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## HRC, Transgender and Local Control

When President Donald Trump issued his April 26<sup>th</sup> Executive Order (EO) “Enforcing Statutory Prohibitions on Federal Control of Education,” it became the responsibility of the Secretary of the Department of Education (DOE). If the Secretary accomplishes the goal in the title of the EO, the end result should be (a) *enforcement* of current laws passed by Congress to *protect* local control of education and the (b) *repeal* of federal laws that *impede* local control.

The broad scope of the EO authorizes the Secretary to (a) examine and determine which regulations and guidance documents *uphold* local control of education materials<sup>1</sup> and which *do not*; (b) rescind or revise regulations and guidance documents that are inconsistent with education law; then subsequently, (c) propose and publish new regulations and guidance documents within 300 days after April 26, 2017, the issue-date of the EO.

**Are Welcoming Schools Programs under local control?** The Welcoming Schools Program of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) should be investigated for (a) the Pre-K<sup>2</sup> – 12 LGBTQ inclusive programs that defy local values. Also, to be investigated should be (b) HRC-trained facilitators<sup>3</sup> and (c) their LGBTQ<sup>4</sup> curricula content, (d) supplemental material and hand-outs, (e) as well as school nurse training. A Welcoming Schools facilitator, who represents the Georgia Safe Schools Coalition, also, recently trained Georgia’s Fayette County school nurses.

**HRC explains “Q”:** “While we have been using the ‘Q’ in much of our work for years, HRC has now officially embraced the word’s positive evolution, joining other advocates, supporters and new-generation activists who are taking back ‘queer’ from those who still seek to use it as a slur. ... ‘Queer’ serves as an umbrella term that encompasses many people as it intersects with sexual orientation and gender identity.” [The 2<sup>nd</sup> Q represents queer; the 1<sup>st</sup> Q is for “questioning.”]

### HRC Curricula\* and Welcoming Schools Agenda

HRC *Supporting LGBT Inclusive Teaching\** provides free support and guidance for curricula\*. Its *Stop Bullying* site links directly to data about LGBT bullying, offering teachers, students and others a “Guide to Understanding Bullying and Cyberbullying.”

Its *Gay Straight Alliance Network* of school clubs empowers/trains LGBTQ students and allies to advocate, organize, mobilize, and create a “safer<sup>5</sup> school community for all students.”

Its *Gender Spectrum* provides consultation, training and events to help educators, families, and organizations understand and address gender identity and gender expression.

Its *Everyone is Gay* program offers tips, resources, and data for parents and teachers to provide a “safe environment at home and school for LGBTQ students.”

<sup>1</sup> Curriculum, instruction programs, textbooks, library books, and other instructional material

<sup>2</sup> HRC’s list for “Gender-Expansive and Transgender Children” includes books for pre-K, such as *Jacob’s New Dress* and *My Princess Boy*. *The Boy in the Dress* is a book listed for grades 5 – 7. All of the books incite sexual confusion.

<sup>3</sup> Applicants who become Certified HRC Facilitators must complete four full days of professional development training and content specific seminars at HRC headquarters, Washington, D.C., where they are promised on-going support.

<sup>4</sup> Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual/transgender, questioning, queer; adding I and A includes intersex and allies

<sup>5</sup> Safer means the elimination of all opposition, disagreement, and negative comments about LGBTQ and other lifestyles

## Georgia Safe Schools Coalition (GSSC)

The Georgia Safe Schools Coalition is a partnership of educators, community organizations, and safe-school activists, all of whom are allies of HRC and Welcoming Schools. All have the same goal, which is the eradication of attitudes and actions, they deem to be trans-prejudicial and heterosexist. To accomplish that goal, they advocate and educate for LGBTQQ students and families, beginning with very young children.

Epithets – “trans-prejudice” and “heterosexism” – are newly coined labels to sling against the opposition and stifle resistance. *Trans-prejudice* is a confrontational term currently used against those who disagree with the transgender movement; *heterosexism* is used as a disparaging slur aimed at anyone who supports the biological fact that sex has only two categories – male and female. Such terms are expected to shame dissidents into silence and destroy barriers to the cultural slide into immorality.

