

FW: PRESS RELEASE - 2023-10-06 How the Foley/Torres Resolution against Informed Parents Silicon Valley shatters the City's Ethics Code

CMOAgendaServices <cmoagendaservices@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/10/2023 9:25 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc:CMOAgendaServices <cmoagendaservices@sanjoseca.gov>;Blattman, Rachele <Rachele.Blattman@sanjoseca.gov>

Hello Agenda Desk,

Please see attached public comment for item 3.4 10/17 CC meeting.

Thank you,
Gina

From: Webmaster Manager <webmaster.manager@sanjoseca.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 9:04 AM

To: CMOAgendaServices <cmoagendaservices@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: PRESS RELEASE - 2023-10-06 How the Foley/Torres Resolution against Informed Parents Silicon Valley shatters the City's Ethics Code

Good morning CMO Agenda Services,

Please find public comment via email below regarding Item 3.4 for the City Council meeting on October 17, 2023.

Thank you,
-matt

Matt Opsal

Senior Executive Analyst

City Manager's Office of Communications

City of San José

200 East Santa Clara Street, San José, CA 95113

From: SV IP <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 12:35 PM

Subject: PRESS RELEASE - 2023-10-06 How the Foley/Torres Resolution against Informed Parents Silicon Valley shatters the City's Ethics Code

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The following open letter was sent to the San Jose City Council on October 6, 2023 regarding an upcoming resolution, now deferred to the October 17 city council meeting, which was largely targeted against Informed Parents of Silicon Valley:

To: All San Jose City Councilmembers

Fr: Informed Parents

Re: Open Letter Re: How the Foley/Torres Resolution against Informed Parents Silicon Valley shatters the City's Ethics Code

Date: October 6, 2023

Honored Councilmembers:

In our previous communiques, we have established how local elected officials have peddled misinformation about Informed Parents, and how the Foley/Torres Resolution targeting Informed Parents is hopelessly compromised by mistakes of fact, logic, and literacy.

In this letter, we respectfully draw your attention to how the Resolution also runs far afoul of the City's Ethics code, and places the City at great risk of formal rebuke by its own Ethics Committee, disgrace in the public eye, and possible legal action.

In a nutshell, the Resolution breaks the city's Ethics Code by hawking demonstrably dishonest claims about us, by letting partisan zealotry override basic fairness, and creating an environment that would curtail citizens' basic First Amendment rights.

To understand these grave risks, consider the opening language of the City's Ethics policy:

"In order to best serve the citizens and customers of the City of San Jose, the elected and appointed officials, and employees of the City must act individually and collectively to create a City government that is responsible, fair, honest and open."

"Responsible." "Fair." "Honest." "Open."

These are the active concepts driving the City's ethics policy—and every single one of them is undermined by the Foley/Torres Resolution.

Here are two reasons why:

First, the Resolution makes a mockery of the goal of open-ness in city government by aggressively advocating for the otherizing, shunning, and disenfranchisement of City citizens on ideological grounds.

Allow us to refresh your attention to what the Resolution actually asks for:

"WE FURTHERMORE call on all members of this Council and elected officials across Santa Clara County to affirm support of the transgender and broader LGBTQ+ communities and disavow further collaboration or support for anti-transgender and anti-LGBTQ+ groups, including the Informed Parents of Silicon Valley."

Let that sink in: "Disavow collaboration or support" for groups that the Grand Inquisitors Foley and Torres accuse-- baselessly, without evidence, and simply a wave of the hand-- of being queerphobic.

And while these clauses are poorly written and vague, even the most narrow reading of these muddled sentiments suggest that the city is using its power and authority to coerce elected officials to refrain from working with, meeting with, listening to, or hearing concerns from Informed Parents and its supporters.

And regardless of the issue, we are anxious to understand how that squares with the First Amendment which says:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

A little hard to see how Informed Parents and its supporters can petition City Hall if no one at City Hall will take their call.

In case the councilmembers forgot, the City's Ethics Policy demands that all City employees support the U.S. Constitution.

