



YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AFTER MAHMOUD v. TAYLOR

What Every Parent Needs to Know About the Supreme Court's June 27, 2025 Decision

01

You Can Opt Your Child Out of LGBTQ+ and Gender Identity Lessons

You have the legal right to remove your child from:

- Lessons or videos about gender identity
- LGBTQ+-themed books, events, or classroom discussions
- SEL or advisory lessons that discuss identity
- Pride activities
- Counselor-administered surveys touching on gender or sexual orientation

Schools must offer alternative assignments and cannot penalize your child.

02

You Must Receive Advance Notice

Schools are required to notify you BEFORE your child is exposed to:

- Gender identity instruction
- Sexual orientation content
- Identity-related surveys
- Books or lessons involving LGBTQ+ themes

You may opt your child out at any time.

03

Your Child Cannot Be Forced to Use “Preferred Pronouns”

The Court ruled that compelled speech is unconstitutional.

Your child cannot be punished for:

- Not using “preferred pronouns”
- Using biologically based pronouns
- Declining to participate in gender-affirmation activities

04

Schools Must Respect Your Religious Beliefs

Schools must make real accommodations, not symbolic ones.

They cannot:

- Ignore your opt-out
- Delay implementation
- Shame your child
- Create extra burdens for opting out

This includes all teachers **and** substitutes.



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You and Your Child Are Protected from Retaliation

Schools may not retaliate against you or your child for exercising your rights. Retaliation is also considered a violation of civil rights. Potential forms of retaliation include:

- Lowered grades
- Isolation
- Counseling referrals
- Loss of privileges
- Social punishment or pressure

06

Schools Must Provide a Written Compliance Plan

You may request written confirmation of:

- How the school will honor your opt-out
- How teachers will be notified
- When you will receive advance notice of lessons
- Which administrator is responsible for ensuring compliance

BOTTOM LINE

You—*not the school*—*direct your child's moral and religious upbringing*. Public schools must respect your faith, provide notice, accommodate your beliefs, and protect your child from compelled participation in gender or sexuality instruction.

To learn more about protecting children in DE, scan this QR code or visit DelawareFamilies.org/LetKidsBeKids

