

# BIG SKY WORLDVIEW FORUM



ALLIANCE DEFENDING  
**FREEDOM**

FOR FAITH. FOR JUSTICE.

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# THE ASSAULT ON FAMILIES



## What do we mean by parental rights?

Parents have the right to determine what is in the child's best interest and to make decisions about the child's education, health care, religion, and upbringing without interference from the government.

“The interest of parents in the care, custody, and control of their children is perhaps the oldest of the fundamental liberty interests recognized by this Court.”

*Troxel v. Granville*

## **View #1 – Parents are the Problem**

Parents' rights end the moment they drop the child off at school. School personnel are the professionals and are best equipped to guide the child's mental, emotional, and physical health.



**B.F. v. Kettle Moraine**  
*Wisconsin*

- 12-year old girl dealing with anxiety pushed to say she wanted to be a boy.
- District policy prohibited employees from sharing this info with parents.
- Refused parents' request to stop socially transitioning their daughter.

## East Side Elementary (Livingston)

Last May, a librarian at East Side Elementary School in Livingston, Montana gave a presentation to third-graders that included gender identity instruction, videos saying “it is okay for boys to wear dresses” and encouraging everyone to “spread radical queer joy.”

Parents were not notified before their young children were taught this.

## **View #1 – Parents are the Problem**

Parents' rights end the moment they drop the child off at school. School personnel are the professionals and are best equipped to guide the child's mental, emotional, and physical health.

## **View #2 – Parents are the Solution**

Parents' rights follow the child into school. Parents know their child best and should be supported by school personnel as the parents guide the child's mental, emotion, and physical health.



A parent's right to direct their child's upbringing and be involved in decisions affecting their child doesn't end at the schoolhouse gate.



1<sup>st</sup> grade students taught about transgender topics and told to keep it secret from their parents.

“When fundamental parental rights are involved, the school at least may need to provide **realistic notice** and the **practical ability for parents to shield their young children from sensitive topics** the parents believe to be inappropriate.”



