

Parental Opt-Out Notice for “LGBTQ+” Curriculum

Dear teachers and school administrators,

As the parent/guardian of a student attending a Virginia public school, I am formally requesting that my child be totally excluded from participation in any curriculum, assignment, literature, or festivity involving sexual concepts related to “LGBTQ+” (i.e. lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, etc.) while in school. Not only is it not appropriate for any school personnel to speak to my child about matters of human sexuality outside of my presence and without my express permission, but the faith-based ideology commonly summarized by the acronym “LGBTQ+” presents a belief system about human beings that is fundamentally at odds with our family’s Christian faith.

Jesus said, in Matthew 19:4-5, that “He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’” (referencing Genesis 1:27 and quoting Genesis 2:24)

The Bible, which we hold to be God’s Word, is clear throughout that the only acceptable form of sexual activity between humans is between one man and one woman in marriage. Attempting to teach my child otherwise violates my fundamental right as a parent “to make decisions concerning the upbringing, education, and care of [my] child,” as explicitly recognized by Virginia Code § 1-240.1 (Rights of parents). It also infringes on our religious liberty by teaching (and therefore, establishing as a government entity) our child what amounts to a religious dogma in contravention of the 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and Article 1, Section 16 of the Constitution of Virginia.

Virginia law has long recognized that in matters of sexual education in public schools, parents have a right to review all such materials ahead of time and to exclude their children from all or part of such instruction. *See, e.g.*, Va. Code § 22.1-207.2 (parental right to review family life education curriculum and to opt their child out); § 22.1-79.3 (parental right to prior review of student surveys); and § 22.1-16.8 (parental right to advance notification of sexually explicit content in instructional materials, and to request alternative assignment). Therefore, I respectfully request that my child be totally excluded from any exposure by school personnel or invited guests to “LGBTQ+” doctrines. Finally, if somehow a mistake is made and my child is inadvertently exposed to such information, I ask that the school immediately contact me to let me know so that I can have an opportunity to discuss it with my child at home.

Respectfully,

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Student Name(s), Grade(s), and School(s) _____

Signature(s) _____

Date _____