



Doe v. Madison

Case Name: *Doe v. Madison Metropolitan School District*

Case Status: This case was filed in state court on February 19, 2020. On September 28th, 2020, a state court issued an order prohibiting the school district from lying to or deceiving parents about the gender identity that their child may have adopted at school. The court's injunction is in effect while a lawsuit against the district is on appeal.



Significance: Whether parents have the right to be involved in their children's health decisions.

Background: A Madison Metropolitan School District policy instructs district employees to assist children of any age to adopt a transgender identity at school upon the child's request, without notice to or consent from parents. The policy requires district employees conceal this action from the parents unless the child "consents" to the parents being told, and even instructs district employees to deceive the parents by calling the child by his or her preferred name at school but using the child's birth name around his or her parents to keep them in the dark. However, several parents within the school district object to the policy, which takes away their right to be involved in their own children's mental health decisions. Alliance Defending Freedom and Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty are representing several parents who are challenging the school's policy.

Key Points

- The government should not override fit parents' decisions about raising their own children in order to enforce the school system's ideology.
- Parents know their children best. They must be informed about any serious concerns from the very beginning.
- When schools cast aside biological reality in favor of gender identity ideology, it's children who are hurt the most.

Key Facts

- Experts in the field maintain that parents should be an integral part of a child's mental health decisions, including when the child experiences a desire to self-identify as the opposite sex.
- This school district policy harms children and violates parental rights, requiring teachers and school officials to be dishonest with parents about what their children are experiencing.
- 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