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## **SEX EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:**

SEXUALIZATION OF CHILDREN  
AND LGBT INDOCTRINATION

BY CATHY RUSE

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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# Sex Education in Public Schools: Sexualization of Children and LGBT Indoctrination

BY CATHY RUSE

Did you know that...

- Some public schools teach children they could be born in the wrong body?<sup>1</sup>
- Young teens are shown videos with techniques to pleasure their sex partners?<sup>2</sup>
- Students are told how to get secret abortions without telling their parents?<sup>3</sup>

Most of us remember what sex education was like when we were in school. A couple of uncomfortable hours. Line drawings showing human growth and development. Admonitions to be careful, respect others, and save sex for marriage.

Things are very different today. The “facts of life” have not changed, but “inclusivity” and “sex positivity” and other popular buzz-word concepts have changed sex education.

## AS A NATION WE HAVE “OUTSOURCED” SEX ED.

Talking to children about sexuality is a highly sensitive endeavor. It is emotionally charged, even under the best of circumstances. As a nation we have “outsourced” sex ed. Frankly, most parents really don’t want to have these awkward conversations with their children. Parents instinctively don’t want to disturb the natural innocence and sexual latency period before puberty. When education “experts” offer to handle the topic, it can be appealing. Especially when they promise us that lessons will be ordered around saving sex for marriage, creating strong families, and protecting children’s health and well-being.

It sounds reasonable. But does it really work this way? A major new study reveals failure rates as high as 87 percent for school-based sex ed programs.<sup>4</sup> Even worse, some programs actually result in increased sexual activity, increased number of sex partners, and increased sexual experimentation by students.<sup>5</sup>

And yet, school systems are devoting significant classroom time to them—70 hours per child in one district<sup>6</sup>—even while American public schools are failing to fulfill their core mission. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos called the latest national assessment of student achievement “devastating.” Two-thirds of American students can’t read at grade level and reading scores have worsened in 31 states.<sup>7</sup> “This country is in a student achievement crisis,” she said.

Well-funded international pressure groups have been extraordinarily successful in pushing what they call “Comprehensive Sexuality Education” (CSE) into American public schools, an agenda-driven curriculum that sexualizes children.



*SIECUS homepage at SIECUS.org*

In CSE, youth sex is normalized, and the concept of “sexual rights” and radical sexual ideology for youth is advanced. The Sexuality Information

and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS), the oldest architect of institutional sex ed and a leading proponent of CSE, recently rebranded its messaging to capture this new sex-positive approach: “Sex Ed for Social Change.”<sup>8</sup>

Education has given way to indoctrination. Consider the emergence of no-opt-out laws and policies that revoke the right of parents to opt their children out of sexuality-based lessons. California<sup>9</sup> and Illinois<sup>10</sup> have taken this radical step. When Illinois parents started keeping their kids home during LGBTQ Week (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning), the school board vice president suggested not telling parents when it would occur: “Not telling people the time of the curriculum is an option.”<sup>11</sup>

Parents have two main concerns about sex ed today: That it sexualizes children and that it is loaded with LGBTQ indoctrination. This pamphlet will reveal troubling examples of each problem, will discuss the powerful organizations behind it all, and then will offer some action steps for parents to consider in their fight to protect the health and innocence of their children.

## **THE SEXUALIZATION OF CHILDREN**

Year after year, sex ed programs push the limits on what is appropriate, both in terms of the material presented to students and the age at which it is presented. In many school districts today, lessons introduce sexual concepts to very young children and promote risky sexual behavior to vulnerable teens and pre-teens.

**IN MANY SCHOOL SYSTEMS,  
SEX EDUCATION HAS BECOME  
A VEHICLE FOR AN AGENDA-  
DRIVEN CURRICULUM THAT  
SEXUALIZES CHILDREN.**



What was once simply imparting science-based information and skills to save sex until marriage has now become creating young radical sexual ideologues with the desire to exercise their “sexual rights.” Preparing children to have sex with multiple partners over the course of a lifetime seems to be a basic assumption underlying much of sexual education content. Needless to say, this is not in line with Christian and other faith views on sexuality and marriage.

### “How To” Sex Workshops For Kids

Throughout the country, sex education is increasingly introducing elements of sex instruction for students. And many parents are completely in the dark.

The California Board of Education, for example, recently implemented a radical sex and gender education curriculum that is required to be taught in every public school in the state. Lessons offer “tips” like “foreplay can be enjoyable in itself and can lead to orgasm for both partners without having intercourse.”<sup>12</sup>

**Shopping Information Form**

1. Name of store \_\_\_\_\_

2. What protective products are sold here? (List 3 kinds of latex condoms and 1 kind of spermicide and the prices for each product. Indicate the types of condoms you saw.)

Product	Brand Name	Price	Lubricated?		Reservoir (R) or Plain (P)	
			Yes	No	R	P
Condom:			Yes	No	R	P
Condom:			Yes	No	R	P
Condom:			Yes	No	R	P
Spermicide:						

New curriculum in Austin, Texas encourages even pre-pubescent children to consider “vaginal intercourse,” “oral intercourse,” and “anal intercourse.”<sup>13</sup> Angry parents have gone to school board meetings demanding to know who gave the school district the right to teach their child how to have anal and oral sex.<sup>14</sup>

Schools in Indiana actually send teens shopping for condoms, with a worksheet to fill out comparing brands, prices, lubrication, and whether or not they are comfortable shopping in the store.<sup>15</sup>

Parents in a rural Virginia high school were outraged when they learned their ninth graders were shown videos teaching “penis pleasure,” how to “stimulate a prostate” inside the anus, and the joys of “sex toys.”<sup>16</sup> The video was created by a YouTube star with ties to Planned Parenthood.

