

DEFEND YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND YOUR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS *in matters of sex ed*



PARENTS ARE CHILDREN'S FIRST EDUCATORS.
Despite this legally recognized principle, the Quebec government is preventing parents from making any decisions when it comes to sex education.

Quebec parents will be the only parents in Canada *unable* to fully exercise their parental rights and responsibilities. This includes the right to provide their child with sex education aligned with their values, and choose *what* to teach them, *when*, and *how*.

Instead of supporting parents in their role as first educators, the Quebec government is *taking over* that role, interfering with parental authority and infringing on parental rights.

The right of parents to direct and be fully informed of all aspects of their child's education is entrenched in international law, federal law, and provincial law.

Parents have the right to choose and provide their child with an education aligned with their values, barring any necessary restrictions to ensure overriding public interest.

Quebec parents have the right to be informed of what their child learns at school. Schools have no legal right to withhold this information from parents.

FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION

QUEBEC CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, ARTICLE 3: *Every person is the possessor of the fundamental freedoms, including freedom of conscience, freedom of religion, freedom of opinion, freedom of expression, freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association.*

CANADIAN CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, ARTICLE 2: *Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms: (a) freedom of conscience and religion; (b) freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication (...)*

QUEBEC EDUCATION ACT, ARTICLE 37(3): *The educational project of the school must respect the freedom of conscience and of religion of the students, the parents and the school staff.*



THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (1948), ARTICLE 18: *Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion (...)*

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (1989), ARTICLE 14(1): *States Parties shall respect the right of the child to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.*

ARTICLE 14(2): *States Parties shall respect the rights and duties of the parents (...) to provide direction to the child in the exercise of his or her right in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child.*

PARENTAL AUTHORITY AND PARENTS AS THEIR CHILDREN'S FIRST EDUCATORS

CIVIL CODE OF QUEBEC, ARTICLE 598: *A child remains subject to the authority of his father and mother until his majority or emancipation. ARTICLE 599(1):* *The father and mother have the rights and duties of custody, supervision and education of their children.*

ARTICLE 601: *The person having parental authority may delegate the custody, supervision or education of the child.*

ARTICLE 605: (...) *the father and mother retain the right to supervise the maintenance and education of the children (...)*

DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (1959), PRINCIPLE 7(2): *The best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for his education and guidance; that responsibility lies in the first place with his parents.*

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (1989), ARTICLE 18(1): (...) *Parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians, have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child. The best interests of the child will be their basic concern.*

PARENTAL AUTHORITY: MY CHILD, MY CHOICE.



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www.sexeducationquebec.org

RIGHTS OF PARENTS TO DIRECT THEIR CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS AND MORAL EDUCATION

QUEBEC CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, ARTICLE 41: Parents or the persons acting in their stead have the right to give their children a religious and moral education in keeping with their children's rights and interests.

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (1948), ARTICLE 26(3): Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS (1976), Article 18(4): The States Parties (...) undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents (...) to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.

RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

CIVIL CODE OF QUEBEC, ARTICLE 32: Every child has a right to the protection, security and attention that his parents or the persons acting in their stead are able to give to him.

ARTICLE 33: Every decision concerning a child shall be taken in light of the child's interests and the respect of his rights. Consideration is given, in addition to the moral, intellectual, emotional and physical needs of the child, to the child's age, health, personality and family environment, and to the other aspects of his situation.

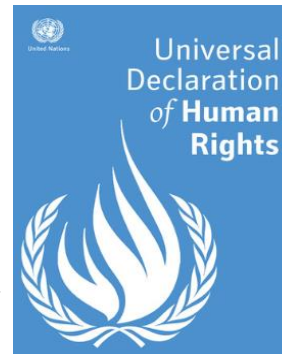
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (1989), ARTICLE 16(1)(2): No child shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home (...) The child has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.



RIGHT TO EDUCATION WHICH STRENGTHENS RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (1948), ARTICLE 26(2):

Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.



DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION TO PROVIDE PARENTS



QUEBEC EDUCATION ACT, ARTICLE 230(1): Every school board shall ensure that only the textbooks, instructional material or class of instructional material approved by the Minister are used by schools for the teaching of any program of studies established by the Minister.

BASIC SCHOOL REGULATION FOR PRESCHOOL, ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION EDUCATION ACT, ARTICLE 20:

At the beginning of the school year, the principal shall ensure that the following documents are provided to the parents of each student or to the student, if of full age:

(2) information on the preschool education program or, in the case of an elementary or a secondary student, information on the student's programs of studies and a list of the textbooks required for the programs

(4) in the case of an elementary or a secondary student, a summary of the standards and procedures for the evaluation of student learning approved by the school principal, indicating in particular the nature of the main evaluations and the period during which they are scheduled for each subject.

If, during the year, significant adjustments are made to the information to which subparagraph 4 of the first paragraph applies, the school principal ensures that the adjustments are also communicated to the parents or to the student.

ARTICLE 21: In addition to the right of personal use of school textbooks in accordance with section 7 of the Education Act (chapter I-13.3), elementary or secondary students shall have access to the instructional material selected in accordance with the Act for their programs of studies. Children in preschool education shall have access to the instructional material required by the programs of activities provided for them.

RIGHT TO AN EXEMPTION

QUEBEC EDUCATION ACT, ARTICLE 222(2): For humanitarian reasons or to avoid serious harm to a student, the school board may, following a request, with reasons, made by the parents of the student (...) or by the school principal, exempt the student from the application of a provision of the basic school regulation. In the case of an exemption from the rules governing certification of studies referred to in section 460, the school board must apply therefor to the Minister.



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