



Right-Wing Extremists' Latest Attempt To Attack Public Education

Great Schools Initiative (GSI) is a group affiliated with the Thomas More Society, a national right-wing group known for frivolous lawsuits – including a challenge to the 2020 election results.

They're encouraging parents to "opt-out" of sex education by redefining what that is -- in their view any reference to LGBTQ+ people is "sex ed". Currently, in Michigan, parents can opt-out of sex ed curriculum. GSI is exploiting that by creating their own "opt-out" form that includes "gender/sexuality social justice or gender/sexuality activism", which could even ban teaching about the women's suffrage movement.

If Michigan schools don't comply with their demands, they plan to launch a barrage of lawsuits. The strategy is to overwhelm Michigan schools with litigation to effectively mandate the erasure of LGBTQ+ people and bog down the court system at a huge expense to taxpayers.

This is not just a few concerned parents. GSI is actively coaching people on how to use surveillance to track teachers, staff, and administrators -- putting more pressure on already-overburdened school workers. At each step of the process, there are instructions on how to gather evidence and documents to overwhelm the courts.

There are lawsuits ready to be launched at all levels: if a teacher does not remove a particular book from their classroom, if the administrator doesn't sign the opt-out form acknowledging receipt of the opt-out form, etc.

What To Do

If they reach out to you, do not sign the opt-out form.

Spread the word! GSI is trying to hide its true agenda so it's crucial that people know the facts. Share this information with friends, family, and neighbors.

Do not refer to them as parents concerned about sex education. Always point out their true goal, who they really are, and their impact: GSI is the latest effort of a national right-wing movement to attack public education and erase LGBTQ+ people. They're trying to use kids as political pawns, which will cost taxpayers thousands of dollars in lawsuits.

Support teachers and staff who will be surveilled and threatened. Let them know you appreciate honest, accurate teaching.

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