Speaking of Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion business is also in the business of pushing its own version of radical sex ed. Planned Parenthood claims to be “the single largest provider of sex education in the United States.”<sup>17</sup> It’s “Get Real” curriculum includes instructions for seventh graders on how to use grocery store polyethylene cling wrap as a dental dam for oral sex.<sup>18</sup>

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**Protection Methods Chart** Continued

Type of method	Medical Description	How Well Does It Work?	Where can you get the method?	Benefits (Pros)	Possible Side Effects (Cons) (not all are listed)
Dental dam 	The dental dam is a thin layer of latex, plastic, or polyurethane that acts as a barrier between partners when placed over the vulva (outside of vagina) or anus during anal sex. Can also use non-micro-voidable saran wrap or a condom cut to half. A new dental dam must be used each time.	This device is used for oral sex only. Protects against HIV and other STDs.	Drugstore, doctor's office, health centers & condom shops. Saran wrap at supermarkets.	Protects against HIV and other STDs.	May irritate someone with a latex allergy. Dental dam may slip out of place if not held around the area involving oral sex.

Grade 7 • Student Workbook

## Teaching Kids How to Consent to Sex

A troubling trend in sex education is the push to teach “sexual consent,” presumably to equip kids to resist committing, or being a victim of, sexual assault.

But many parents aren't buying it.

Consider this statement from a “Get Real” trainer at Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts: “Building skills around consent means moving beyond the ‘how to say no’ model of teaching refusal skills to also *teach young people how to ask for consent...*”<sup>19</sup> (emphasis added).

Massachusetts politicians are considering a state-wide sex ed curriculum mandate with lessons for students on how to “make healthy decisions about relationships and sexuality, including affirmative and voluntary consent to engage in physical or sexual activity.”<sup>20</sup>



In Fairfax County, Virginia, eighth graders are guided in extensive discussions about obtaining mutual consent before engaging in sex—in an *abstinence* lesson!<sup>21</sup> The word “consent” appears 25 times.

Consenting to a sex act does not make that act healthy, acceptable, or safe—especially when the actors are children! The “consent” movement seems less about avoiding assault and more about promoting sex and sexual rights.

Proponents sometimes admit this: “Consent education...respect[s] young people’s right to sexual

agency and self-determination,” according to the Guttmacher Institute, a research group founded by Planned Parenthood.<sup>22</sup> “Teaching about consent is key to pushing back against abstinence-only messages.”

A sex ed teacher in Brownsville, Tennessee told a reporter that consent must be enthusiastic and freely given but it can also be revoked. “It’s OK to say yes, then in the heat of the moment, change your mind.”<sup>23</sup> True enough. But do parents agree that it’s OK for their children to say yes to sex? And doesn’t a focus on consenting to sex assume a paradigm of acceptable sexual activity not bound to marriage and family?

### **Aren’t They Supposed to Teach Abstinence?**

The expectation of parents is that sex education for their children will focus on abstinence, and teaching sexual abstinence is often required by state law. But that doesn’t mean the experts writing or teaching the lessons will honor the purpose of the law, or those parent expectations.

For example, parents in Fairfax County, Virginia naturally assumed their eighth graders’ abstinence lesson encouraged kids to remain abstinent until marriage. But curriculum drafters had another kind of abstinence in mind—abstinence until your next steady boyfriend or girlfriend. The lesson plan includes a decision-making exercise that guides them to be “sexually abstinent *until in a faithful, monogamous relationship*” (emphasis added).

Decision Making Model

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Use the decision-making model to make a personal decision regarding sexual abstinence.

1. Identify the decision to be made:

Whether or not to be sexually abstinent until in a faithful, monogamous relationship.

The stated objective of the lesson—*the information parents are given*—says the lesson will provide “the benefits of abstaining from sexual activity until marriage.” But the word “marriage” never appears anywhere in the lesson!<sup>24</sup>

Students never hear that the point of abstinence is to reserve sex for marriage.

Tenth graders in Fairfax County get fake abstinence, too. One lesson teaches: “The best choice for teenagers...is to practice abstinence from sexual activity until they are in a mutually monogamous relationship.”<sup>25</sup>

Even when the abstinence-until-marriage message is conveyed, it can be obscured by other messages that undermine it. What is the take-away for students after being led in discussions on themes like “when two people decide to engage in sexual activity” and “when a couple decides to become sexually active” and “deciding whether or not to be sexually active is a very personal decision”?<sup>26</sup>

The message to students is clear: Saving sex for marriage is not a community expectation or value.

### **Secret Abortions: Your Parents Never Have to Know**

Tragically, court decisions have made abortion legal for teens. Schools often include lessons promoting abortion as a legitimate/positive option. Many states even require this by law.

In Fairfax County, students hear about their right to abortion in several lessons. One lesson for tenth grade explains how girls can get an abortion without telling their parents if they go before a judge—and that there are helpful organizations that will give them a lawyer to take them to the judge *for free*.<sup>27</sup>

In California, schools have partnered with Planned Parenthood and the American Civil



Liberties Union to instruct students on how to get secret abortions without telling their parents, according to a video released by the California organization Our Watch.<sup>28</sup>

Virginia law requires that students be taught about both adoption and abortion, but for more information on making an adoption plan, the lesson script in Fairfax County refers students to Planned Parenthood!<sup>29</sup>

Schools in Indiana actually send students to visit clinics with a worksheet to fill out about services provided, and a place to fill out the bus route they took to get there (presumably to avoid parental detection).<sup>30</sup>

## **SEX ED AND LGBTQ INDOCTRINATION**

The starkest change to sex education today is that it is now saturated with “LGBTQ sexuality.”

Marriage, sex/gender, and sexuality are the subject of profound debate in the culture and the courts. Yet many school districts have, effectively, *chosen sides* on these issues and are using sex education as the vehicle to enforce conformity with their views.

Remember, SEICUS’s new brand is “Sex ed for social change.”

Lessons can be highly manipulative—carefully designed to get children to approve of the con-

**MANY SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVE  
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cept of sexual rights and fluid sexual “identities,” and to reject their religious beliefs, the authority of their parents, and even physical reality itself.

And these lessons are given to young children today.

## Homosexuality

**LGBTQ SEXUALITY IS PRESENTED AS GOOD, HEALTHY, AND EQUAL IN EVERY WAY TO HETEROSEXUALITY.**

The LGBTQ movement demands that homosexual relationships be presented to children as good, healthy, and equal in every way to heterosexuality within man-woman marriage. Many sex ed developers and providers are all too happy to comply.

