

# PARENTAL CONSENT ALBERTA

Ensuring the Parents' Voice in Their  
Children's Sexuality and Gender Development

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## Reasons Why the Age for Independence from Parental Consent in SOGI Self-identity and GSA Membership Should be 16 and Not 15, 14 or 5

In a December 2020 [decision](#), a British High Court ruled in a case brought against Tavistock (gender clinic) and Portman NHS Foundation that children under 16 with gender dysphoria are unlikely to be able to give informed consent to undergo treatment with puberty-blocking drugs. According to [BBC News](#): Dame Victoria Sharp, sitting with Lord Justice Lewis and Mrs Justice Lieven, said:

***It is highly unlikely that a child aged 13 or under would be competent to give consent to the administration of puberty blockers.***

***It is doubtful that a child aged 14 or 15 could understand and weigh the long-term risks and consequences of the administration of puberty blockers.***

This court ruling emphasizes the irrationality and health risks of Alberta empowering 5 to 15 year-old students with SOGI self-identification rights, secret from parental knowledge and consent authorities, while the children are attending Alberta schools.

Moreover, GSA clubs are intended to be peer-led so-called “safe spaces” for biased/affirming-only speech, which has resulted in harmful peer pressure, [group think](#), and dangerous club dynamics. Lucia Corbella, in a *Calgary Herald* [article](#), 25 Nov 2017, details the effects of peer pressure: [Extract]

*Early into the 2015 school year, the parents noticed that Jane was more anxious than usual. The worried parents were eventually told by a teacher that Jane had joined the school's GSA and they were 'completely fine with it. We thought it would be a safe place for her to meet new friends, stand up against bullying and learn about how everyone is different,' said Stephen. Eventually, however, the school wrote the couple a letter recommending that they take Jane — who was still 12 years old — to a gender clinic.*

*By very gently talking with Jane away from the stress of peer pressure, they learned that Jane was being called a boy's name at school and addressed with male pronouns. At home, she'd be called by her real name and female pronouns. 'To live a double life, where she's keeping this huge secret from her family, including her siblings, is exceedingly stressful, especially for someone with autism and body dysmorphia,' explained Sarah....I'm a very accepting person," said Stephen. 'I love people for who they are. I have many LGBTQ friends. I love all people, I seriously do, but they're promoting the idea on kids who normally would not have gone there. They were facilitating and going out of their way to transition her into becoming a boy without our knowledge. But what training do they have about children with autism?' asked Stephen. 'The school undermined us and that led (Jane) to that point of suicide. We could have helped our daughter, but they didn't give us that opportunity.'*

This graphic (below) illustrates the unprecedented disenfranchisement of parent powers, rights, and consent responsibilities; and the extraordinary level of deconstruction of family autonomy vis-a-vis the State.

Category of Independence	Age
Legal Age of Majority (Full Independence)	18
Legal to Drink Alcohol/Buy Cigarettes or Lottery Tickets	
Legal to Stop Attending School	16
Legal to Vote in Federal & Provincial Elections	18
Legal to Watch a Restricted Movie	
Legal to Marry Without Parental Consent	18
Legal to Join Military Without Parental Consent	
Legal to Change Name Without Parental Consent	
Legal Right to Leave Home Without Parental Consent	16
Legal to Get a Tattoo Without Parental Consent	
Legal to Get Employment Without Parental Consent	
Legal to Decide Health Care Without Parental Consent	
Legal to <b>Change Name</b> According to Self-identity While at School Without Parental Consent	5
Legal to <b>Self-Declare Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity</b> While at School Without Parental Consent	
Legal to <b>Join a Gay or Queer-Straight Alliance (GSA club)</b> While at School Without Parental Consent	

Under long-established family and child welfare laws, parents are entitled to due legal process and issuance of a court order before the State intervenes in parent-son/parent-daughter childrearing dynamics or normal family autonomy. GSA Law not only circumvents due legal process, but also breaches conventional age-based child-parent consent laws, i.e. prerequisites to reach ages 16 or 18 to escape need for parent approval in key life choices along the path to adulthood. The sound function, solidarity, and autonomy of the Alberta family have traditionally rested on child welfare “due legal process” and numerous legal consent thresholds regulating parent-child relations.

The State (Alberta) is imposing on parents their children’s full independence in the domains of human sexuality and gender identity an unprecedented decade earlier in age (see chart), under the presumption the State knows better than parents what is in the child’s greatest interest. This social experiment has been launched by *Alberta Education* with inadequate teacher/staff training, with no extra institutional psychology resourcing, and with no official mandate transfer of the historic roles, responsibilities and procedures set out in Child Welfare Services and Family Law.

The governance message to social conservative parents is that their beliefs and values are flawed. The message to all Alberta parents, you have no right to know who is influencing your children’s sexuality/gender development or what your children are doing in GSAs and with the GSA Network. Worse, in all cases where something goes wrong with a child’s physical, mental and/or spiritual health, resulting from this governance experiment, *Alberta Education* returns the son or daughter to the blind-sided parents for follow-up care.

Worse still, the result of the “Conversion Therapy Ban (Bill C-4),” the State now dictates to parents that the only legitimate types of medical or religious support must be neutral to or affirming of all

sexual orientation/gender identities. Sexuality/gender clinics or service providers and churches are banned from offering exclusively heteronormative-affirming counsel. Parents who are discovered engaging banned services for their children may face incarceration of up to five years.

Without governance remedy, the State (provincial and federal) is imposing a “*one shoe fits all*” ideological approach resulting in a radical and harmful shift in “parent-child-State” relations. Any notion of parental oversight and rational consent authority in their children’s sexuality/gender development is over. Wavering/confused Alberta youth are encouraged by the State to join peer-led, ideologically biased clubs connected to the [GSA Network](#) - [LGBTQ Activist Chain](#). The governance contradicts the idea of the family autonomy vis-à-vis the State as declared/intended in the October 16, 2020, [Declaration of UCP Principles and Commitments](#) - **102c, 201.1, 201.2**. Religious freedom under these conditions also becomes indefensibly constrained.