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March 11, 2024

Dear Chairwoman Abrams, Vice Chair Williams, Ranking Member Brown, and Members of the Ohio House Criminal Justice Committee.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to present my written testimony as a proponent of HB 245, the Adult Cabaret Act. I am in full support of this bill.

As a parent, I object to exposing minors to sexually explicit materials in any form. First of all, it IS grooming, pure and simple. Books, movies, videos and especially live performances are damaging to minors. There is no redeeming entertainment value in having young children watch the sexual dancing, singing, and in some cases removal of clothing in performances by drag performers. Why would we do that to innocent children? The harm that is being done to young minds when exposing them to materials that is beyond their understanding, cannot be UNDONE. It has been imprinted.

The question we should be asking is not "Why shouldn't we allow young children at adult performances?" but WHY DO ADULT PERFORMERS WANT TO BE PERFORMING BEFORE CHILDREN? I can answer that, it is for their own arousal.

Please refer to this eye-opening video if you are not familiar with Desmond the Amazing. Note that this is just one of the many articles about Desmond that you can reference.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JxdvOLdG 34

It is a very sad tale of a child doomed for a future of despair and drug abuse (as noted in this video, "ketamine on a couch").

In the bordering city to mine there is a class offering kids "Drag Tutorials".

https://www.colorsplus.org/drag-tutorials

These classes are funded by <u>Cuyahoga Arts and Culture</u>. So now we are redefining "drag" as "art"? I am outraged that our taxes are supporting this grooming!

Is this what we want for the children of Ohio? We can do better than this. And we should! Please use every means of your power and influence to vote and rule rightly in this matter, supporting HB 245. Do the research on this issue. The future innocence and protection of our children is in your hands. Thank you and God bless you.

Sincerely, Mrs. Jody Hobson