



Texas Eagle Forum

Summer 2020

Dear Eagles,

When I was writing last month's letter, we were struggling with an overreaching government due to the Chinese coronavirus, and concerned about unemployment, business owners, and our economy. We lamented about the Left working to smear Phyllis Schlafly, our brilliant founder, in a FX Hulu series entitled, *Mrs. America*.

But today we are living in a country I hardly recognize. "Peaceful" protesters rioting and looting, injuring and taunting police officers, defacing our cities and national monuments, and demanding to defund our police forces. This is not the America I know.

I am burdened watching a divide growing and festering between fellow Americans in an emotional response to a terrible deed. The protesters, mostly young people, are willing to throw our Country into the ash heap of history for some nebulous "social justice" reform.

For years we have fought for proper education for our children. Many parents have removed their children from public school because their rational voices are ignored. In many districts, education has become indoctrination and propaganda, instead of thinking skills and mastery of reading, writing, math, science, and history. Colleges and universities are filling students' minds with a revised, unflattering history of our amazing Nation (See the March 2020 *Torch*).

We reap what we sow. Now we are watching the tragic results when people don't understand the founding principles of our Nation or her history—or, worse, even care.

Legislators are already working in Austin and D.C. to come up with new laws to create "equal rights" for special interest groups as a result of the protests. We know the move to divide us by race, class, and lifestyle choices actually is meant to silence the majority.

In these turbulent times in America, we at Texas Eagle Forum believe that, even in this chaos, God is still on His throne. In light of that, we wanted to share some VERY encouraging news. I was privileged to attend the "Roundtable on Transition to Greatness: Restoring, Rebuilding, and Renewing" with President Donald Trump at Gateway Church in Dallas on June 11. TEF agrees with the president that we "must invest more energy and resources in police training, recruiting, and community engagement." Defunding the police is not the answer.

While all the speakers on race and policing were fabulous, Jack Brewer, a black pastor and prison Bible teacher, spoke some powerful words that went to the heart of the issue in the black community: fatherlessness. Seventy-one percent of black kids who drop out of high school don't have a father in the house. Those kids are five times more likely to go to prison or have a run-in with the police, and four times more likely to live in poverty. Rev. Brewer called on his "white and hispanic brothers and sisters to go out in underserved communities and do what Jesus told us to do."

(over, please)

He is spot on. As Christians, we are called to see people as God sees them, and treat, respect, and love them as God does. I believe our Country can be healed of racial division and hate if we love our neighbors, serve in our underserved communities, and pray daily for revival, reconciliation, and peace. Second Corinthians 7:14 tells us, *“If my people will humble themselves and pray, turn from their wicked ways and seek my face, then I will hear from heaven and forgive their sins and heal their land.”*

Serving is what Jennifer Fleck is doing by alerting us in this month’s *Torch* to the harmful sex education propaganda Planned Parenthood and its allies are trying to insert into the 2020 Health Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) Revision. We conservatives have an opportunity to publicly comment on the TEKS revision, which will affect every child in Texas public schools. Mrs. Fleck is calling us into the battle to protect our children.

With the Republican State Convention in Houston just right around the corner, Texas Eagle Forum is busily planning a free event for you and your friends to meet and greet our volunteer leaders. It will be at the convention’s host hotel, the Marriott Marquis Houston. We hope to see you there! The enclosed flyer has all the pertinent information. And if you are a delegate to the convention, please stop by our booth for some conversation, chocolate, and updated information on platform resolutions.

While you may not be attending the convention, we hope you will continue to support our mission. TEF needs sponsors to help underwrite the cost of the booth and reception (\$4,000). Please fill out the back of the flyer and send your gift in the return envelope, or go to our website and click on the “Donate” button.

Thank you in advance for your wonderful support as we stand strong for Texas families! Have a safe and healthy summer. See you in Houston!

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindi Castilla". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cindi Castilla
President of Texas Eagle Forum



THE TORCH

— Texas Eagle Forum —

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A Call Into Battle: The 2019–2020 Health Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) Revision

By **Jennifer Fleck**, Activist Parent, 5/30/20

I had never witnessed the perverted, pornographic, and predatory schemes called comprehensive sex education. My first introduction was a curriculum called “It’s Your Game,” but I soon learned that it was a partisan agenda that sought to reap destruction.

In 2012, I transitioned from an average parent to an acutely aware activist. In a moment, I was called from oblivion into a battle. I will remain in this fight for as long as the Enemy actively targets the hearts and minds of children.