Parents in Illinois were alarmed when they learned that their preschool children were being instructed: “If you have two mommies, they can be called LESBIANS.”<sup>31</sup>

In Austin, Texas, schools introduce sexual orientation to third graders through a sexuality matching game with terms like “bisexual,” “gay,” “lesbian,” and “homophobia.”<sup>32</sup>

Programs like Planned Parenthood’s “Get Real” curriculum for middle school students are replete with same-sex examples, like this role-playing scenario for seventh graders:<sup>33</sup>

**Refusal Skills Role-Play  
Scenario 1**

Brittany's girlfriend wants to have oral sex with her. Brittany really likes her girlfriend, and her friends say that having oral sex will bring them closer together. But Brittany's mom thinks she should wait until she is older. Brittany agrees with her mom, but she is scared of hurting her girlfriend's feelings. What should she do?

© PPLM

California law instructs public school teachers to emphasize homosexual relationships: “Teachers should... actively use examples of same-sex couples in class discussions.”<sup>34</sup>

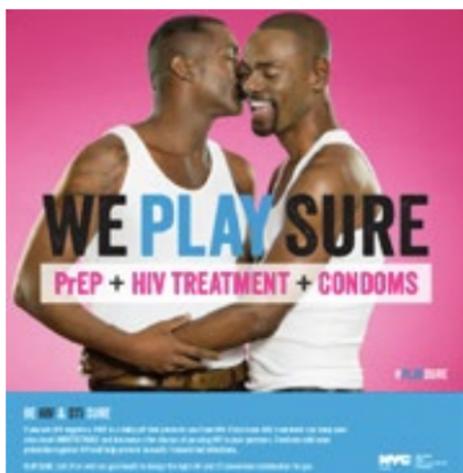
Can you define “consensual non-monogamy” or use “polyamory” in a sentence? Your children might soon be able to.

Officials in California are insisting that sex ed lessons be inclusive of sexual relationships with multiple partners.<sup>35</sup> The California state health department instructs teachers to talk to children as young as 12 about sex “partners” and to avoid terms like “boyfriend” and “girlfriend” because “some students may be non-monogamous.”<sup>36</sup>

Have you heard of PrEP? Most parents haven't. But it is being promoted to children in public schools today.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, is a prescription drug taken daily to reduce the risk of contracting HIV.<sup>37</sup> It was designed for a particular high-risk population: men who have “unprotected” anal sex with multiple/anonymous sex partners of unknown HIV status.

PrEP is controversial even in the community for which it was designed. Michael Weinstein, the founder and director of the AIDs Healthcare Foundation, has called it a “party drug” and says it “will cause a ‘public health catastrophe’ by triggering a dangerous increase in risky sex.”<sup>38</sup>



*PrEP ads in NYC subway,  
NYC Department of Health*

Why would a school board decide to promote a controversial daily sex pill designed for men who have anonymous sex with men? Is this really the expectation that schools have for their students? Apparently so. The Fairfax County school board voted to promote the daily sex drug to its high schoolers every year,<sup>39</sup> even when the drug was not legal for use by minors.<sup>40</sup>

### **Born in the Wrong Body?**

Many public schools are beginning to teach the radical, anti-science proposition that biological sex is meaningless, that some kids are born in the wrong body, and that some girls have penises, too.

The American College of Pediatricians calls this psychological child abuse.<sup>41</sup>

## **“SEX ASSIGNED AT BIRTH” IS THE TRANSGENDER ACTIVIST LANGUAGE USED TO SUPPORT THE IDEA THAT A PERSON’S SEX CAN CHANGE.**

Fairfax County, Virginia recently scrubbed its sex education materials of the concept that human beings have a biologically-determined sex of male or female and replaced it with “sex assigned at birth.”<sup>42</sup> “Sex assigned at birth” is transgender “newspeak” to support the idea that a person’s sex can change; that a male-bodied person can have a female brain.

In Fairfax, sex ed lessons present transgenderism as a healthy sexual identity, without any mention of the health and medical risks associated with so-called sex transition.<sup>43</sup> In fact, curriculum drafters voted 12 times to exclude health risk information from student lessons.<sup>44</sup>

What would you call a program that asks teachers to avoid using the words “mom” and “dad” to describe parents? You’d call it the radical new curriculum in Austin, Texas adopted in the face of overwhelming community opposition.<sup>45</sup> “It is important to avoid terms which refer only to ‘male’ and ‘female’ identities when speaking with young children,” the teacher instructions say. “Try not to only use terms like ‘mom’ or ‘dad’.”<sup>46</sup>

The new curriculum in Austin teaches middle school children that doctors assign a sex to babies based on their genitalia but that “sex does NOT always match with their gender identity.” Do not “assume that people with a penis are boys” because “someone with a penis might identify as a girl.”<sup>47</sup>

Teachers in North Carolina are given comprehensive training on how to introduce transgender concepts into the minds of very young children, courtesy of the “Welcoming Schools” curriculum, created by the Human Rights Campaign, the nation’s largest LGBTQ lobby.<sup>48</sup>

According to leading parent advocacy group NC Values Coalition, the curriculum uses psychological reconditioning techniques to cause children to question their sex through strategies such as role-playing, games, videos, and affirmation statements like “I used to think, but now I know.” Differences of opinion are not welcome; the curriculum demands conformity.



## DOES YOUR SCHOOL'S CURRICULUM INCLUDE ANY OF THESE?

Family Watch International has compiled this helpful list of 15 harmful elements typically found in “Comprehensive Sexuality Education” curricula,<sup>49</sup> any one of which is cause for concern. Check your school’s curriculum today!

