



# California School District Will Not Allow Parents To Opt Children Out Of LGBTQ Content

California: Murrieta School District will not allow parents to opt their children out of classes containing LGBTQ content. Strong objections arose when parents were shown a video featuring an ACLU staff member instructing teachers how to teach children about oral sex, masturbation, and same-sex relationships and how to help girls obtain abortions without parental knowledge. This is impossible because LGBTQ content is infused throughout the curricula, including history classes. Murrieta School District's Monica Gutierrez of the Public Information Office said that the California Healthy Youth Act requires teachers and curricula to "affirmatively recognize different sexual orientations, be inclusive of same-sex relationships, and teach students about gender identity and gender expression." -GEG

- A California school district will not allow parents to opt their children out of classes involving LGBTQ content.
- A representative of the district said in an email this is because LGBTQ content is "fused throughout the entirety of the curriculum."
- Murrieta School District previously came under fire for a video depicting an ACLU staff member instructing teachers how to help students obtain abortions without

parental consent.

A California school district will not allow parents to opt their children out of classes containing LGBTQ content, figures or historical references, emails show.

Murrieta School District says parents have the ability to opt their children out of comprehensive sexual health, but parents are still not able to opt their children out of LGBTQ content when taught in other subjects, according to emails obtained by the Daily Caller News Foundation.

The district recently came under fire after a video from the conservative group Our Watch exposed progressive sex education programs in California teaching children about oral sex, masturbation, role-playing and more.

The video depicts [ACLU staff attorney Ruth Dawson](#), according to Our Watch, instructing teachers on how to help students obtain abortions without parental consent. The video generated no local or national media coverage until a tipster alerted the DCNF.

An investigation by the DCNF found the California Board of Education implemented progressive sex and gender education curriculum in public schools across the state and that the ACLU was permitted to instruct California public school teachers on how to help children obtain abortions without parental consent.

Murrieta School District's Monica Gutierrez of the Public Information Office sent a July 29 email warning parents that misinformation was being spread throughout the district. President of Our Watch, Pastor Tim Thompson, said the misinformation Gutierrez was referring to was the Our Watch video and subsequent media coverage.

"I am writing to you this morning because the inaccuracies and false information regarding comprehensive sexual health

education is once again propagating our community,” Gutierrez wrote in an email to a group she referred to as “key communicators” obtained by the DCNF. She did not respond multiple requests for comment.

Gutierrez attached a pamphlet to the email, intended to distill rumors previously circulating in the community.

Thompson said he had proposed a model policy in a March email to the Murrieta School District that addressed concerns regarding LGBTQ content being taught to children. Gutierrez denied the request and told Thompson it was not possible for parents to opt their children out of LGBTQ content.

“We write in response to your request that the Murrieta Valley Unified School District (“District”) mandate opt-out notifications in grades K-12 from discussions that mention LGBTQ content, figures, or historical references,” Gutierrez wrote in a March 1 letter.

Gutierrez pointed out the California Healthy Youth Act, otherwise known as AB-329, [mandates](#) teachers and curricula “affirmatively recognize different sexual orientations, be inclusive of same-sex relationships, and teach students about gender, gender identity and gender expression.”

“For all sexual health education, instruction and materials used in the District’s sexual health and HIV education must be age appropriate, medically accurate, and appropriate for use with students of all races, genders, sexual orientations, and ethnic and cultural backgrounds, English learners, and students with disabilities,” she continued.

The California Board of Education did not respond to multiple requests for comment on this mandate.

“In practice, this means that the above-mentioned criteria must be fused throughout the entirety of the curriculum,” Gutierrez added.

She said parents can opt their children out of the sex education courses but emphasized that California Healthy Youth Act has caused LGBTQ content to be included throughout a variety of courses and cannot reasonably allow parents to opt their children out of courses such as history.

Thompson told the DCNF he was moved to share pictures of Gutierrez's emails on Facebook after the DCNF covered the Our Watch video.

"After your article stirred everything up, they told everyone the video was all lies," he said. "That is when I decided to let everyone see the letter."

Thompson explained children can be exposed to LGBTQ content in all areas of study, and that teachers will have the ability to use any books from the approved framework within the California Healthy Youth Act.

"The fact that the Murrieta Valley Unified School District continues to mislead parents by telling them that they can opt out infuriates me," Thompson told the DCNF.

"They quote the opt out right pertaining to sex ed and never tell the parents that the LGBTQ content in other classes can not be opted out of. Everything they show the parents has to do with sex ed, and parents don't know that these issues are now in history, language arts, assemblies, and the like."

Thompson said the district policy is made very clear in the March letter he received and has since posted on Facebook. He added that Murrieta is not the only district doing this.

"Similar tactics of deceiving parents are deployed in districts around our state, and our nation. It's time for parents to apply some very hard pressure to their respective school boards."

Thompson said he attended a Thursday board meeting with the Murrieta School District where he called on the board to declare the district a "Sanctuary School District" for

parental rights.

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Undercover video of ACLU staff instructing teachers on progressive sex ed and how students can obtain an abortion: