



Parental Rights versus N.J. Senate Bill 1569

I want to thank everyone who reached out to me by e-mail or phone call to show their support for the stand I took at the August and September Barnegat Township meetings, regarding the LGBTQ Curriculum with no opt out option for our children.

Many of you expressed exactly what I espoused at those meetings. Our children need to be protected from the special interests whose individuals hold views contrary to what the vast majority in our community embrace. Prior to the shift that has occurred over the past 25 years, education was determined by the citizens of each local community, holding to the standards of that community. That has radically changed, highlighted with the law recently enacted under the authority of the state's governor.

The historical truth is that families, principally parents, have had the responsibility –and right – to determine how the issue of sex is presented to their children...not the government. This view was expressed by me at the meetings. In spite of the vile criticism and worse, twisted reporting by the media, the rights of parents, not government, nor the shouting opposition, still holds true and someone needed to say so. The overwhelming, private response from the members of our town confirms this. Parents want to guide their children in regards to sexual matters. They do not want to be bullied by the government, or other special interest groups, who should not have control over family matters, such as a child's sexual education. Moving forward, the people of the State of N.J. must come together to make our legislature aware that the mainstream of the people want this reversed. Please contact your state representatives and tell them to reinstitute your parental rights by repealing Senate Bill 1569.

Again, I offer no apologies. Although the First Amendment seems to be shredded more and more each day, there is still enough of it left to allow me the legal right to do so. In so doing, my constituents know exactly where I stand.

In closing, I am thankful to have had the opportunity to stand-in-the-gap safeguarding the rights of parents and safeguarding the well- being of their children. It is an honor to do so.

TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT

Alfonso Cirulli, Mayor