### 1. Sexualizes Children

*Normalizes child sex or desensitizes children to sexual things. May give examples of children having sex or imply many of their peers are sexually active. May glamorize sex, use graphic materials, teach explicit sexual vocabulary, or encourage discussion of sexual experiences, attractions, fantasies or desires.*

## **2. Teaches Children to Consent to Sex**

*May teach children how to negotiate sexual encounters or how to ask for or get “consent” from other children to engage in sexual acts with them. Note: “Consent” is often taught under the banner of sexual abuse prevention. While this may be appropriate for adults, children of minor age should never be encouraged to “consent” to sex.*

## **3. Normalizes Anal & Oral Sex**

*Normalizes these high-risk sexual behaviors and may omit vital medical facts, such as the extremely high STI infection rates (i.e., HIV and HPV) and the oral and anal cancer rates of these high-risk sex acts.*

## **4. Promotes Homosexual/Bisexual Behavior**

*Normalizes or promotes acceptance or exploration of diverse sexual orientations, sometimes in violation of state education laws. May omit vital health information and/or may provide medically inaccurate information about homosexuality or homosexual sex.*

## **5. Promotes Sexual Pleasure**

*Teaches children they are entitled to or have a “right” to sexual pleasure or encourages children to seek out sexual pleasure. Fails to present data on the multiple negative potential outcomes for sexually active children.*

## **6. Promotes Solo and/or Mutual Masturbation**

*While masturbation can be part of normal child development, encourages masturbation at young ages, which may make children more vulnerable to pornography use, sexual addictions or sexual exploitation. May instruct children on how to masturbate. May also encourage children to engage in mutual masturbation.*

## **7. Promotes Condom Use in Inappropriate Ways**

*May inappropriately eroticize condom use (e.g., emphasizing sexual pleasure or “fun” with condoms) or use sexually explicit methods (i.e., penis and vagina models, seductive role plays, etc.) to promote condom use to children. May provide medically inaccurate information on condom effectiveness and omit or deemphasize failure rates. May imply that condoms will provide complete protection against pregnancy or STIs.*

## **8. Promotes Early Sexual Autonomy**

*Teaches children they can choose to have sex when they feel they are ready or when they find a trusted partner. Fails to provide data about the well-documented negative consequences of early sexual debut. Fails to encourage sexually active children to return to abstinence.*

## **9. Fails to Establish Abstinence as the Expected Standard**

*Fails to establish abstinence (or a return to abstinence) as the expected standard for all school-age children. May mention abstinence only in passing. May teach children that all sexual activity—other than “unprotected” vaginal and oral sex—is acceptable, and even healthy. May present abstinence and “protected” sex as equally good options for children.*

## **10. Promotes Transgender Ideology**

*Promotes affirmation of and/or exploration of diverse gender identities. May teach children they can change their gender or identify as multiple genders, or may present other unscientific and medically inaccurate theories. Fails to teach that most gender-confused children resolve their confusion by adulthood and that extreme gender confusion is a mental health disorder (gender dysphoria) that can be helped with mental health intervention.*

## **11. Promotes Contraception/Abortion to Children**

*Presents abortion as a safe or positive option while omitting data on the many potential negative physical and mental health consequences. May teach children they have a right to abortion and refer them to abortion providers. May encourage the use of contraceptives, while failing to present failure rates or side effects.*

## **12. Promotes Peer-to-Peer Sex Ed or Sexual Rights Advocacy**

*May train children to teach other children about sex or sexual pleasure, through peer-to-peer initiatives. May recruit children as spokespeople to advocate for controversial sexual rights (including a right to CSE itself) or to promote abortion.*

## **13. Undermines Traditional Values and Beliefs**

*May encourage children to question their parents' beliefs or their cultural or religious values regarding early sex, sexual orientation or gender identity.*

## **14. Undermines Parents or Parental Rights**

*May instruct children they have rights to confidentiality and privacy from their parents. May teach children about accessing sexual commodities or services, including abortion, without parental consent. May instruct children not to tell their parents what they are being taught about sex in school.*

## **15. Refers Children to Harmful Resources**

*Refers children to harmful websites, materials or outside entities. May also specifically refer children to Planned Parenthood or their affiliates or partners for their lucrative services or commodities (i.e., sexual counseling, condoms, contraceptives, gender hormones, STI testing and treatment, abortions, etc.) Please Note: A conflict of interest exists whenever an entity that profits from sexualizing children is involved in creating or implementing sex education programs.*

## SEX POLITICS IN THE HALLS, IN HISTORY CLASS, ON THE CALENDAR, IN THE LIBRARY

Even if parents identify problematic lessons in sex ed and manage to opt their kids out, that won't protect them from sex propaganda elsewhere in school, sometimes where they least expect it.

In health class—in any class—students might be encouraged to attend “Pride” parades or to become an LGBTQ “ally.”<sup>50</sup> They may receive lessons on how to denounce “homophobia” and “challenge” others who do not agree.

They might encounter posters like this one, promoted by the powerful NEA:



The message is crystal clear: Affirm the LGBTQ lifestyle or you are a bully.

### The New “Transgender Normal” in Public Schools

Meanwhile, public schools are opening girls’ bathrooms to biological male students who identify as girls. Can’t they just use the teachers’ bathroom? Nope. Transgender activists call that “bullying.”

Well-funded pressure groups like the Human Rights Campaign and GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network) target school non-discrimination policies and demand policy

changes they claim are necessary to prevent harassment and to ensure a “safe” environment.

These policies demand total conformity from the entire school community. Authors Mary Hasson and Theresa Farnan have written a bracing and deeply researched new book, *Get Out Now: Why You Should Pull Your Child from Public School Before It's Too Late*.<sup>51</sup> The result of these sweeping changes is what they call the “new transgender normal.”

Model transgender school policies<sup>52</sup> can include:

- School-wide affirmation of a student’s transgender identity
- Forced use of false pronouns
- Opening of private spaces and sports teams to the opposite sex
- Adding “born in the wrong body” lessons to sex ed

Much can be written about how each of these policy changes is problematic. The most fundamental problem is they ignore the fact that the vast majority of children who experience sex confusion grow out of it.<sup>53</sup>

Will system-wide affirmation of a child’s false gender impede that natural resolution? Will it sow confusion in other children, who did not question their sex? The consequences in either case are potentially devastating. Children should never be pushed down the path that can lead to irreversible chemical and surgical mutilation of their bodies.



Pediatrician Michelle Cretella, president of the American College of Pediatricians, tells the story of a phone call she received from a distraught mom. Her daughter had gotten out of the bathtub, looked at her long hair slicked back, and burst into tears, thinking she was turning into a boy. The mom discovered that the little girl had been subjected to a male classmate's "coming out" ceremony as a "trans girl," orchestrated by the teacher, without parents' knowledge.