Simply put, this resolution, in true McCarthyite fashion, effectively labels Informed Parents, its volunteers and supporters, as Second Class citizens, and starts to sketch the outlines of an ideological Jim Crow regime along the banks of the Guadalupe.

Second, the Resolution is Irresponsible, unfair, and dishonest because its core arguments are based on clearly false and poorly researched claims (if researched at all.)

The Resolution makes baseless accusations that Informed Parents is anti-LGBTQ. We explicitly deny the claim and the Foley/Torres Resolution provides zero evidence to support their ludicrous claims that we are. That's patently irresponsible.

The Resolution asserts that advocating for Parent Opt-out of curriculum (the core mission of Informed Parents) is unacceptable--when in fact it's protected speech as it's enshrined in the California Education Code. The Foley/Torres claim that opt-out is out of bounds is, at best, politically illiterate--and transparently dishonest.

And most obviously: the resolution makes up wild conspiracy theories by claiming Informed Parents harassed parents at a specific school on a specific date when in fact, there were no Informed Parents volunteers at that school or on the date called out in the Resolution. Even if the resolution sloppily got its dates wrong, it's vital to note that no legal findings have ever determined whether any Informed Parents volunteers harassed anybody. This is beyond unfair--and makes the resolution seem like it's inspired more by the dark corners of Internet chat rooms than from the language of the city's Charter or Ethics Code.

Let us repeat: We are 100% in favor of an open, inclusive society, and support the clauses of the Resolution that make that point. All we want is for parents to be able to exert their rights to opt out of curriculum they find inappropriate for their children--a right enshrined in the California Education Code. Whether that content is cisgendered, transgendered, straight, gay, or somewhere in transition in between, is irrelevant to us.

This resolution was planted in dishonest soil, cultivated with lies and exaggerations, and harvested in a spirit of malicious punishment. No wonder its fruits are so rotten, and fall so far from the principles demanded by the City's Ethics Code.

Respectfully,

Informed Parents.

Contact: Chris, Informed Parents of Silicon Valley

Full text of city Code of Ethics is available here:

<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/office-of-the-city-manager/employee-relations/city-policy-manual/city-administrative-policy-manual-section-1-2-1-code-of-ethics#!/>

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FW: Council Agenda: October 17, 2023 Item 3.4

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/10/2023 2:45 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: SV IP [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 2:41 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Webmaster Manager <webmaster.manager@sanjoseca.gov>; CAO Main <cao.main@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Council Agenda: October 17, 2023 Item 3.4

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Open Letter

To: San Jose City Councilmembers

From: Informed Parents of Silicon Valley

Re: The Facts about Informed Parents

September 28, 2023

Honored San Jose City Councilmembers:

We knew when we started Informed Parents that we would be controversial, especially as we were taking on entrenched special interests in the educational community. We are all about empowering parents to have a decisive voice in their children's education. We aim to protect our children from what their parents may deem to be age-inappropriate information. Those entrenched special interests are, on the contrary, often about disempowering parents.

So conflict has been inevitable.

And unfortunately--but not unexpectedly--that conflict has taken the form of our opponents lodging outlandish and utterly baseless charges against us.

Many of those poorly researched and defamatory charges have been repeated by San Jose Councilmembers, and show up in the parade of misinformation that characterizes your upcoming Resolution to intimidate and bully our movement.

Usually, we would not validate these bogus claims with a retort, but you--and your constituents--deserve a chance to hear the truth about what you're voting on, so here goes.

Below is a brief fact-check of the ridiculous claims from local elected officials have made about Informed Parents.

Claim #1: We're anti-LGBTQ+

Fact check: Completely False

Informed Parents is inclusive and welcomes anyone and everyone who's interested in asserting parental rights over their children's education. Whether those parents are gay, trans, cisgendered or anything else doesn't matter to us. Our movement welcomes parents and supporters from all and any sexual orientation.

