

My name is Patricia Wallace, I am a certified teacher and a National domestic Violence Facilitator and the Director for Hope Alive, a nonprofit program that educates individuals who experienced childhood trauma and struggle with emotional fixation or arrested development.

I am speaking today on behalf of the mental and emotional safety of our children. A simple definition of abuse according to Webster's Dictionary – to misuse improperly.

I would like to educate you on the brain of a child and how it can be affected by introducing sexual adult information to young children before the age of puberty.

The child between the ages of 0-14 is considered under the Age of Directive. This is the time where the child's brain is lacking 3 chemicals. Serotonin, Dopamine, and Norepinephrine. These three chemicals are not present in their brain so they can be teachable. If they experience trauma before puberty, they will freeze up emotionally. For example, if a child is abused at age 5, that child will not grow past age 7 emotionally. They grow physically and logically, but emotionally they will remain stuck at age 7 for the rest of their lives because the 3 chemicals are never released at puberty.

I have three reports dealing with the issues of early sexual exposure and its affects on a child

Each study describes how sexual information (visual or written) causes destructive physical development, mental damage and emotional trauma to a young child.

Pornography may be defined as the depiction of erotic behavior (Pictures or writing) that can cause sexual excitement in the person viewing it. Children's early brains are not designed to experience sexual arousal because their brains do not yet fully developed until (mid 20's). They do not yet contain the chemicals needed to process or reason emotions. Therefore, they interpret the feelings that something is wrong. In fact, children exposed at grade school age, often results in anxiety for the child. Children also reported feelings of disgust, shock, embarrassment, anger, fear, and sadness after viewing sexual material. Also, Children can suffer symptoms of anxiety and depression. They can become

obsessed with acting out previously seen adult sexual acts. and this can be disturbing to other children even making them feel victimized which can be traumatic and fall under a feeling of being molested.) Children can suffer many negative affects due to modern society's exposure to and acceptance of pornography such as mental disturbance, emotional unrest for a school age child including-acting out and violent behavior. The report stated, "Because of its harmfulness to children, it must never be used as a tool to teach children human sexuality."

" Michael Flood, The Harms of Pornography Exposure Among Children and Young People."

Next, according to Prevent Child Abuse America, Promoting Healthy Sexuality:
"Understanding the Effects Pornography on Children"

Sexual Exposure is harmful to children of all ages.

- Seeing unfamiliar bodies engaging in acts that a child can not comprehend is a confusing and frightening experience
- Sexual material shown to children may create a autonomic sexual arousal from what they are viewing which can confuse them into thinking they like what they see, when in fact, their bodies are reacting instinctively without the "approval" of their brain

Now I want to talk about the long-term health outcomes of children sexually abused. Showing them sexual material and information before their brains have the chemicals to process the experience is abuse. There is a ripple effect of early childhood trauma that has more than psychological effects. Biology of the brain and immune function are influenced. The child is forever changed.

Stress: children traumatized by sexual exposure prepares their body for flight or fight. Cortisol is the stress hormone and it is like battery acid to the body, breaking down the immune system and opening the body up to disease. There is a chemical cascade ripple effect on many systems, respiratory, gastric, cardiovascular, endocrine, renal and immune. Natural killer cells, for example, whose job it is to correct the cell mutation of cancer, will diminish in number.

Brain changes: when trauma and stress happen early in life, the effects are far more profound and long lasting. Early negative experiences affect the development and even structure of the brain. Women who were sexually abused as children show significant reduction in brain volume. The structure and function of the hippocampus (responsible for learning and memory), show up different than individuals who were not traumatized. The medial prefrontal cortex, amygdala (fight or flight) and other neural circuitry of the brain are also changed. The brain shows a sustained and pervasive stress response as the child grows, and this has a long term effect on immune function. Brain wave patterns also change. The brain's response to inflammation and healing is altered. Neurotransmitters levels adapt to these new abnormal levels. The biological changes in the brain are even more profound if the experience was early and pervasive.

Long term Health Issues: children who experience sexual trauma (early exposure) are one and a half times more likely to report serious health problems.

From Perspective in Psychiatric Care reports issues of anxiety, poor self-esteem, dysfunctional relationships, eating disorders. Adults with childhood sexual abuse have increased reports of fear, anxiety, insomnia, headaches, aggression, anger, hostility, poor self-esteem and suicidal attempts. Higher rates of depression which has been shown to be associated with impaired immune functioning, increased inflammation and cortisol (stress). Incidences of

dysfunctional relationships, intimate partner violence and self destructive behaviors are higher. Promiscuity and substance abuse and sexual dysfunction is also reported.

Also, more early in life exposure produced a clear and increased risk of lung disease, ulcers, cardiac disease, diabetes and cardiac disorders. Inflammatory disorders, such as rheumatoid arthritis and allergies which is cited to an imbalanced immune system's .