The pronoun issue is very serious. Propaganda expert Stella Morabito says coercive speech practices have historically been used as a form of psychological manipulation.<sup>54</sup> In public schools today, it is about enforcing conformity—conformity of feelings, attitudes, emotions, speech, beliefs, and behavior. Nonconformity carries the threat of social isolation—a terrifying notion to any child in school.

Transgender activists demand that biological males have access to girls' private spaces in school. Not only bathrooms—but dressing rooms and showers. If girls are anxious about sharing these intimate spaces with males, if they feel intimidated or uncomfortable, what recourse do they have? None. To object is to be labeled a bigot.

What about girls who may have been sexually victimized—a population that far, far exceeds the population of boys who want to identify as female? These were their safe spaces. Now they're being taken away *in the name of inclusion and compassion*. But there is no compassion for these girls.

Who's going to win the sports trophies, and the scholarships, if taller, stronger males are allowed to compete against females? Three high school girls who have been forced to compete against biological males in track-and-field have filed a lawsuit against the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference. "Girls deserve to compete on a level playing field," their attorney says.

“Forcing them to compete against boys isn’t fair, shatters their dreams, and destroys their athletic opportunities.”<sup>55</sup>

### School Assemblies

Who would suspect that an assembly on suicide would be used to promote the LGBTQ agenda?

In West Virginia, students were shown a popular anti-suicide video set to music by rap artist Logic.<sup>56</sup> The video, with high production values and award-winning, recognizable actors, features a teen boy exploring a new same-sex relationship. One day his father comes home to discover his son in bed with another boy. The video shows scenes of the son being bullied at school, in anguish, contemplating suicide. Eventually the son wins over his father, and the video ends with gauzy footage of the son’s gay wedding and the father’s embrace of the couple’s adopted baby.

After one such screening, a teacher told students not to tell parents about it. Wouldn’t a true anti-suicide message encourage students to talk with their parents?

A public school in Arlington, Virginia held a school-wide assembly featuring *Washington Post* reporter Amy Ellis Nutt on her book *Becoming Nicole* about a boy who took puberty suppressing drugs and then at age 17 had his sexual organs surgically removed.<sup>57</sup> Nutt told the students that, thanks to cross-sex hormones, Nicole was able to “make the puberty that all girls do.” That is obviously impossible without ovaries or a uterus. At the end, Nutt told the students Nicole was now “physically and biologically a girl.” Wrong. Every cell in Nicole’s body contains male sex chromosomes, and a lifetime of male-suppressing hormones will never change that fact.

Was attendance optional? That’s not clear. In her presentation, Nutt quipped: “Thank you for com-

ing, although I know you're probably required to be here." What does seem clear is that this public school will not hold another school-wide assembly correcting Nutt's falsehoods or featuring other views on the issue. Just a little propaganda for the children, paid for by Arlington taxpayers.

### **“Queer America” History**

Some school districts are beginning to teach LGBTQ history, thanks to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), the discredited, anti-Christian “hate” profiteer, has created a campaign for public schools called “Teaching Tolerance.”



**ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN CALIFORNIA, NEW JERSEY, AND ILLINOIS ARE NOW LEGALLY REQUIRED TO TEACH CHILDREN LGBTQ HISTORY.**

“Teaching Tolerance” instructs history teachers in how to put a “queer” spin on nearly every major event in American history.<sup>58</sup> For more on the “Teaching Tolerance” campaign, see [FRC.org/teachingtolerance](https://www.frc.org/teachingtolerance).



All public schools in California<sup>59</sup>, New Jersey<sup>60</sup>, and Illinois<sup>61</sup> are now required to teach children LGBTQ history. In Illinois, schools are not even allowed to purchase history textbooks that fail to include an LGBTQ angle.

School districts are considering denying the right of parents to opt their children out of LGBTQ sexuality-based lessons. One Illinois school district has already implemented a no-opt-out policy. The school board president defended his action this way: “The District 65 Board of Education does not support allowing students to opt out of this or any curriculum that seeks to include a more complete account of the role of historically marginalized people in our society...”<sup>62</sup>

What does a gay history lesson look like? Here is how one mom describes a lesson given to her second-grader’s class.<sup>63</sup> Students were taught about Jose Julio Sarria, a California man who ran for office in the 1960s. They were asked to read this passage about Sarria in their textbook (Pearson’s myWorld Interactive 2, Chapter 5):

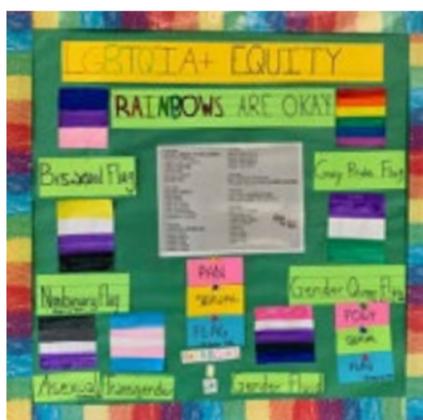
He decided to be honest. He told people he was gay and that sometimes he dressed as a woman. He was the first person to do this when running for office. He did not win. But he made people know they had to pay attention to the gay community.

Then the children were prompted to write their own essay about how Sarria’s honesty was inspirational to others.

## Propaganda on the School Calendar

Every October, the public schools in Evanston, Illinois go all out for LGBTQ+ Equity Week. Kindergarten children get story time with books like *My Princess Boy* and *I Am Jazz* about Jazz Jennings, breakout star of the transgender movement. First-graders are tasked with making “pride” flags and practicing gender-fluid pronouns. Sixth graders learn about various LGBTQ+ activists and their strategies.<sup>64</sup>

Consider this Equity Week student mural featured on the school district’s website. What do children think when making a collage of “pansexual” and “polysexual” cut-outs? What are they told?



Mission America has researched the various celebrations that public schools now place on their calendars and found 15 that involve sexual propaganda for the 2019-2020 school year.<sup>65</sup> How many have made it onto your school’s calendar? Find out today. (Dates may vary depending on the year.)