In the following summary, I hope to call YOU into battle.

Identify Your Enemy: There is a radical agenda driven by enemies of families, children, and parental rights. The Enemy includes, but is not limited to, The Texas Campaign to Prevent Pregnancy, Healthy Futures of Texas, North Texas Alliance to Reduce Unintended Pregnancy in Teens, Texas Freedom Network, and SIECUS. All share common interests and goals of Planned Parenthood and collaborate to the same end.

An enemy is any organization that



Jennifer Fleck

promotes a narrative or agenda that undermines parental authority and promotes a message in conflict with the

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Texas Eagle Forum Website

Be sure and check Texas Eagle Forum’s website for legislative updates and news from around the state.

Go to texaseagleforum.com

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optimal health of every child. An organization that destroys innocence and sexualizes children is the Enemy. An organization that promotes abortion is the Enemy. An organization that provides lessons as early as Kindergarten that confuse a child's identity and gender, insisting that a child's gender may not match his/her body is the Enemy.

Familiarize Yourself with How the Enemy Works. The Enemy attacks on all fronts. Sometimes they are unapologetic about their agenda, and at other times they are more clever and discreet. Consider the following excerpts from their recommendations for and criticisms of the current Health Texas Knowledge and Skills (TEKS):

1. Young people should have the right to make informed decisions about their body, including abortion.
2. Current Texas curriculum standards are entirely silent on sexual orientation/gender identity and abortion.
3. Texas policies targeting abortion providers are barriers restricting the freedom of individuals in low-income communities.
4. Effective sex education includes sexual orientation and gender identity.
5. Describing cisgender and heterosexual identities and relationships as normative in sex education has a negative impact on LGBTQ children.

Other times they cloak their insatiable desire for depravity in what appears as harmless terminology, statistics, and discriminatory accusations. Some of these include:

- “Healthy Relationships” and “Inclusivity.” I promise you, a parent's definition of these deceptively harmless terms do not come close to what the Enemy has in mind for your children. See the video here: <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/relationships/sexual-consent>.
- Campaigns for condoms to ensure safe sex. Parents are not told that this includes condom demonstrations to children lawfully prohibited from consenting to sexual activity, dispensing condoms to your children at school without your permission, and discussions of colors and glow-in-the-dark options.
- Statistics like, “Texas rates near the top in teen pregnancy and birth rates.” Although this statistic is true, it is because Texas is a pro-life state. Abortion is not as culturally accepted or offered as a method of birth control as frequently as abortion states such as California and New York.
- Making arguments for underprivileged populations. The Enemy asserts youth of color often receive harmful and ineffective abstinence instruction. In my experience, this is not true; rather, it is the inner city schools that bear the brunt of federally funded, graphic sex ed. Minorities are being used as guinea pigs by the left to push an agenda that dates back to the eugenics of Planned Parenthood's founder.

Know When Your Enemy Will Attack. The Enemy is

leading an affront to pervert the review and revision of the Health TEKS. The Enemy has issued two documents, seeking to advise the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and State Board of Education (SBOE) because they know that these revisions will have a lasting impact on the hearts and minds of all Texas children. See https://tfn.org/sex-ed/Time_for_Change_Executive_Summary.pdf and linked Comments document #2, available at texaseagleforum.com.

The Enemy seeks to redefine sexual education health standards in conformity with destruction and in opposition to Texas law. **Texas law allows local control of the content of human sexuality instruction, but must, in summary, emphasize abstinence.** The Texas Education Code focuses on optimal health while the Enemy spends enormous resources exploiting loopholes, working around the requirements of the law, and encouraging/coaching school districts to do the same. They characterize the Health TEKS review as “once-in-a-generation opportunity for change.”

Protect Children from the Enemy's Schemes: You may be thinking, “My child won't be affected. I homeschool or private school; graphic sex education and gender confusion will not harm my child.” Or, “I'll opt out my child.” Let me assert and argue that this is not true. The fact is that most children will attend public schools. These children will grow up to date, befriend, lead, and govern your children and families. This issue affects you, regardless of how you school your children; and, you are paying for it with tax dollars.

While Texas does not require sex education to be taught in our public schools, many districts include it. The Texas Education Code 28.004 mandates requirements for K–12 human sexuality instruction and makes it clear that it is unlawful to include graphic and inappropriate content. The Health TEKS should not violate our laws or include information that is to be decided by local control per the Texas Education Code.

