

Title IX regs encourage deception

Bill Bumpas - OneNewsNow - 5/2/2011 4:10:00 AM



It's referred to as "roster management" on college campuses -- and evidently it's a common, deceptive tactic employed to comply with federal regulations.



A *New York Times* investigation [reported last week](#) reveals that many NCAA Division I athletic programs are resorting to trickery to fill the requirements of the federal gender-equality law known as Title IX. While it was intended to ban sex discrimination in any federally financed education program, it morphed into policies that affect male and female athletes on college campuses. One of the federal loopholes allows schools to report male practice players as female participants -- and institutions such as Cornell, Texas A&M, and Duke are taking advantage of that, says *The Times*.

Neal McCluskey, associate director of the [Cato Institute's](#) Center for Educational Freedom, contends that schools' attempt to comply with Title IX by padding rosters of women's teams with unqualified players or even men demonstrates that organizations will almost always find ways to skirt government regulations. The education analyst suggests that one of the lessons to be learned is that women may be interested in other things.



McCluskey

"Women, by all indications, just don't want to participate in sports at the same rate as men do -- and the federal government is determined to say reality has to be different," he summarizes.

He also notes that since women are now more involved than are men in higher education, women wield much of the power in education.

"It's just crazy to think that this, by far, the biggest group of students schools are competing for somehow doesn't have the power as consumers to get schools to give them sports if they really want them," he states, "that they couldn't say 'Look, we'll all go to another school that offers us sporting opportunities if you won't -- and you can't afford to miss out on this biggest chunk of students in the country.' It's absurd."

Because of Title IX, McCluskey contends, schools are forced to use their valuable resources to push women into sports when, in fact, they might prefer that money go into other things that interest them.