1. **No Name-Calling Week** (January 20-27)<sup>66</sup>
2. **Transgender Day of Visibility** (March 31)<sup>67</sup>
3. **Day of Silence** (April 24)<sup>68</sup>

4. **International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia** (May 17)<sup>69</sup>
5. **Harvey Milk Day** (May 22)<sup>70</sup>
6. **LGBTQ Pride Month** (June)<sup>71</sup>
7. **Banned Books Week** (September 22-28)<sup>72</sup> – Includes books that have never been banned but have been the subject of parental concern because of age-inappropriate sexual content.
8. **Ally Week** (September 23-27)<sup>73</sup> – Pressures students to declare themselves “allies” of students or teachers who identify as LGBT.
9. **Bisexual Awareness Week** (September 16-23)<sup>74</sup>
10. **LGBTQ History Month** (Month of October)<sup>75</sup> – Labels historical figures as LGBT, even when they never identified as such.
11. **National Coming Out Day** (October 11)<sup>76</sup>
12. **International Pronouns Day** (October 16)<sup>77</sup> – Ignores the fact that forced declaration of one’s own pronouns, or false pronouns for others, violates free speech and religious freedom.
13. **Spirit Day** (October 17)<sup>78</sup> – Encourages students and teachers to wear purple, and highlights LGBT bullying (even polite dissent can be characterized as “bullying”).
14. **Transgender Awareness Week** (November 12-19)<sup>79</sup>
15. **Transgender Day of Remembrance** (November 20)<sup>80</sup>



## School Libraries: Safe Spaces for LGBT Indoctrination

Read Across America Day is an annual event promoted by the National Education Association (NEA) to celebrate the joy of reading. Last year the NEA joined with the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest LGBTQ lobby, to co-sponsor the event.<sup>81</sup> With cameras flashing, kindergarten children sat on the library floor listening to HRC spokesman Sarah McBride, a man who identifies as a woman, read transgender-themed books and tell them he is really a woman. Parents in this Arlington, Virginia public school learned the details after the fact, but the school made no apologies.

In Loudoun County, Virginia, moms and dads were horrified to learn that the #BigGayBookDrive had brought hundreds of controversial titles to their schools.<sup>82</sup> The school system did not notify families that on offer to their kids are lesbian love stories like *Georgia Peaches and Other Forbidden Fruit* and books with “steamy lines describing the unbuttoning of clothes,” erections, orgasms, threesomes, and masturbation.<sup>83</sup>

Included in the new school library collection is the notorious book *Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out*, in which a teen describes how he enjoyed performing oral sex on neighborhood boys when he was six years old.<sup>84</sup>

So far, none of the books has been removed.

Do you know what's in your school's library? Take a cue from the Loudoun parents and find out. An informed parent is an empowered parent.

## WHO HAS REPLACED PARENTS?

Parents have given over the task of teaching children about sex to the local schoolteachers they know and trust. But those teachers are often not the people crafting or delivering the lessons on this extremely important and complex topic. Organizations with a mission to undermine the family have taken advantage of trusting parents and underfunded schools.

### Who are they?

**SIECUS** ([siecus.org](http://siecus.org)) is one of the oldest and most established “authorities” on sex education for children. Founded by a Planned Parenthood medical director, with roots in child sex abuser Alfred Kinsey, SIECUS promotes sex education “as a powerful vehicle for social change.” SIECUS is regarded as a pioneer of “Comprehensive Sex Education.”

**GLSEN** ([glsen.org](http://glsen.org)), the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network, has 50 state chapters that push LGBT policies on public schools. A focus of this group is the establishment of Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) clubs in public schools. GSA clubs can be ground zero for recruitment of kids. One mom of a middle school child in Virginia asked to attend a meeting of the GSA club, which her daughter had recently joined; she was only allowed to attend with the school principal as an escort. In 2018 GLSEN boasted to the Washington Post that California and Northern Virginia schools are their “laboratories” for LGBT policies.<sup>85</sup> What does that make students? The lab rats.

**Planned Parenthood** ([plannedparenthood.org](http://plannedparenthood.org)) claims to be the nation’s largest sex education provider.<sup>86</sup> It teaches sex education to at least 221,000 students in 31 states, according to CBS News.<sup>87</sup> For Planned Parenthood, promiscuity is a healthy lifestyle choice for students: “There’s

nothing bad or unhealthy about having a big number of sexual partners,” it tells students on its Tumblr page.<sup>88</sup> Planned Parenthood’s booklet for HIV-positive youth, “Healthy, Happy and Hot,” also tells young people that it is their “human right” to not tell their partner that they have HIV.<sup>89</sup> Planned Parenthood’s “Get Real” curriculum teaches 12 and 13-year-olds how to use grocery store saran wrap as a dental dam for oral and anal sex<sup>90</sup> and recommends to 11-year-olds a book with pornographic illustrations of teenagers masturbating.<sup>91</sup>

**Human Rights Campaign** ([hrc.org](http://hrc.org)) created “Welcoming Schools.” It started out as a PDF offered to public schools after the Obama administration’s “Dear Colleague” letter in 2015 formally endorsed the transgender free-for-all in schools across the country. (President Obama threatened to hold federal funds hostage unless schools opened girls’ bathrooms and locker rooms to boys, and vice versa.) From that original “Welcoming Schools” PDF and the influx of millions of dollars in contributions and corporate grants, a whole new organization was spawned, dedicated to providing resources and training to public elementary school educators regarding transgenderism.

**“Teaching Tolerance”** ([splcenter.org/teaching-tolerance](http://splcenter.org/teaching-tolerance)) is the education arm of the Southern Poverty Law Center, the discredited, anti-Christian “hate” profiteer. Teaching Tolerance’s website has seemingly endless free information for teachers and schools with their spin on LGBTQ rights, race and ethnicity, immigration and beyond. SPLC’s “LGBTQ Best Practices Guide” has been mailed to every school principal in the nation. The guide covers everything you can imagine and more: how to make sure your prom is LGBTQ inclusive, how to have a queer school culture, how to adopt policies for schools that allow the school to affirm a child’s sexual-

ity or transgenderism without notifying parents. In fact, the material in these resources promotes the idea that LGBTQ youth may not be safe at home with their parents, suggesting the school as a place of refuge. For more on Teaching Tolerance, see FRC's free brochure ([frc.org/teachingtolerance](http://frc.org/teachingtolerance)).

