

Good afternoon.

My name is Valerie Walters. My husband and I, natives to Kent county, have 4 children. Two are finishing out their high school years, One is a junior in college and one is currently entering a career in law enforcement with the prestigious MSP.

SB199 will put the Maryland comprehensive health education framework into law. This would mandate the teaching of inappropriate sexual content and non scientific ideology to public school children at all grade levels, but in particular kindergarten, grade 4, and grade 7. In grade 7, children will be taught solo, vaginal, anal and oral sex practices. Therefore I strongly oppose this bill, however, given the political nature that has invaded our public school systems and current global initiatives, I'm pretty sure that this is going to pass by all of you and unfortunately so. With that being said, I would be willing to meet you in the middle with favorable if only there was an amendment for every parent to opt in ...not opt out, but a very clear opt in with transparency of the curriculum to the parents and care providers of the children.

Notice I said children... plural for child.

According to Webster, a child is

: a young person especially between infancy and puberty

: one strongly influenced by another

: a minor not yet of the age of majority

Which leads me to the definition of a minor.

A Minor is a person under the age of full legal responsibility.

Parental obligations typically end when a child reaches the age of majority, which is 18 years old in Maryland.

These are our children. Our choice.

We are legally responsible for our children until they are of the majority age of 18. Therefore we demand full transparency in our children's education and informed consent of such education.

While children need to know the biological aspects of sex and gender, teaching explicit lessons in

sexual practices and preferences are NOT the responsibility of the schools. Sex education, yes. Sexualization. No!

Recent scores show that our children need to focus on reading, math, science and social studies. Which makes me wonder. Is that the end game? Keep them dumb and unintelligent so you can control?

Furthermore studies clearly show the damming effects of the early sexualization of youth. It's unfathomable that the state of Md with participation of our public schools are willing to take on a role to destroy the minds of innocent children.

At the very least, should this bill pass through your failing, parents and caregivers must have the choice to OPT their children IN to these lessons. Again, OPT IN not opt out.

So to reiterate, the state government should not be imposing this extreme agenda on children. It will create a generation of psychological warfare on these precious moldable brains..

We will continue to battle this misguided overreach and protect the well-being of our children. So please do not fail these children, they are our future...vote with your heads. Please vote against this bill or at the very least amend it with an OPT in option. Our children...our choice.

I'm going to leave you with this quote from Michael Badnarik.

"When the state or federal government control the education of all of our children, they have the dangerous and illegitimate monopoly to control and influence the thought process of our citizens"