

PARENTAL CONSENT

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

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Intent of Education Act, s.58.1 Notice to Parent, Now of Low Utility Due to Secret SOGI Self-identity Policy and Secret GSA Membership

Notice to Parent

Reference <https://www.alberta.ca/education-guide-education-act.aspx>

[Education Act](#), Sections 58.1

Section 58.1 of the *Education Act* states that

(1) A board shall provide notice to a parent of a student where courses, programs of study or instructional materials, or instruction or exercises, include subject-matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion or human sexuality.

(2) Where a teacher or other person providing instruction, teaching a course or program of study or using the instructional materials referred to in subsection (1) receives a written request signed by a parent of a student that the student be excluded from the instruction, course or program of study or use of instructional materials, the teacher or other person shall, in accordance with the request of the parent, permit the student, without academic penalty,

(a) to leave the classroom or place where the instruction, course or program of study is taking place or the instructional materials are being used for the duration of the part of the instruction, course or program of study, or the use of the instructional materials, that includes the subject-matter referred to in subsection (1), or

(b) to remain in the classroom or place without taking part in the instruction, course or program of study or using the instructional materials.

(3) This section does not apply to incidental or indirect references to religion, religious themes or human sexuality in a course, program of study, instruction or exercises or in the use of instructional materials.

Discussion

At the time "Notice to parent" passed as an amendment to the Alberta Bill of Rights in June 2009, Lindsay Blackett, the government minister responsible for the bill, said: "*People of Alberta are better off for it and we had the courage to actually bring it forward.*" Rob Anderson, Conservative MLA for Airdrie-Chestermere, commented: "*The changes reflect what the majority of Albertans want. And I think it's a credit to this government that it has*

stood up for what is right on this matter despite the inevitable cries of foul that come from the opposition." During the debate, MLA Anderson said: *"There are thousands and thousands of parents, the silent majority, severely normal Albertans that are extremely happy with this legislation, that believe it's right to affirm the right of parents as being the primary educators of their children on these subjects."* See the CBC article "[Alberta passes law allowing parents to pull kids out of class](#)," dated June 2, 2009.

The clear intent of the "Notice to parent" is to affirm the right of parents, as the primary educators, to oversee and give consent to their child's human sexuality education (including sexual orientation and gender identity). What is the practical utility of this parental right of notice, if the same parents are now (since March 2015) concurrently denied knowledge and consent authority over their child's membership in the "[GSA Club](#) - [GSA-Network](#) - [LGBTQ Activist Chain](#)." The student right to secrecy (starting at **age 5**) cancels out the practical intent of the parental notice right. **It bears repeating, the impact of GSA law is that the mother and father no longer know who is influencing their children's sexual development, where and when this is happening, and what their children are being told and doing while at school. This is true, whether the child joining the "club" is gay, lesbian, straight or sexually wavering/confused.**