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Wisconsin Teacher Allowed To Indoctrinate Students Pro-family groups call out school and district

MADISON, WI – Wisconsin Family Council is joining with Liberty Counsel to call out a Madison elementary school for its inappropriate indoctrination of students.

"We learned about this egregious and unacceptable situation recently and are extremely glad that Liberty Counsel is involved," said Wisconsin Family Council president Julaine Appling. "Schools are not supposed to be conducting social experiments on the students entrusted to their care. With their extensive experience on such issues, Liberty Counsel is well positioned to get the details and begin the process of holding the school district accountable for allowing such reprehensible activities to happen in a school under its jurisdiction. We look forward to working with them for the sake of the parents and students involved."

School administrators <u>allowed</u> a male science teacher in Madison Metropolitan School District to show a personal "transgender coming out" <u>video</u> to every class of K-5th grade children at Allis Elementary School. The male teacher also instructed all of the students to call him by a woman's name, an invented title of "Mx" instead of "Mr.," and to call him by false plural pronouns. Liberty Counsel sent a <u>records request</u> to the school district to begin uncovering the full extent of this teacher's inappropriate <u>activism</u> in the classroom.

As set forth on his personal Facebook, Mark Vincent Busenbark, who claims to be "transgender" and/or "non-binary," had <u>long</u> <u>anticipated</u> showing the video to every elementary grade child present at school on May 16, 2019. Busenbark now calls himself "Vica Steel," and <u>states</u> the purpose of the video was so "all [the children] can know who I am and who I am becoming."

In his <u>video</u>, Busenbark dresses as a woman and states that people who respectfully disagree with him on the issue of "transgenderism" are motivated by "fear" and "hate." He <u>reads</u> a book to the children entitled, "They Call Me Mix." The book includes the statements, "BOY or GIRL?' Are you a boy or a girl? How can you be both? Some days I am both. Some days I am neither. Most days I am everything in between." The book also states, "As a kid, I never felt like just a girl. I never felt right knowing everyone was deciding and agreeing that I was a girl." One <u>illustration</u> shows a child sticking her tongue out at an adult who is giving her a dress to wear.

During the video, Busenbark also showed the students <u>scary</u>, <u>ghostlike figures</u> that represent "hateful" people that do not support "transgender" ideology. At the video's conclusion, Busenbark then "requests" students to call him by a woman's name, inappropriate plural pronouns, and the invented title of "Mix." He states, "And now, let me introduce myself, anew.... I am going to take my wife, Stella Steel's last name, and I am going to use, not mister, not miss, but 'mx.' So you can call me, 'Mx Steel.'.. And for my pronouns, you can call me 'they,' 'them,' and 'their.'"

Busenbark has no legal authority to require students entrusted to his care to call him "Mx" or by incorrect pronouns, nor to manipulate them with the idea that they must obey him or be seen as "disrespectful" or "hateful" or "not loving." His video has already had a confusing effect on children. One teacher emailed him that a <u>kindergartner said</u>, "I feel the same way at times" as "Mx. Steel." Another teacher said that because of the video, other children "just accepted" a girl's claim that "she is a boy now."

"It is outrageous that school administrators would allow a male science teacher to expose children to propaganda that promotes confusion about basic biology, and to instruct students to address him by a false name, title and pronouns," said Liberty Counsel's Founder and Chairman Mat Staver. "These impressionable students do not exist to validate Busenbark's sexual identity. Parents send their children to school trusting that they will be taught academic curriculum, not become participants in a teacher's play acting," said Staver.

Liberty Counsel is an international nonprofit, litigation, education, and policy organization dedicated to advancing religious freedom, the sanctity of life, and the family since 1989, by providing pro bono assistance and representation on these and related topics. Liberty Counsel provides broadcast quality TV interviews via Hi-Def Skype and LTN at no cost.

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Wisconsin Family Council is a statewide organization engaged in strengthening, preserving and promoting marriage, family, life and liberty in Wisconsin.