**Advocates for Youth** ([advocatesforyouth.org](http://advocatesforyouth.org)) works in collaboration with national, state, and local groups on Comprehensive Sex Education with a focus on ending what they consider to be “homophobia” and “transphobia” against youth.

All together, these groups raise close to one billion dollars a year, with nearly one billion dollars in reserves. Some of this money comes to them in the form of grants from the Department of Health and Human Services and USAID. They not only raise money, they get taxpayer dollars, too.<sup>92</sup>

### **YES, THERE ARE GOOD SEX ED ALTERNATIVES!**

In spite of all the bad news about sex education these days, parents need to remember that most states do not (yet) require school districts to use a politicized age-inappropriate curriculum. Often the curriculum choice is left to the county or school district, which means the decision about what curriculum your school will use is closer to you, the parent.

There *are* good sex ed programs in use today. But the good programs don't have multi-million-dollar lobby shops backing them. What if they had an army of the *real* stakeholders—parents and children—backing them?

**GIVEN THAT SEX HAS LIFE OR DEATH IMPLICATIONS, IT MAKES SENSE TO USE SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE LANGUAGE IN SCHOOLS.**



As parents, we should insist on the best for our children. Finding good sex ed alternatives and bringing them to school board members, county councilmen, and even state legislators is a vitally important role for parents to play.

In this endeavor, parents should be aware that “abstinence” is out of fashion these days—the “Comprehensive Sex Ed” crowd has made it a dirty word. Given that sex has life or death implications (unplanned pregnancies can lead to abortions, sexually transmitted diseases can lead to infertility or death), it makes sense to use the phrase “risk avoidance.” In the context of human sexuality, avoiding risk means reserving sex for marriage and being faithful within marriage, which studies show is not only the safest but the most satisfying approach for men and women.<sup>93</sup>

This is a message all students deserve to hear.

Sexual Risk Avoidance (or SRA) is an educational approach based on the public health model of primary prevention to empower youth to avoid all the risks of sexual activity. It allows sex education to be considered along with other health topics for children, like smoking or drug use. We don’t tell children to smoke only one pack a day to “reduce risk” to their health. We tell them NOT to smoke. This same message is reinforced in sex education by emphasizing risk avoidance rather than merely risk reduction.

When setting out to find sex ed alternatives, a great place to start is **Ascend ([weascend.org](http://weascend.org))**, a public advocacy group that champions empowering youth to avoid the risks of sexual activity through healthy decision-making.

Ascend publishes research demonstrating that SRA education really works in helping teens delay sexual activity. Their materials explain the overriding public health concerns that must be addressed when considering sex education policy.

Most importantly, Ascend compiles dozens of actual SRA education programs currently in use, and reports on their statistically significant results!

Read through the list. Take it to your school's administration, to your school board, to your county council. Ask them if your public schools have considered using any of the programs, and if not, why not?

## **PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN - AND YOUR RIGHTS!**

Promoting good sex ed curricula in schools is a vitally important role for parents. What else can parents do to counter this onslaught? Here are some things to consider.

### **Ground Your Children in the Truth About Human Sexuality**

Institutionalized, politicized sex education can never replace a healthy dialogue between mother, father, and child about the goodness and beauty of married love. YOU know your child(ren) best. Pray, worship, and take courage—God will equip you to explain these timeless facts of life to your children!

**GOD REVEALS HIS LOVE AND CARE  
FOR US IN ALL THINGS, INCLUDING  
OUR SEXUAL NATURE.**



Christians should take courage in the fact that God reveals His love and care for us in all things, including our sexual nature. This is, indeed, part of the Good News that we are called to share.

Every human person is made in His image and likeness, unique and unrepeatable. In all of Creation, only humans are given the gift of a sexuality that is more than a biological reproductive drive. Animals go into “season” or “heat” when it’s time to reproduce, but human sexual union has a more complex and beautiful purpose, by God’s design.

Men and women are created by God for each other. Marriage is the union of one man and one woman who give themselves to each other completely, and the sexual union of husband and wife in marriage is a physical sign and expression of their love and commitment. And marriage is a great good for all of mankind because marriage produces strong families that are the building blocks of society.

The sexual component of marriage is what distinguishes this relationship from all others in the human experience. God values this union so much that he ordered Creation to allow us to cooperate in giving life. Human love is so powerful that it can result in another human being—because God ordained it so.

We must never tire of teaching these truths to our children. We must always resist cultural efforts to demean or warp or diminish them. We must

help our children understand that the family is attacked not because it is weak, old fashioned, or out of style—but because it is a powerful and protective force for human good, by God’s design.

### **Be Present, Be Watchful, Make Demands**

With your “own house in order” you can then work to ensure that your school does not promote harmful messages about human sexuality to your children or to any child.

Here are some practical, proactive ways to let your school know that you are informed, that you are watching, and that you are prepared to act:

- Help your child **organize a club** that will have a positive impact on the school, like a Bible Study club, a Pure Fashion club, or a Biology Club. How about a Kindness Club? Parents cannot let the Gender Sexuality Alliance/ GSA club dominate the school culture. Give them alternatives!
- Be the squeaky wheel! Did you know that in most states parents have the right to **ask to see instructional material** that will be used in the classroom? Even just asking for lesson plans will put the school on notice that you are present, and you are watching.

Invite a group of trusted parents to **review your school’s sex ed lessons**. Create a summary of your findings and post it for other parents to see! A group of concerned parents in Fairfax County did just that in creating [parentandchild.org](http://parentandchild.org), and they are happy to have others use their model. Remember to read the *actual* lessons, watch the videos, and visit the recommended web sites—do not settle for summaries provided by the school.

- No one has the time, but you must find the time to **attend school board meetings**.

Learn what the board is planning and tell your friends. Find out who the good guys are on the board and introduce yourself.<sup>94</sup> When they face tough votes, have friendly faces in the auditorium to show your support. Sign up to speak at meetings. You are the expert on your own family, and it is powerful when moms and dads stand up and say their children, and all children, deserve better.

### Leave Nothing to Chance

Beyond the opt out mechanism provided by schools for sex ed classes, parents may opt their children out of this material **whenever and wherever it may crop up**—in lessons, school events, assemblies, classes, or any activities that violate their families' beliefs.