### GSSC Partner Organizations

- *Georgia Equality* is an organization that self-identifies as (a) Georgia’s only state-wide LGBTQ political advocacy organization focusing on (b) workplace protection, (c) anti-bullying policies, (d) HIV/AIDS, (e) relationship recognition, (f) support and election of openly LGBT officials, and (g) increasing community education and awareness for LGBTQ.
- *PFLAG Atlanta* is part of PFLAG National. As Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians And Gays, they support, educate and advocate for LGBT people, their families, friends and allies. They claim 200,000 members in over 500 communities in the U.S. and abroad.
- *Real Youth Atlanta* says it’s “A non-profit in Atlanta that provides those ages 13 – 25 a safe space to be themselves. We foster a positive environment for LGBTQ youth and allies.”
- *Lambda Legal*, founded in 1973, is the oldest and largest national legal organization whose mission is to achieve full civil rights status for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and those with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work.

*Bellmore v. UMCH*, Civ. No. 2002C56474 exemplifies Lambda efforts in Georgia. Almost 14 years ago, Lambda Legal sent to the Attorney General its September 29, 2003 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup>, to finalize the *Bellmore* case against the United Methodist Children’s Home, the Attorney General and the DHR. The Agreement contained Lambda’s Terms of Settlement.

UMCH in Decatur, Georgia had fired a counselor who disagreed with UMCH beliefs about the sexual orientation of resident foster care adolescents. Because the DHR commissioner and the Attorney General agreed to Lambda’s sweeping out-of-court Terms, every DHR-funded child-related service in the state came under Lambda Terms that require the following:

- No religion-based screening is permitted for job applicants, volunteers, or interns, paid or unpaid, except for positions that are, specifically, religion-related, e.g. pastors and priests.
- No child or employee can be required to participate in religion-related activities or services.
- No counseling is permitted against alternate lifestyles or to redirect any sexual orientation.

**Result:** All providers of child-related services in Georgia must make a choice as follows:

- (a) *Receive* DHR funds and purge religion and religious counsel from children’s services, or
- (b) *Refuse* DHR funds and continue religious services, activities and counseling.

<sup>1</sup> Signed October 1, 2003 by DHR Commissioner Jim Martin and Laura W. Hyman, Assistant Attorney General

## Persistent Corruption of Children's Sexuality

*Drag Queen Story Hour featuring a male cross-dresser in a Brooklyn public library is described as follows:*

*“Drag Queen Story Hour captures the imagination and play of gender fluidity in childhood and gives kids glamorous and unapologetically LGBTQ role models. A drag queen will read inclusive books as well as story time favorites and lead participants in a simple craft! Best for ages 3 and up.”*

– *MassResistance*, [www.MassResistance.org](http://www.MassResistance.org)

In **September 2016**, a suburban Denver, Colorado mother, using her child's password, logged into the middle school web portal, where she found hardcore pornography of homosexuality and sadomasochism – stories, videos, graphics, articles, and explicit descriptions. The site, essentially, was an online library of “research” databases under contract with the school.

Although she and her husband complained to teachers, school officials, and the school board, they were ignored, harassed, threatened and told to keep quiet about it. However, through further investigation, the mother found more pornography on the middle school's web portal.

Soon, the parents discovered that the same database company, EBSCO, was supplying pornography to schools and public libraries throughout America and overseas. Also, EBSCO databases were available on computers in the children's section of their local public library. When the parents contacted *MassResistance*, that now has a chapter in Colorado, they were counseled and encouraged to continue confronting officials, which they did.

On **February 22, 2017** National Center on Sexual Exploitation officials named EBSCO as one of America's “12 Leading Facilitators of Sexual Exploitation.” Soon, local talk radio, national radio, and news sites covered the story, and *MassResistance* was told that a conservative group in Washington, D.C. will brief the new U.S. Attorney General about EBSCO and this problem.

**Public Library Events.** Recently, LGBTQ groups and the American Library Association have been setting up public library events for very young children from age-three to teen-age. Their “work-shops<sup>2</sup>” include puppet shows, plays with LGBT actors, or a cross-dresser reading children's books. Other presenters may be a “sex worker” or from LGBT organizations.