**Tatel v. Mt. Lebanon**  
*Pennsylvania*



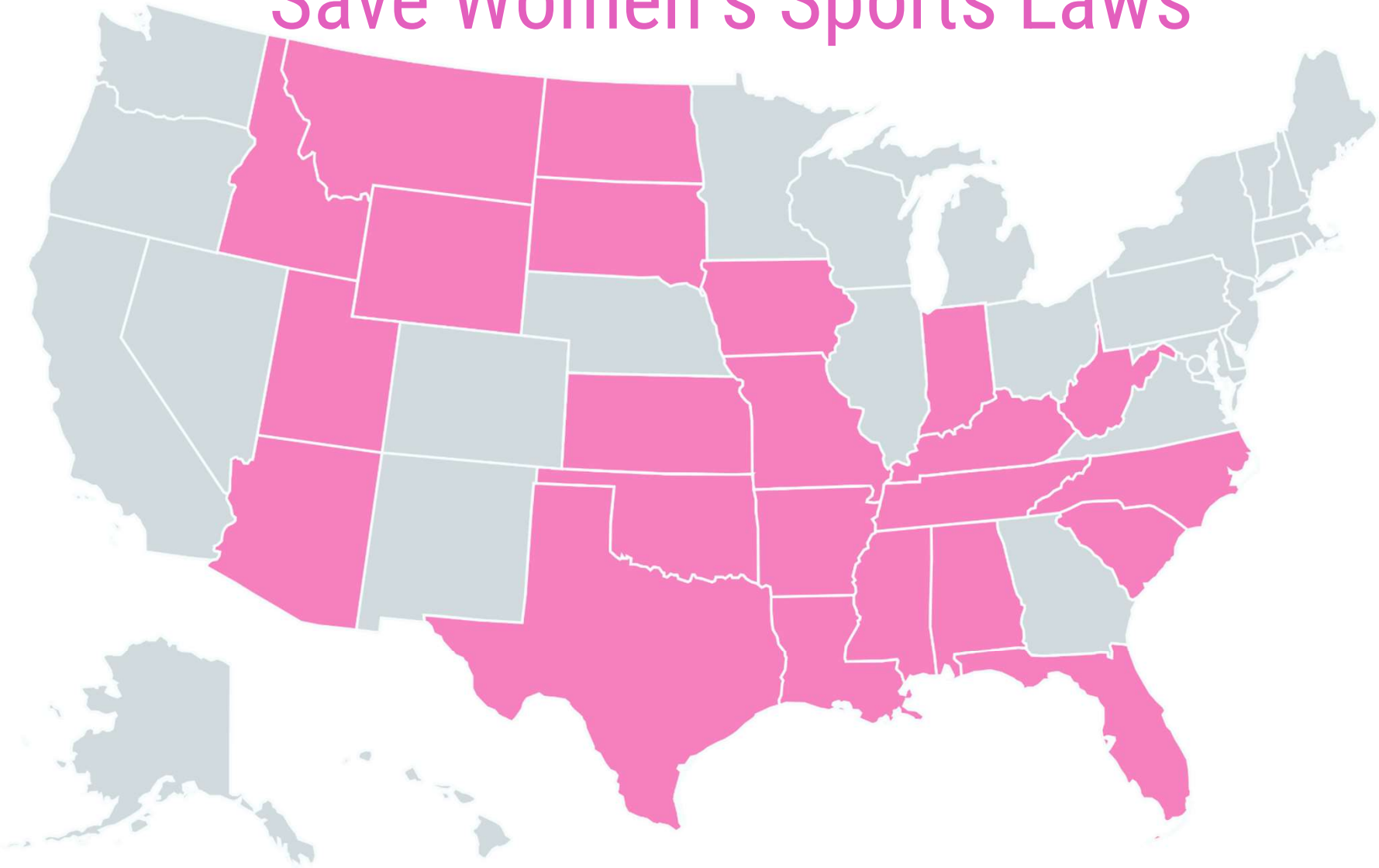
## Proposed Title IX Regulation

- Gender Support Plans
- Mandatory use of “Preferred Pronouns”
- Privacy & Safety in Locker rooms, Restroom, and Overnight Trips
- Men in Women’s Sports