Let your school know, in writing, every year, that you do not consent to your child's participation in inappropriate sex-related lessons or activities.

Family Research Council has produced a "Universal Model Opt-Out letter" that parents can file every year with their schools. (For the electronic version, go to [frc.org/optout](http://frc.org/optout))

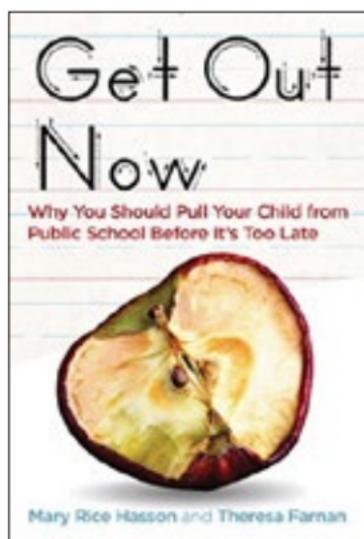


It notifies the school that you do not give consent for your child to be exposed to these issues, in any class. It cites Supreme Court cases on the constitutional right of parents to direct the education and upbringing of their children. And it puts schools on notice that you intend to pursue every legal avenue available to you if your request is not honored.

Circulate this letter to your friends. A few letters from parents will make a big impact on a school.

### **Consider Education Alternatives**

Millions of parents already have pulled their children out of public school. Authors Hasson and Farnan predict the new transgender mandates will be the “game changer” that will cause even more families to do so.<sup>95</sup>



Private schools are being founded by smart parents with a vision for providing better education than what is on offer in their area. Homeschooling continues to be a growing trend in America,<sup>96</sup> and with it the wonderful homeschool co-ops that can make homeschool doable for families.

There has never been a better time to consider alternatives to public school, and parent resource groups are forming to help families make the transition.<sup>97</sup>

“Hybrid homeschooling” is a new option for families who find the cost or time-demands of homeschooling too difficult.<sup>98</sup> In hybrid homeschooling, children spend part of their school time at home and part of it in a more traditional school setting with other students.

One example of a growing hybrid homeschool program currently in 11 states is Regina Caeli, which describes itself as providing “classical hybrid education in the Catholic tradition.”<sup>99</sup> Children learn at home two days a week, and wear uniforms to class with other students three days a week. Hybrid homeschool programs like this one are attracting impressive and experienced teachers who seek a more flexible schedule, and the tuition is a fraction of what private schools charge.

### **But Don't Stop Working for Better Public Schools**

Even if we do pull our kids out of public school, we cannot stop working for change.

Eighty-eight percent of America's children attend public schools,<sup>100</sup> and that statistic is not likely to change dramatically any time soon.

**IT IS NOT AN OVERSTATEMENT  
TO SAY THAT THE VERY FUTURE  
OF OUR COUNTRY DEPENDS ON  
WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OUR  
LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

That means public schools will continue to be the training grounds for the vast majority of our future teachers, sheriffs, college professors, governors, etc. A quote often attributed to Abraham Lincoln is very apt here: “The philosophy of the schoolroom in one generation will become the philosophy of the government in the next.”

Public schools will continue to be one of the major forces that shape the next generation. Why give the sex ed radicals a monopoly on how that generation will be shaped?

Besides, we are paying for all of it. In many areas of the country, the majority of property taxes each homeowner pays goes to the school board. That means we all have a stake in what happens there, even if we don't have children in the system.

It is not an overstatement to say that the very future of our country depends on what's happening right down the street at our local public schools.

### **YOU CAN DO IT! HERE'S HELP!**

God has called us right here, right now, for a reason. The challenges we've explored in this publication give ample proof that parents are needed now, more than ever, to fight for the good, the beautiful, and the true! We may be outspent and outnumbered, but we are not alone.

With this in mind, we offer the following resources:

## FRC Resources

- **A Parent's Guide to the Transgender Movement in Education** ([frc.org/gender](https://www.frc.org/gender))
- **The SPLC's Teaching Tolerance: What parents, teachers, and administrators need to know** ([frc.org/teachingtolerance](https://www.frc.org/teachingtolerance))
- **Universal Model Opt-Out letter** ([frc.org/optout](https://www.frc.org/optout)) that provides parents the legal right to withhold consent for their child's participation in any class, assignment, activity, etc. that involves gender identity, sexual activity, sexual orientation, or abortion/contraception.
- **FRC's Speaker Series** ([frc.org/speakers](https://www.frc.org/speakers)) feature important videos of discussions on issues affecting parents' rights and the education of children. Under "FRC Speaker Series Library," do a keyword search for "education" and find these videos on education issues:
  - **Should We Pull Our Kids Out of Public School?** – Mary Hasson and Meg Kilgannon
  - **Programming Our Children: The Social Engineering Agenda of 'Social Emotional Learning'** – Stella Morabito
  - **Transgender Ideology in Public Schools: Parents Fight Back** – Panel discussion
  - **Collateral Damage in the 'War On Women' Debate: Sexual Risk Avoidance Education Caught in the Crosshairs** – Valerie Huber

## Other Resources

- **Parent Resource Guide: Educating and Equipping Parents on the Transgender Trend** ([genderresourceguide.com](http://genderresourceguide.com)) – Minnesota Family Council
- **The Kelsey Coalition** ([kelseycoalition.org](http://kelseycoalition.org)) – An organization that works to protect young people who identify as transgender or nonbinary from medical and psychological harms.
- **Success Sequence** – AEI’s **W. Bradford Wilcox** ([aei.org](http://aei.org)) has compiled research on the “success sequence”—getting at least a high school degree, working full-time, and marrying before having any children, in that order.
- **American College of Pediatrician** ([acped.org](http://acped.org)) – A national organization of pediatricians and other health care professionals dedicated to the health and well-being of children.
- **Canavox** ([canavox.com](http://canavox.com)) – Reading/study groups to discuss the beauty of marriage, featuring user-friendly publications like *Tips for Talking to Your Kids About Sex*.
- **Home School Legal Defense Association** ([hslida.org](http://hslida.org)) – Advocating for the freedom to homeschool and offering support to families in their homeschool journey.

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