



# Sample Universal Opt-Out Letter

[Date]

[School Principal]

[School Name]

[School Address]

[School City/State/ZIP]

Re: Legal right to withhold consent for child's participation

Dear [School Principal],

We hereby exercise our legal right to withhold consent for our minor child, [Child's Name], to participate in, or be given access to, any class, lesson, instruction, curriculum, assembly, guest speaker, activity, assignment, library material, online material, club, group, or association concerning:

Gender Identity/Transgender: including gender identity, gender fluidity, gender as a social construct, gender binary, gender spectrum, gender non-conforming, gender queer, gender variant, gender expression, drag queen/king, transgender identity, transgender affirmation, gender/preferred pronouns, cisgender, gender change, gender transition, gender surgery, gender affirmation surgery, puberty-blocking hormones, cross-sex hormones, "sex assigned at birth," sex change; or

Sexual Activity: sexual activity of any kind (sexual intercourse, vaginal/oral/anal/group sex, masturbation), sexual relationships (polysexual, pansexual, polyamory, swinging, relationship anarchy); or

Sexual Orientation: any sexual orientation, including homosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, two-spirit, "LGBT" or any acronymic variant thereof; or

Abortion/Contraception: abortion methods/drugs/devices, how to get an abortion without parental knowledge, contraceptive methods/drugs/devices, how to get contraceptives without parental knowledge.

With regard to (1) the biological processes of human reproduction in a science class or unit, or (2) family composition/what makes a family, we ask for notice and the opportunity for prior review to determine whether we will grant or withhold consent.

We expect all school officials to treat our child, and all children opted out of any lesson, with dignity and respect. If the requests in this letter are not honored, or if our child experiences discrimination or any other mistreatment, we will pursue any and all legal and equitable remedies available to us through state, federal, and constitutional law.\*

Sincerely,

[Parent Name(s), Signature(s), Contact Information]

Cc: [Child's Teacher, Superintendent of School District, School Board/County Representative]

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\* See, e.g., *Troxel v. Granville*, 530 U.S. 57, 66, 120 S. Ct. 2054, 2060 (2000)(the Constitution "protects the fundamental right of parents to make decisions concerning the care, custody, and control of their children"); *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205, 232, 32 L. Ed. 2d 15, 92 S. Ct. 1526 (1972)("the 'liberty' specially protected by the Due Process Clause [of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment] includes the rights...to direct the education and upbringing of one's children"); *Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745, 753, 71 L. Ed. 2d 599, 102 S. Ct. 1388 (1982)(recognizing "fundamental liberty interest of natural parents in the care, custody, and management of their child"); *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205, 233 (1992)(recognizing "liberty of parents...to direct the upbringing and education of children"); *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510, 534-535, 69 L. Ed. 1070, 45 S. Ct. 571 (1925) (parents have the right "to direct the upbringing and education of children under their control.")