

*From the
Rector*



Parents; Take back Control!

*Start children off on the way they should go, and even when
they are old, they will not turn from it.*

Proverbs 22:6

The culture war is hotting up. Christian parents need to wake up to the danger posed by cultural Marxists directly targeting their children with LGBTI ideology. Christians should love those who self-identify as LGBTI along with all our neighbours, but this cannot mean that we are obliged to celebrate LGBTI ideology and lifestyles and promote them to our children. I am grateful to David Robertson and his opinion piece on this issue recently published on his blog theweeflea.com.

Imagine the scene: a child is told by their teacher, 'There are 73 different genders!' When they replied that there were only two genders, they were mocked by their classmates. This incident should not surprise us: at the insistence of Ofsted, pupils all over the UK are being indoctrinated in culturally Marxist LGBTI ideology. The government makes no secret that its aim is to use the education system to promote LGBTI lifestyles and identities.

The UK government's proposed Relationships and Sexual Education (RSE) programme is nothing but state sponsored child abuse. It teaches that gender is a mere social construct; those who wish to change gender can do so by simply self-identifying as whatever gender they choose. A tearful seven-year girl asked her parents, 'Mummy, am I a boy or a girl? My teacher says I can choose.' The Tavistock Clinic for gender reassignment is being overwhelmed with the increase in children presenting with symptoms of gender distressed fluidity: from 40 in 2009/10 to 1806 in 2017/18.

The RSE programme is also a form of child grooming. “*Child grooming is befriending and establishing an emotional connection with a child, and sometimes the family, to lower the child's inhibitions with the objective of sexual abuse.*” (NSPCC). The Government may not intend this to happen, but it is the effective result. This sexual indoctrination of young children prepares them for early sexual experimentation, normalises it and, in so doing, opens the door for sexual predators.

Grooming can also be facilitated when there is a removal of parental authority and control. Be advised that RSE will be compulsory: parents will not be permitted to withdraw their children; as of September 2020, Relationships Education will become mandatory in all primary schools in England (both state and independent), and Relationships and Sex Education will become mandatory in all secondary schools. As far as moral education is concerned, children will belong to the state.

How have parents responded to the appropriation of their children by the state? When a Birmingham school introduced ‘No Outsiders’, a sex education/relationship programme laden with LGBTI ideology, it was so strongly opposed by the parents that it was withdrawn, if only temporarily. The UK media were desperate to portray the reasonable, mainly Muslim parents, as homophobic bigots. Meanwhile Christian parents, duped by the seductive language, meekly acquiesce to this new programme of state indoctrination. We all want to live in a world of ‘love’ where there are no outsiders, where bullying is opposed, and everyone is treated with dignity. But does that necessitate imposing LGBTI ideology on our children? Bullying would be better deterred by teaching the biblical truth that every person is made in the image of God and therefore has the right to be treated with dignity. Wake up! Via the Trojan horse of teaching tolerance and opposing bullying, the extent of which they greatly exaggerate, the LGBTI activists are imposing a sexual philosophy which at its heart is both anti-Christian and harmful.

Christian parents need to follow the example of our Muslim neighbours and insist on their basic human right to have their children educated according to their own beliefs. Article 26 (3) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: *‘Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education*

that shall be given to their children.’ Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: ‘Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.’ European law states the same principle: ‘In the exercise of any functions which it assumes in relation to education and to teaching, the State shall respect the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching is in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions.’ (First Protocol, Article 2)

For the sake of not only our own children but for the love of others, Christians must resist the tide of cultural Marxism. We need to support those who work in education, whether Christians or not, as they stand against the intimidation and bullying. It’s not only a matter of human rights – it also concerns our God given responsibilities.