Selina Soule  
Alanna Smith  
*Connecticut*

# Save Women's Sports Laws

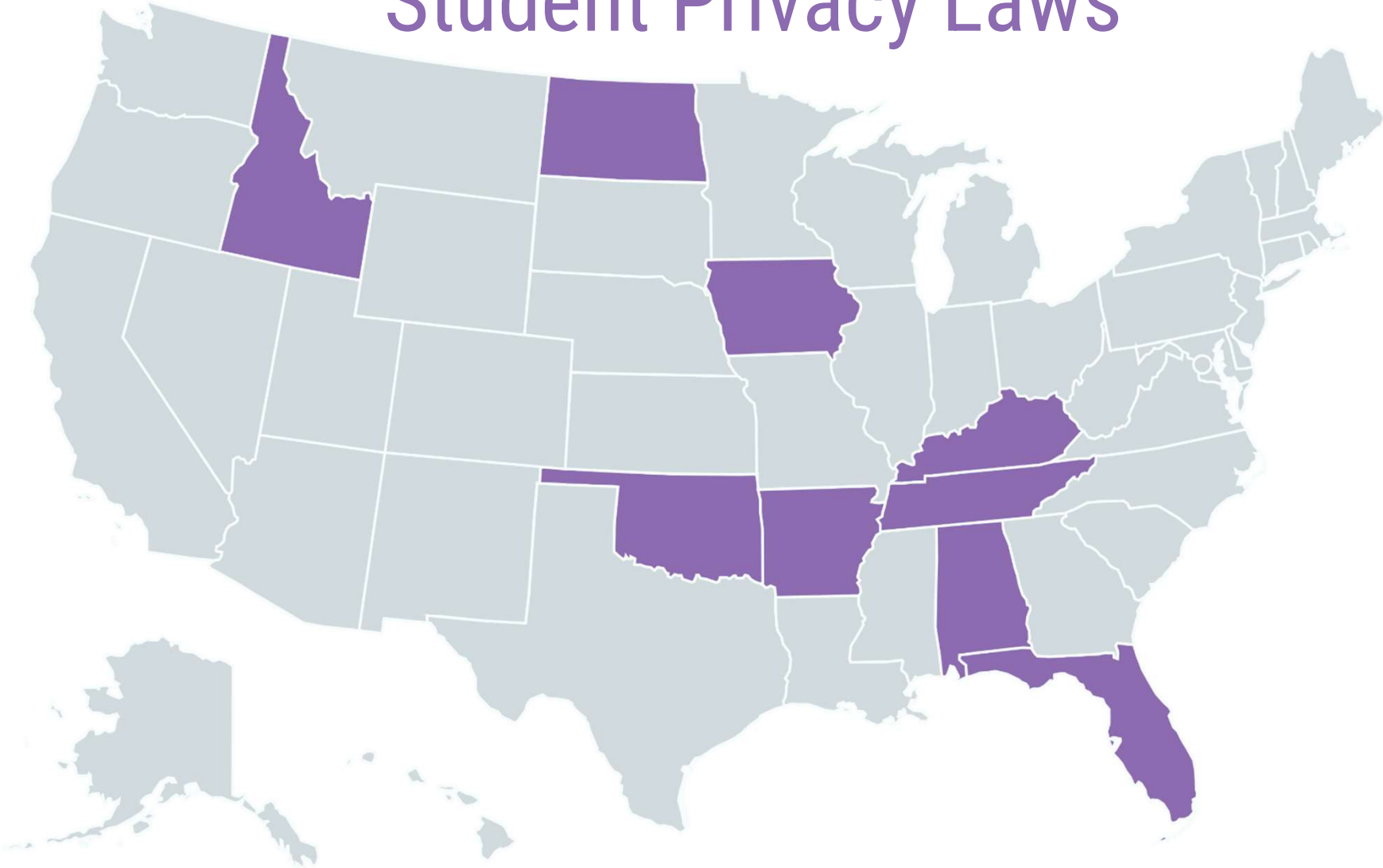


Blake Allen,  
and her father,  
Travis Allen

*Vermont*



# Student Privacy Laws



# Protecting Parental Rights

## USE EXISTING FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS

- Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA)

# Parents' Bill of Rights

- ❑ Protects parental rights as fundamental.
- ❑ Specifies the right of parents to make decisions regarding health care, education, and religious upbringing.
- ❑ Provides a legal remedy.



# Montana HB 676 + Existing Law

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- Specifies the right of parents to make decisions regarding health care, education, and religious upbringing.
- Provides a legal remedy.

# Healthcare Decision-making

- ❑ Give parents access to all medical records.
- ❑ No medical care for a child (except emergency care) without parental consent.
- ❑ No mental health services for a child without parental consent.




