

EXCUSE OF PUPIL FROM OBJECTIONABLE EDUCATION

To: School Board Members, Superintendent, Principal, Teachers, Counselors and Staff of the _____ School District.

I, _____, am the parent or legal guardian of _____, who is enrolled in the _____ grade at _____ (school).

This letter serves as legal notice that I am exercising my rights under 20 U.S.C. 1232(h) and the California Education Code (Educ.C.), including but not limited to, Sections 221.5, 51100, 51101, 51501, 51513, and 51937-51939, to exempt my child from objectionable education.

Pursuant to Educ.C. § 51938, I, as a parent or guardian of a pupil, am exercising my right to excuse my child from all or part of comprehensive sexual health education, HIV/AIDS Prevention education, and assessments related to that education.

Additionally, please notify me, as per the requirements of Educ.C. § 51938(a), "about instruction in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV/AIDS prevention education and research on pupil health behaviors and risks planned for the coming year." The notice must include all of the following:

- (1) Assurance that written and audio visual educational materials used in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV/AIDS prevention education are available for inspection.
- (2) Whether the comprehensive sexual health education or HIV/AIDS prevention education will be taught by school district personnel or by outside consultants.
- (3) Any information explaining my right as a parent or guardian to request a copy of these instructional materials
- (4) That I, as the parent or guardian, may request in writing that my child not receive comprehensive sexual health education or HIV/AIDS prevention education.

In addition, pursuant to the policy adopted by the District under Educ.C. § 51101(b)(G), I wish to participate in any and all "decisions relating to the education of [my] child" in the following areas:

1. Family life, health, or human sexuality education;
2. Homosexuality, lesbianism, bi-sexuality, transgender or transsexual issues;
3. Gender identity, sexual orientation, sexual preference; and,
4. Any alternatives to monogamous heterosexual marriage.

Before any of the above topics are presented to my child, please take notice that I am exercising my rights under the California Education Code to do the following: (1) examine the curriculum materials regarding said topics (Educ.C. § 51101(a)(8); and, (2) meet with the instructor and principal to discuss the presentation of these topics to my child (Educ.C. § 51101(a)(2).

Furthermore, in accordance with Title 20 U.S.C. 1232(h) and Educ.C. § 51513, unless you obtain my express written consent for each occurrence, you are not to administer any test, questionnaire, survey, or examination containing any questions about my child[ren]'s personal beliefs or practices in sex, family life, morality, and religion, or any questions about my child[ren]'s parents' or guardians' beliefs and practices in sex, family life, morality, and religion. Additionally, as per Educ.C. § 51101(a)(13), I wish to receive information about any psychological testing the school does involving my child prior to its administration. Unless I provide express written consent, I am denying permission to give any such test. This restriction applies to all agents of the school and the school district, including, but not limited to, teachers, teacher aides, administrators, school counselors, school health

personnel, special guests or presenters, California Department of Education or other state departments or their agents, or anyone speaking or acting on behalf of the school or school district.

Furthermore, this restriction shall be applicable whether the pupil is on school grounds, or elsewhere. This exemption requirement additionally applies to all writings as defined by California Evidence Code §250, including, but not limited to:

1. Classroom instruction, presentations, and campus displays;
2. Reading assignments, class discussions, homework assignments;
3. Photographs, films, filmstrips, slides, DVDs, CDs, video tapes, audio tapes, MP3, movies, projector images;
4. CD-Roms, Internet programs and other computer-related activities;
5. Books, magazines, newspapers, and other written or printed material;
6. Assemblies, field trips, theatrical or musical performances; or
7. Extracurricular activities and individual or group activities.

Based on the foregoing notice, I respectfully request to be notified in writing at least 14 days in advance of all future instruction, events, activities, etc., from which my child may need to be exempted so that I may work with you in providing alternate accommodations for my child's education. This request is made based on our family's sincerely held religious beliefs, as well as the need to protect my child from possible physical, emotional, or psychological harm or trauma.

I request that the principal and all teachers or other agents of the school district who are involved with the education of the above named pupil[s] be informed of this legal, written notice, and that they be made aware of the penalties associated with knowingly violating my rights as set forth in this document. This form supersedes any prior exemption or authorization forms you may have on file for the above referenced pupil[s].

In order to assure that this form is on file and the appropriate individuals have been notified, please acknowledge receipt and filing of this document in writing. Thank you for your cooperation. Thank you for respecting my family's moral convictions in these matters. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Daytime/Evening Phone Number(s): _____

cc: Pacific Justice Institute
P.O. Box 276600
Sacramento, CA 95827
pji@pacificjustice.org