YOU are being called. We need your help to combat the continuous and relentless attack and the lies of the Enemy. Our leaders, the SBOE, the TEA, and the schools need to hear from you. They need to know that the Enemy's agenda is meant to destroy our children and we stand united against it.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Contact the SBOE: <https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/leadership/state-board-of-education/sboe-board-members/sboe-members>
2. Join your local School Health Advisory Council (SHAC). See <https://takebacktheshac.wordpress.com/>
3. Submit a comment to the Texas Education Agency, at teks@tea.texas.gov
4. Testify at SBOE hearings in Austin June 29–July 2, Sept. 8–11, and Nov. 17–20, 2020.

NOTE: Jennifer Fleck, a mother and lawyer, is in a runoff election on July 14 for HD 47. She is endorsed by conservative organizations, including Texas Right to Life.

Cashing in on Contact Tracing

From an article by **Michelle Malkin**,
Right & Free, 5/27/20

You may have already heard of the aptly named House Bill 6666, sponsored by Illinois Dem. Bobby Rush. Known as the Testing, Reaching, and Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act, the legislation would allocate \$100 billion in public funding to “eligible entities” to “conduct diagnostic testing for COVID-19, and related activities such as contact tracing, through mobile health units, and, as necessary, at individuals’ residences, and for other purposes.” The cash could be used to hunt down infected individuals, quarantine them in their homes for undefined periods under unknown conditions, and subsidize a hiring spree of untold thousands of trackers from nonprofits, schools and medical facilities.

As for “other purposes,” the proposal does not define them—leaving Swamp public health bureaucrats and their pet grantees’ imaginations to run wild. What recourse or appeals process do citizens have when the “experts” get diagnoses and assessments wrong? Or when, say, homeschool families refuse to submit to intrusive phone call monitoring or forced quarantine? What are the opt-in or opt-out mechanisms? H.R. 6666 is silent on all these fundamental issues of autonomy and sovereignty. Feel safer yet?

This federally supported surveillance-state bonanza comes on top of the \$631 million in Centers for Disease Control funding for contact tracing already in the pipeline after the passage of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, plus another \$75 billion in proposed contact-tracing spending embedded in the House Democrats’ supplemental stimulus bill known as the HEROES Act.

Who benefits? Let’s take one prominent entrant into the “digital transformation services” arena: a company called MTX. Founded in Albany, New York, and now based in Frisco, Texas, the small software company is raking in hundreds of millions of tax dollars to construct “virtual call centers” of 25,000 COVID data-mining agents. In Chicago, MTX has partnered with Google to create an app so residents can “pre-register” for the vaunted coronavirus vaccine and receive alerts on treatments and testing. In Georgia, the company nailed a five-year government contract for a new online contact-tracing platform. In New York and Massachusetts, MTX’s mission has spread to monitoring jobless claims and child care facilities.

Lynn Davenport, a Texas public school mom and student privacy activist, reports that MTX is “also donating its newly launched tracking application to all public school districts in the U.S.” Generous... or opportunistic? As Davenport and other education technology watchdogs who have documented the proliferation of billions of dollars in invasive student data-mining schemes often remind us: “When it’s free, YOU (and your children) are the product.” Never forget: The price of “free” apps is access to your kids’ search engine queries, website and video browsing, and undoubtedly just around the corner: their

temperature, weight, and mental health.

Contact tracing makes sense for some types of infectious disease epidemics. But with something as widespread as COVID-19, with possibly hundreds of millions of asymptomatic people, it amounts to yet another cost-ineffective, virtue-signaling boondoggle.

Sure, they tell us our privacy is guaranteed. Medical privacy is sacrosanct in America, right? But did you know that the U.S. Health and Human Services has quietly relaxed Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act data security and privacy requirements for pandemic testing sites, which will allow Big Pharma interests and other business interests to access previously protected personal health information?

Houston Chronicle reporters tried to shed some light on MTX’s deal with top Texas GOP officials and were lucky to obtain a heavily redacted copy of the company’s \$295 million contract (paid for with your money and mine). You know that creepy phrase “Operation Warp Speed” being used to ram a COVID vaccine through expedited, short-circuited clinical trials? Well, the same phrase applies to the adoption of these high-stakes contracts. Both anti-establishment Republicans and Trump-skeptical Democrats in Texas have raised red flags about the failure by Gov. Greg Abbott to provide advance notice to the state legislature of the enormous deal. The state took a hasty two days to approve MTX’s proposal after putting the project out for bid. The scheme was rolled out in just a little over two weeks.

