

Good afternoon, Chair Byrd, Vice Chair Fowler-Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson, Jr and members of the Primary and Secondary Education Committee. Thank you for allowing me to speak to you today. I am Lisa Breedlove Chaffee, Director of Parents Rights In Education for Ohio.

I never imagined in my life that I would have to speak to our legislators asking you to pass a bill into law to protect my rights as a parent. Yet here I am doing just that. And it makes me sick to my stomach to think I have to ask you to help me protect my child and all children from misinformed and/or activist teachers and school counselors.

Parents have the liberty to direct the upbringing, education and care of their children. It is a fundamental right! Yet The National Education Association along with the Ohio Educators Association and groups that claim to support LGBTQ students have decided and convinced many people that we as parents do not have the right to raise our children with our values. They believe and tell students that have gender identity issues it is not safe to tell their parents despite not knowing anything of what occurs in that home. They assume that if parents are Christians, they will not be supportive of their children and therefore are not safe.

If you remember a few weeks ago I told you about a 13 yr. old girl in Hilliard. For weeks this child showed signs of severe anxiety and depression. She had to get up and leave class to go into the hall and cry and her teachers knew about it. On Oct 28, 2022 her friend recognized she was suicidal and took her to the counselor who administered the suicide survey and then called the parents to take their child to the hospital. She told her father she wanted to fit in but her classmates were pushing her into a box to identify as transgender and she didn't know what to do. Not one teacher or school employee notified the parents of her mental distress until that day. All because they assumed that the parents would react violently. This is why we have filed a lawsuit against Hilliard City Schools.

Teachers are not trained mental health professionals. Yet schools are diagnosing and treating mental health problems without parental permission. I spoke to the father of a 5th grader recently who only learned during parent-teacher conference that an outside counselor from Syntero had been counseling his daughter for weeks.

These are our children. We give birth to them, provide food and shelter for them, sacrifice blood sweat and tears raising them. Parenting is the most difficult job ever. I pray every day to make the best decisions for my son. But most importantly we love them. When schools withhold information from us they steal our opportunity to show our kids unconditional love and support. Children need the love and support of their parents more than anything else.

We do not co-parent with the government.

On behalf of the parents of Ohio I am asking you to pass HB 8.

This is the link to the article written about the 13 year old girl.

https://www.theohiopressnetwork.com/news/ohio/parents-we-knew-nothing-about-this/article_e62d7530-74d8-11ed-b700-57baea756aba.html

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/22/us/gender-identity-students-parents.html>

The transgender suicide myth exposed.

<https://mercatornet.com/the-transgender-suicide-myth-exposed/46564/>

“Let’s sum up the case for the prosecution. Turban takes his data from a survey conducted on-line by trans activists who recruited respondents on LGBT websites. Dodgy. He finds that the rate of hospitalization after a suicide attempt is *twice as high* amongst people who had puberty blockers. Gobsmacking.

And so ... trans kids need puberty blockers to keep them from committing suicide. Illogical”

Mother of ‘trans’ child poses as teen to find out how Trevor Project grooms kids into transitioning.

<https://thepostmillennial.com/mother-of-a-trans-child-poses-as-teen-trevor-project>