Autoimmune Disease: early exposure to sexual activity will predispose the child to autoimmune disease later in life. A study of 15,000 adults experiencing childhood trauma were involved in the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study. Autoimmune diseases commonly seen in this group were: fibromyalgia, Crohn's disease, irritable bowel syndrome, type 1 diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis. Cardiovascular disease, such as arteriosclerosis and ischemic heart disease which is related to maladaptive immune function and inflammation which result in higher rates.

American Nurse Today, "Long Term Health Outcomes Resulting From Childhood Sexual Abuse."

So after hearing facts and information on the affects of early sexual exposure to young children in either pictures or written information, How can you approve something that is proven harmful to our children? How can you deliberately expose the, to something they are not emotionally, mentally or physically ready to process? Has anyone of you even researched the affects pornography has on a child or an adult? Well I would not want to harm our kids in any way. Our children need to be children for as long as possible, happy go lucky children. Don't take that away from them by passing this legislation.

Statement by
Theresa Langfield

Aggravat

regarding Colorado's legislature house built 1032
Jan30,2019

My concern for this bill to be passed in the state of Colorado is for the tender young minds of a very morally confused generation. Parents always have a roll in establishing a cocoon for the foundation of thoughts and beliefs that these tender minds encounter as we all know there is so many twisted ideas of the truth escalating every minute of every day in the media. It is so critical that we do everything that we can to guide the young minds and lives of our culture. As Pope John Paul III said "as the family goes so goes the nation" .

Many of the ideologies the defy natural law and contradict the truth have already caused great Injury to our families. I pray that you will deny this bill.

I have taken great responsibility and committing to not watching anything restricted as I raised six children. I believe the media has greatly impacted tender vulnerable minds. It is true that billions of dollars are spent on marketing and programming 30 sec commercials. This is an indication of the knowingness of the impact this visualization has on our minds.

We owe it to our children to guide them and protect them from the evils of pure sensual satisfaction.

It is our responsibility to guide them with the moral laws it's sustain us. In this culture We have exchanged the truth of God for lies and served the creature rather than the creator. We are delivered to disgraceful passions.

Romans 2

This bill justifies the right to continue propagating this lie to our most valuable and precious treasures ... our children

Dear Panel,

I strongly disagree w/ HB19-1032.

The content of this bill would make it legal & required to teach what I believe to be very unhealthy sexual identity & education. Exposing children to un-natural & unhealthy teaching on lesbian, gay, bisexual, & transgender relationships is against my beliefs & I would never want my family or friends exposed to this kind of teaching.

This should not be a decision that the state is making a law about, but should be left up to their family to educate their children in these areas.

When a bill is clearly prohibiting faith based values & allowing the opinions of minority groups to speak louder than the majority of a primarily christian nation. I believe this bill is completely unconstitutional & it is not treating the faith based community equally to the LGBTQ community. ~~This bill is~~

~~I strongly disagree with this bill.~~

I do not believe there should be bullying & unhealthy treatment of any child. I don't agree with the content of this bill that I believe will plant unhealthy ideas in children's minds about what a healthy relationship is. God created man & woman & put them together in a healthy relationship. I don't think we should argue with how God intended relationships to be.

Josh Benson

January 30, 2019
No on HB 19 1032

My name is April Andersson & I am here to ask your "NO" vote on HB¹⁹1032

I represent children who don't have a voice here today. These children are at school & expect adults to protect their welfare & innocence.

A portion of the Colorado Constitution says:
"We the people of Colorado, ^{with} profound reverence for the Supreme Ruler of the Universe ... promote the general welfare & secure the blessings of liberty."

If our State Constitution acknowledges a profound reverence for the Supreme Ruler of the Universe than our bills passed & laws should as well.

LGBT represents a small majority & they come with a full blown agenda & their views do not represent the majority.

The Bible says in Mark 9:42 "But whoever causes one of these little ones to stumble, it would be better for him if a heavy millstone were hung around his neck & be thrown into the sea."

We the people includes we the parents.
We decide ~~to~~ what to say, how
to say & when to say it. Don't
discriminate against the parents
& the innocence of our children
Woe to you if you make a child
stumble. The Supreme Ruler of
the Universe warns you &
the majority of parents are doing
the same. This is not education
that belongs in our schools.
This is an outright hate crime
against faith family & young children.
Woe to you if you make a child stumble.

(112)

Susie Guerra 1/30/19 720-261-8718 grades

I'm a teacher, Accredited 7-12th grades
And according to normal child
development there is a period where
children of the same sex begin to form
close friendships.

As the hormones begin to kick in
and awakening comes, + they begin
to be attracted to the opposite sex
this begins around 12 years old.