“Both anti-establishment Republicans and Trump-skeptical Democrats in Texas have raised red flags about the failure by Gov. Greg Abbott to provide advance notice to the state legislature of the enormous deal.”

Who greased the wheels? Follow the money, of course. The *Houston Chronicle* revealed that “The deal appears to have been put together within just a few days... MTX hired Austin-based lobbyists Andrea and Dean McWilliams for up to \$50,000 each, according to public disclosure documents.” The McWilliamses are the Matt and Mercedes Schlapp of Texas—consummate insiders and six-figure Bush bundlers, looking out for their corporate clients over our constitutional rights and medical freedom. Not coincidentally, MTX reflects the “America last” values of the open borders Bush empire. The firm runs a “development center” out of offshore outsourcing hub Hyderabad, India, and CEO Das Nobel aspires to lead a “diverse,” “billion-dollar company” from which he hopes to “advance our culture initiatives.”

Where’s our protection from the globalism virus?

NOTE: Let Gov. Abbott know your opinion on this intrusive and unconstitutional assault on liberty (512-463-2000).

The Rise of Homeschooling

There's very little about life that the coronavirus hasn't changed. For everyone in the world, it's been a transformative time—but for parents of school-aged children, it's been especially disruptive. And while having these routines turned upside down has been challenging, it's not necessarily been negative. Moms and dads have had a chance to look at the traditional learning model and consider: is this really the best option for our kids? For all the frustrations about being stuck at home, it's finally forcing parents who might never have thought about public school alternatives to take stock of what their children are being taught and how well they're performing. And guess what? The longer this goes on, the more parents seem convinced that at-home learning is better. In at least three new polls, anywhere from 15–40 percent of families say they're ready to make the switch to homeschooling after the lockdown is over. Mike Donnelly, senior counsel at the Home School Legal Defense Fund, says America could be looking at a “500-percent increase in the number of people homeschooling in the fall, which could top 10 million kids.” The numbers, he agrees, “are stunning.”

SOURCE: Family Research Council, 5/19/20

U.S. Reading and Math Scores Decline

Need another reason to homeschool? Supporters of the Common Core education system will not be pleased with the findings of a new study. U.S. reading and math scores on multiple assessments have all seen “historic declines since most states implemented national Common Core English and math curriculum standards six years ago,” according to a news release from the Pioneer Institute, which published the study. In the study, titled “The Common Core Debacle,” author Theodor Rebarber slammed Common Core's failings. “The notion that a single set of national curriculum standards could be wielded by education policy elites—most with little experience operating successful schools—to create excellence in classrooms across America has been a dream for many decades. Except that now, it seems more like hubris,” Rebarber said. According to the Common Core website, the Common Core State Standards were supposed to ensure students of all ages gain the knowledge and life skills necessary to succeed in college and their careers. Didn't happen.

SOURCE: Michael Austin, *The Western Journal*, 5/1/20

Academic Insanity Reigns On Campus

Manhattan Institute's Heather Mac Donald has written an article on academic insanity: “The Therapeutic Campus,” bearing the subtitle, “Why are college students seeking mental-health services in record numbers?” Many colleges have created safe spaces where students can be sheltered from reality and not have their feelings hurt by others exercising their free speech rights. Yale University has created a safe space that would be the envy of most other universities. They have named it the Good Life Center. Mac Donald says it has “a sandbox, essential oils, massage, and mental-health workshops,” and that “the center unites the most powerful forces in higher education today: the feminization of the university, therapeutic culture, identity politics, and the vast student-services bureaucracy.” George Mason University has a Center for the Advancement of Well-Being, headed by a chief well-being officer. At George Mason, well-being refers to social justice and “building a life of vitality, purpose, resilience, and engagement,” the Center's chief well-being officer told *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. By the way, a George Mason student can minor in well-being as a part of his college education.

SOURCE: Walter Williams, “Insane News Tidbits,” 5/27/20

Quote of the Month

“What vote-by-mail and ballot harvesting would really do is federalize a state-based electoral system, opening it to huge risks for fraud and incompetence, and introducing something else Democrats tend to use when they find themselves desperate for a win: chaos.”

~ Sarah Lee, Capital Research Center, 5/27/20, *Imprimis*, March/April 2020

Great American Quote

“America needs creation, not destruction; cooperation, not contempt; security, not anarchy; healing, not hatred; justice, not chaos. This is our mission, and we will succeed.”

~ President Donald Trump addressing the nation on 6/1/20

Texas Eagle Forum

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