

"In our full-day training, we learned so much, not only about the LGBT landscape for today's youth but also about how to translate that knowledge in anticipation of working with our multiple stakeholders. Julie's knack for inviting candor and openness in discussion of difficult topics enabled us to wrestle with complexity and build cohesiveness as a team. Following the session, the admission team felt more knowledgeable as well as more confident and, indeed, were positioned to be leaders on campus as relates to this topic. I would highly recommend her work to any school seeking training or policy consultation in this area."

— **Pamela Safford | Dean of Admission and Financial Aid | Deerfield Academy (MA)**

Julie Mencher MSW is a pioneer in LGBT education, psychotherapy, and advocacy. She developed and held the position of Transgender Specialist at Smith College, a single-sex institution, from 2001-2004. As an internationally recognized speaker and consultant, Ms. Mencher serves as a strategic advisor to organizations on gender diversity and sexuality. She has conducted four research studies on the topic of trans students and applicants at single-sex schools, including hundreds of schools around the world. She lives in Northampton MA, where her clinical practice includes trans youth and their families.