

DAILY KOS

Red State Resistance: 8yo Soccer Player Banned for Looking Like a Boy - The Betsy Riot Responds



By [Nebraska Outsider](#)

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Fighting Fascism in a red state takes a lot of courage, you're surrounded by gun nuts, fascists, and Democrats oh so very worried of offending anyone and everyone. Yet, the resistance is alive and well, and I daresay growing. [Just this Saturday, the Betsy Riot in Iowa](#) took their righteous anger to Joni Ernst and Mike Pence at the 3rd annual roast and ride outside of Polk City Iowa. Check out this [livestream](#), [Action Iowa](#) blog.

But it isn't always these big event protests that have an impact. [It is](#)



Betsy Riot sign placed at Springfield Soccer fields.

the the small acts of resistance in the teeny tiny towns that make the biggest difference to me, and to the rest of us lonely liberals greatly outnumbered in red states.

You may have heard this story of an 8 year old girl, Mili Hernandez, **banned for looking like a boy** (and likely due to her name and brown skin). The local tv station noticed and many other news agencies are picking it up.

Mili told WOWT 6 News: "When my hair starts to grow I put it short because I've always had short hair. I didn't like my hair long."

Mili plays soccer for Omaha's Azzuri Cachorros girls club team. She's so good that she plays on the 11 year-old roster even though she's 8. Her father, Gerardo Hernandez, couldn't be more proud. He told WOWT 6 News: "It's what she likes. It's what she always wants to do - play soccer."

This weekend Mili helped lead her team to the finals of the Springfield Soccer Club girls tournament. However, before taking the field on Sunday, Mili and her team were suddenly disqualified. Springfield soccer **organizers insisted Mili was a boy.**

Gerardo Hernandez told **WOW 6 News** that his daughter "was in shock." He continued: "She was crying after they told us... They made her cry."



National news, and some pretty cool support from national women's soccer star, Mia Hamm, have shed light on this bullshit.



The local small town Betsy Riot also hit fast and hard, and the National page answered:

Breaking! Hot off the Betsy Riot Press!

Have you heard about this shit in Springfield, Nebraska? It's like a Trumpstertrash turducken: an inner core of rampant racism stuffed inside some sexism nested within a layer of transphobia.

Yesterday a little Hispanic girl from Omaha, Nebraska, went with her soccer team to nearby Racistfucksville Springfield to play in a soccer tournament. But the authorities at the Springfield Soccer Club turned away the entire Azzuri Cachorros girls' team because the racist sexist gendernormative assholes claimed that the little girl, who dared to have short hair, was a boy.

No protestations to the contrary or even a health insurance card produced by her father could persuade them otherwise, and they disqualified the entire team.

That's right: adults members of the species homo sapiens living in your country in 2017 actually disqualified an entire team for racist reasons that they somehow thought would be more palatable if they pretended they really had sexist/transphobic reasons to bully an 8-year-old girl who was fixing to kick the asses of their children on the soccer field.

So tonight the Betsy Riot visited the soccer facility in Springfield and helped them with a little truth in advertising.

I hope whoever took this sign down feels as ashamed as they should. But I doubt it. Nevertheless, I am uplifted by our local resistance.

If you haven't yet heard of [the Betsy Riot](#), they're [everywhere](#). Get with it, join up, kick ass, or just reach out to support our small local red state chapters. We need blue state love!

