**For Immediate Release**

**February 10, 2019**

**Meghan Murphy is fighting back against silencing and censorship in the gender identity debate**

Meghan Murphy is an independent Canadian feminist writer and journalist. She is the founder editor and publisher of Feminist Current, Canada’s leading feminist website. Meghan is a well-known and well-respected writer on feminist issues, and spent her career fighting violence against women. Her work has appeared in numerous publications across the globe and she and holds an M.A. in Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies from Simon Fraser University.

Now, she is being silenced.

On November 23, 2018, Twitter permanently suspended her account. The reason? She referred to a trans-identified male [(Jonathan Yaniv)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50Sv5LpB1oE) using a male pronoun—even though this individual continues to identify himself using his male name on multiple social media platforms—including on Twitter, as well as in the Google review Murphy shared as part of her tweet. Yaniv had previously [filed multiple](https://www.thepostmillennial.com/carpay-16-vancouver-women-facing-human-rights-complaints-for-refusing-to-wax-transgender-womans-male-genitalia/) well-publicized human rights complaints against female estheticians who refused to give him a Brazilian bikini wax. Yaniv publicly [bragged](http://tol.ca.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=538) that he was personally responsible for having Murphy banned from Twitter.

Twitter had previously locked Murphy’s account for posting such seemingly innocuous statements and questions as “Men aren’t women” and “How are transwomen not men? What is the difference between a man and a transwoman?” According to Twitter, even questioning the idea of “gender identity” qualifies as “hateful conduct”—despite the fact that the majority of the public believes that biological sex is a material reality that is not alterable through self-declaration (or by any other means).

Twitter grew to prominence by advertising itself as “the free speech wing of the free speech party.” It repeatedly promised its users in its Terms of Service and elsewhere that it would not censor their speech. Its Terms of Service state that any changes “Will not be retroactive,” and that it will provide 30 days’ notice to users of any changes. But Twitter inserted a highly controversial new policy against “misgendering or deadnaming” transgender individuals without providing notice to anyone—a clear violation of its promises to users. Twitter’s roll-out of the policy was so secretive that the exact date that the new policy was added has never been confirmed, by Twitter or anyone else.

**The big tech giants are counting on users to quietly accept their bans and not stand up for their rights. But Murphy is fighting back against the attempts of powerful social media conglomerates to silence her and millions of others. She has filed a lawsuit on behalf of everyone who has had their voices silenced by social media censorship. Members of the public can donate at** <https://meghanmurphylawsuit.com/>

**Attorney Bios:**

Murphy is being represented in this case by Harmeet Dhillon, a nationally-recognized First Amendment litigator; Adam Candeub, a professor at Michigan State University School of Law who is an expert in communications law; and Noah Peters, a Washington, D.C.-based attorney with experience litigating against big tech companies.

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