# **LONG VERSION –**

# Protecting Parents' Rights Means Honoring the Right to OPT-OUT

By [Your Name]

"Parents send their children to school to learn, not to be subjected to lessons that violate their deeply held values."

Parents across the country are discovering that their requests to shield their children from controversial or age-inappropriate material are being ignored.

In [School District / State], students are being required to participate in lessons on [specific topic – e.g., gender identity, graphic sexual content, extreme political ideologies]. Parents who asked for an alternative, or to have their child excused, were denied. This is more than frustrating – it's a direct violation of parental rights and a dangerous precedent for public education.

## Why This Matters

Parents are the primary educators of their children. Schools exist to support families, not override them. When a curriculum forces a child to participate in lessons that conflict with family values, it breaks the trust between schools and parents.

"Schools should educate, not indoctrinate."

This isn't just a local issue — the recent [court case or news event, e.g., Supreme Court ruling in Mahmoud v. Taylor] makes clear that parental choice must be respected.

#### The Solution

Research shows children thrive when schools and parents work together. Forcing participation in controversial material leads to absenteeism, tension at home, and eroded trust. Some states already have clear opt-out laws protecting families — [insert example] — proving this is both reasonable and workable.

#### **CALL TO ACTION**

#### It's Time to Act

- **V** Transparency: Parents must be notified of curriculum content ahead of time.
- Choice: A clear, simple opt-out process should be available.
- Respect: Schools must honor parents' decisions without retaliation.

"Opt-out isn't about banning books or censoring teachers — it's about respecting families and their right to guide their child's moral and intellectual development."

#### **Bottom Line**

If we value freedom, we must respect the right to OPT-OUT.

# **SHORT VERSION –**

## Parents Deserve the Right to OPT-OUT

By [Your Name]

"When schools refuse to allow parents to guide what their children are exposed to, they break trust with the very people they serve."

Parents send their kids to school to learn — not to be forced into lessons that clash with their values. In [School District / State], children as young as [age] are being taught [specific topic]. Parents who objected were told, "There is no opt-out."

Schools should educate, not indoctrinate. Parents — not government officials — are the primary educators of their children.

## **CALL TO ACTION**

### Your Voice Matters

- **Demand Transparency:** Know what's taught before it's taught.
- Exercise Choice: Request opt-out rights for your child.
- Speak Up: Attend school board meetings, write letters, and stay involved.

Opt-out isn't about silencing teachers — it's about freedom for families. Respect parents. Respect kids. Respect choice.

"If we want strong schools and a strong future, we must protect the right of parents to OPT-OUT."