# Montana HB 676

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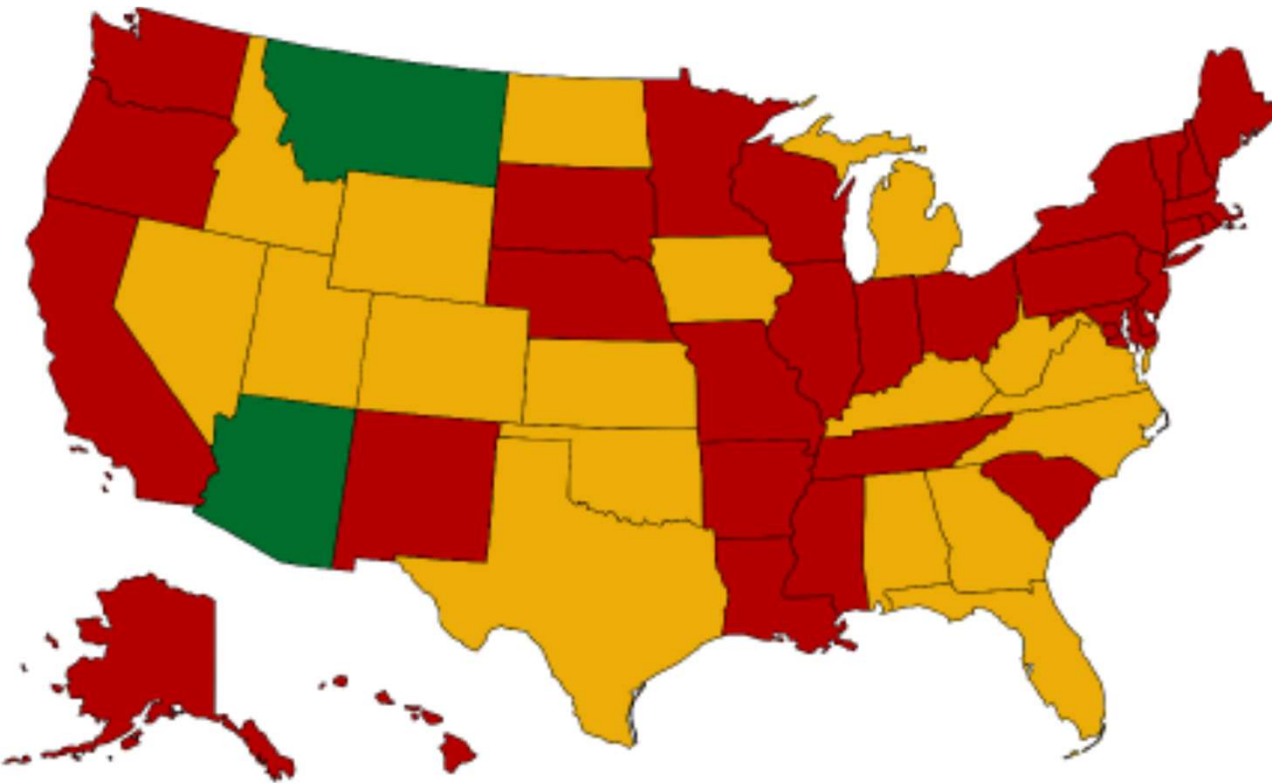
# Transparency in Education

- ❑ Schools must disclose all curriculum and allow parents to review it before it is taught.
- ❑ Parental permission before child taught gender identity + opt-out of objectionable topics.
- ❑ Notify parents of anything affecting mental, physical, emotional health of child.

# Montana SB 518

-  Schools must disclose all curriculum and allow parents to review it before it is taught.
-  Parental permission before child taught gender identity + opt-out of objectionable topics.
-  Notify parents of anything affecting mental, physical, emotional health of child.

# Protecting Parental Rights



**Red Light States:** No protections for parental rights in state law.

**Yellow Light States:** Some protections, but need improvement.

**Green Light States:** Fully protect parental rights in education and healthcare.

# Protecting Parental Rights Locally

## INCREASE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

- At board meetings, during the school day, and in curriculum decisions.

## ADOPT A PARENTAL RIGHTS POLICY OR RESOLUTION

- Boards can offer more protections than the minimums required by law.
- Example: Recent California parental notification policies.

# What should a parental rights policy include?

- 1) Transparency in Curriculum
- 2) Transparency in Student Records
- 3) Choice over Mental and Physical Health
- 4) Choice over Sensitive Topics



# What transparency looks like...

## CURRICULUM

- Syllabus & textbooks available at start of school year.
- Notice to parents 3 days before new topics/materials used in class.
- Info about any outside groups presenting to students.

## STUDENT RECORDS

- Access to all information about a student, including counseling records.
- Prohibit “shadow records” by any school personnel.

# What choice looks like...

## MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH

- Parents immediately notified of any changes to mental, emotional, physical health.
- Obtain parental permission for any counseling or mental/physical health services.

## SENSITIVE TOPICS

- Obtain parental permission before sensitive topics (sexuality/gender identity) are taught.
- Allow parents to opt out of other specific topics that violate the families' religious beliefs or convictions.

# PROTECTING PARENTS...PROTECTS TEACHERS



**Lindsey Barr**  
*Georgia*



**Pam Ricard**  
*Kansas*



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