

## The *Kettle Moraine* Case

**Case Name:** *B. F. v. Kettle Moraine School District*

**Case Status:** On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, the Waukesha County Circuit Court issued a ruling stating the school's policy violates parental rights.

**Significance:** Whether the Kettle Moraine School District can make major decisions about a child's mental health without the parents' knowledge and consent.



**Background:** A 12-year-old student in the Kettle Moraine School District was experiencing increased anxiety and depression, and a counseling program pushed her to say she wanted to be a boy. Her parents wanted to give her time to work through her mental health challenges, but school officials said that no matter the parents' wishes, they would refer to the couple's daughter by a male name and pronoun. The Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty and Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys represented the student and her family in a lawsuit challenging the school's policy. The policy blatantly ignored parents' decisions regarding their child's mental health. Parental rights are guaranteed by the Wisconsin Constitution, but the Kettle Moraine School District disregarded these rights when they chose to refer to a female student by a male name and pronoun against her parent's direct instructions. School districts have no business interfering with parental rights in Wisconsin. By ruling in favor of the couple, the court acknowledged their constitutional right to bring up their daughter in the way they best see fit.

### Key Points

- Kettle Moraine School District is harming children and violating parental rights by explicitly stating it would ignore parents' instructions.
- School officials made clear they would ignore parents' desires and refer to a child by whatever name or identity the child chooses.
- The overwhelming majority of parents love and care about their children far more than any school system bureaucrats ever can. Their right to raise their children should not be ignored and overruled by school officials.

### Key Facts

- Many experts agree that changing your name and going by pronouns of the opposite sex is a major intervention in the life of a child that strongly affects mental health and gender identity outcomes.
- Schools cannot even give a child aspirin without telling parents—they should not ignore a parent's requests regarding the mental health of their children who struggle with gender dysphoria, anxiety, or depression.
- It's in the best interest of kids for parents to be involved any time they face serious issues at school, whether academic, social, or relating to gender identity.

**The Bottom Line:** Parents have the right to direct the upbringing of their children.