**March.** *MassResistance* received a call from a young mother in Arlington, Mass., where the local library had scheduled the “gender play” – “How they see your children” – for ages 3 – 8. “Queer Soup Theater<sup>3</sup>” presented it as a children's play for exploring gender and imagination.

In a meeting with the town manager and head librarian, a *MassResistance* official, who went with her, heard the mother describe the play as “sewage” scheduled for children. Although the town officials seemed shaken and it was too late to stop the play, it's not expected to return.

**May.** In Maryland, the Lexington Park Library advertised the workshop as “Straight Talk Sex Ed for Teens,” where teens could ask questions and receive answers about sexual health, birth control, lubricants, STI testing, LGBTQ relationships, or something else on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 p.m. Reportedly, past web posts of the workshop were “explicit, graphic, and X-rated.” Since local public officials, library board members and administrators indicated support for the event as a First Amendment issue, a pro-family legal group is considering legal action against the town.

<sup>1</sup> As reported to *MassResistance*, Waltham, Massachusetts, [www.MassResistance.org](http://www.MassResistance.org)

<sup>2</sup> Such programs targeting young children are being organized in public libraries nationwide. Check your public library.

<sup>3</sup> The aim of “Queer Soup Theater.” “incite audiences by using performance to smuggle ideas across society's borders.”

## “Trans” Accommodations for Georgia?

Although the Georgia General Assembly has adjourned, bills introduced but not handled this year remain alive for the 2018 legislative session, including more than a hundred bills that were introduced the last day of the session, March 30, 2017.

Among legislation introduced the last day is Representative Rich Golick’s H.B. 629 that was assigned to the House Judiciary committee, where Mr. Golick is a subcommittee chairman. The title of H.B. 629 is the “Georgia Civil Rights in Public Accommodations Act,” meaning, its focus includes restrooms, locker rooms, and other facilities that are open to the public.

As introduced, H.B. 629 would create a new chapter in Georgia law to prohibit discrimination in public facilities on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin. Although that would not change Georgia’s current system, H.B. 629 might have been introduced, specifically, to be amended next session. The likelihood of future amendments makes the bill very fragile.

Although the list in the bill does not include the word sex, there might be an attempted amendment to add sex, which is unnecessary, since males and females, already, comprise each of the listed categories and have full use of public accommodations.

Suppose H.B. 629 was introduced to (a) insert the word sex to be, erroneously, redefined to include alternate lifestyles, or to (b) add sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, transgender or (c) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, queer, allies, and intersex (LGBTQQAI). Any such addition would create a radical, unacceptable change in culture.

For several years, opponents of moral reversals have been called “homophobes.” However, the new emphasis on the T (transgender) and the second Q (defined by LGBTQQ as queer) has prompted the coining of at least two new terms – trans-prejudice and heterosexism.

- *Trans-prejudice* is the new confrontational term for use against anyone who disagrees with the transgender movement.
- *Heterosexism*, also newly coined, is used as a disparaging slur aimed at supporters of the biological fact that sex has only two categories – male and female.

If H.B. 629 were amended with sex or gender or an equivalent, *sexual behaviors* would be elevated to civil rights status, alongside race, color, religion and national origin, *none of which is a behavior*. Possibly overlooked by proponents of moral change is this fact: Many such *sexual behaviors* have been, or continue to be, illegal and/or medically dangerous.

**Connecticut’s Wesleyan University** President Michael Roth announced the school’s creation of a Queer Resource Center for its LGBTQQFAGIPBDSM population, and invited everyone to access its “endless acronym” site to add more letters to its acronym of 15 variant orientations.

Wesleyan’s website lists 47 all-gender restrooms, with none listed for males or females who prefer sex-specific facilities. Wesleyan promotes a preferred name policy for internationals and transgender males and females who want names that reflect a non-biological identity.

All this and more could come to Georgia *via* an amended H.B. 629. Georgia would be better served if H.B. 629 stays in committee, forever! Please ask H.B. 629’s author to keep it there.

**ACTION – Oppose H.B. 629. Call 404 656 -5943 and ask Rep. Golick to leave his bill in committee ... forever.**

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