Object to this Bill on the grounds
~~it~~ it educates children before
they their natural interests ~~develop~~ develop

Children are very impressionable + are
ripe for indoctrination as Hitler
well knew.

We, as educators, have a deep
responsibility to the parents + the
well-being of the next generation

Premature sex-education will have
lasting, detrimental ^{effects} ~~effects~~ ^{as} evidenced
by ~~the~~ vulnerable
Hitler's effect on the vulnerable youth
prior to WWII.

Our future depends on
our children + to deny them
natural development through
this premature exposure is
unconscionable!

Tolerance leads to apply
across the board + when
parents can't opt out of this
program + public funds
supply such a one-sided ~~they become~~
opinion ~~we~~ ^{they} become wards
of the state!

We as a democratic Republic
are supported by Capitalism
+ we know - Capitalism you
own property
Socialism/Communism - ours
People

30 YEARS AGO

COLORADO
LGBT
COMMUNITIES REQUESTED
EQUALITY
RECOGNITION
FAIR TREATMENT
COLORADO GAVE IT TO THEM
AND
BY AN ACT OF ACCEPTANCE AND LOVE
COLORADO HAS AWARDED
LGBT STATUS TO OUR
STATE'S HIGHEST OFFICE

NOW ⁽¹⁹⁾ 1032
HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED WITH
DIRECTIONAL FOCUS OF SOLVING
BULLYING
AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THAT FOCUS
IT DEMANDS THAT
TEACHERS BECOME
LGBT EVANGELISTS

WITHOUT TREATING ROOT CAUSES
THIS BILL AS WRITTEN WOULD REQUIRE
THAT COLORADO TEACHERS
UNDERSTAND
EXPLAIN
JUSTIFY
&AUTOMATICALLY
PROMOTE LGBT VALUES
COMPLETE WITH VISUAL REINFORCEMENT

-AS A CONSEQUENCE-
COLORADO CHILDREN WOULD THEN
BE INVOLUNTARILY SUBJECTED TO YET ANOTHER
ADULT CHOICE VS. A FREE CHILDHOOD

EVERY SINGLE COLORADO SCHOOL
FAMILY WOULD BE FORCED
TO ACCEPT THOSE VALUES

THIS IS NOT EQUALITY IT IS
CULTURAL DOMINANCE
SUPERIORITY
CONTROL

Good afternoon, chairman and committee members

My name is Mary Beth Bonacci. I am a speaker and educator. Over the past 33 years, I have spoken to several hundred thousand teenagers — if not over a million — on the topics of love, relationships and sexuality.

I am here today to ask for your "NO" vote on HB 19-1032

Let me tell you one thing I have learned from all of the years I spent with these kids. Even up into high school, they innately hold a very deep sense of the inherent beauty, intimacy and privacy of sexuality. They want to learn about it, but their maturity and preparation to hear explicit details about it happens at vastly different ages, and they are often uncomfortable discussing it in large, mixed-gender environments — especially if they are not yet mature enough to receive the information.

Of course children need to receive detailed, medically-accurate education about human sexuality. But because it is so intimately tied to the deepest parts of the person, that education should happen in setting respectful of their privacy and of the values of their families and their cultures.

Many of the issues surrounding sexuality, abortion and gender — issues mandated for "neutral" discussion in HB 19-1032 — are controversial, highly personal, and best handled by parents who know their children best, who love them, who are in tune with what information their children are prepared to hear, and who are entitled to impart the values of their families, their culture and their faith in these sensitive areas. It is these parents, then, who should be in control of the content and timing of that education. Those parents can then, as they have up until now, work in concert with local school boards to develop educational guidelines that best fit the children in that community, and to create safety nets for children whose parents are not available or not providing that formation at home.

This is best accomplished by leaving decisions about sex education to individual schools and local school boards.

HB 19-1032 also calls for oversight by an 8 member panel that is representative of neither the parents nor the local community. In addition, the guidelines clearly normalize teen sexual activity, in a state where nearly 77% of teens are currently abstaining from sexual activity and teen birth rates have plummeted 60% and remain at record lows. I predict those numbers will reverse after the passage of HB 19-1032.

What Colorado has been doing up to now is working. We allow decisions about sexuality education to be largely made at the local level, where parents have maximum input and control in what their children are being taught. Mandating one set of standards statewide is not in the best interest of Colorado's youth or their families.

I understand that the program has a strong and laudible anti-bullying focus. But that goal could be easily achieved within broader anti-bullying programming, without the detailed and invasive sexual information mandates of HB 19-1032.

Again, I urge you to vote NO on house bill 19-1032, which usurps the role of parents and local communities in insuring their children receive sexuality education that conforms with their values and the values of their culture.