Our objective is inclusive support for parents who want to be able to opt-out their children from highly sexualized or age-inappropriate material from all gendered and identity perspectives. In fact, it's straight pornography in school libraries that often generates the most parent opt-out and forms the content of disagreement with school administrators. While there are also LGBTQ+ books that raise parental eyebrows (both gay and straight), it's not the gender orientation of the material that's

in question, it's simply their highly sexualized nature and age inappropriateness some members of our community sometimes find fault with.

Claim #2: We want to ban books and censor libraries

Fact check: Baseless, and false

We're not trying to control what books go into public or school libraries, as we acknowledge that libraries service a wide range of ages and community interests. Rather, we are trying to allow a measure of access management to certain titles that some parents may feel are not right for their (usually younger) kids to see. We are trying to give parents a choice of what their children have easy and unmoderated access to in their school libraries. We hear from many parents that some of the books in the school libraries appear to be age inappropriate for younger children. Just as the motion picture industry rates movies based on sex/violence/drug content, so, too, would we like to see highly sexualized schoolbooks be moderated in a way that allows parents to approve access. We believe it is the responsibility of school board members to create and implement a system that provides that moderation. While unfettered access to highly sexualized books remains in elementary school libraries, Informed Parents will continue to draw their presence in school libraries to the appropriate school board member's attention and urge them to allow parents an avenue to protect their children from that content.

Claim #3: We engage in hate speech

Fact check: Laughably false

To see elected officials throw this charge around so loosely, so falsely, so baselessly is, quite frankly, a disgrace to their offices and their constituents. We have never engaged in hate speech; we challenge anyone to comb through our website and public statements to find evidence of the same. This is just juvenile name-calling on the part of elected officials, and beneath serious consideration.

Claim #4: We want parents to have veto power over curriculum

Fact check: Misleading.

Let us speak plainly: our organization has no opinion about curriculum content, as such. But we acknowledge that parents do, and we believe that they should have a substantial level of empowerment allowing their children to opt-out of that content. That doesn't mean those controversial books shouldn't be in the school, it doesn't mean we are opposed to other children seeing that content if their parents approve. It simply means this: that just as we allow participants of differing religious groups (or non-religious groups) the ability to opt out of curriculum that may run counter to their beliefs, so, too should parents be allowed to opt out of content in non-core curriculum (we consider Comprehensive Sex Ed to be non-core). Just as schools don't coerce Muslim and Jewish children to engage in Christmas festivities, and don't force differently abled children to compete in the same physical competitions as the typically abled, we should not demand parents approve their child being forced to entertain curricula that runs counter to their beliefs.

We are here to empower all parents in a 100% inclusive manner.

I will clear my calendar to talk to any of you further about these issues if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Informed Parents

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FW: Council Agenda: October 17, 2023 Item 3.4

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/10/2023 3:03 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: SV IP [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 2:57 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Webmaster Manager <webmaster.manager@sanjoseca.gov>; CAO Main <cao.main@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Council Agenda: October 17, 2023 Item 3.4

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***Council Agenda: October 17, 2023
Item 3.4***

Open Letter

To: San Jose City Councilmembers

From: Informed Parents of Silicon Valley

Re: Mistakes and Inaccuracies in Foley/Torres Resolution targeting us
October 2, 2023

Honored San Jose City Councilmembers:

With all due respect, your resolution targeting Informed Parents is full of good intentions but is seriously undermined by misinformation, shoddy research, and flat-out mistakes of logic and fact.

As we are the focus of these unfortunate inaccuracies, we thought it might be useful to set the record straight on the most obvious of the misunderstandings.

#1: The Resolution misinterprets and falsely represents the California Education Code's Opt-out clauses, which are the core of Informed Parents' advocacy efforts.

The resolution states:

WHEREAS, efforts to ban LGBTQ+ themed books, to require students to choose between their safety or being their authentic selves, and to encourage parents to "opt out" of LGBTQ+ supportive elements of our schools' curriculum inherently deprive children, and their parents, of their rights and freedom.

This is inaccurate on many levels:

* We do not advocate banning books or limiting school curriculum--at all. This is not part of our program and we challenge anybody to find calls to ban books on our website or in our literature. We are only about informing parents of their ability to monitor the books that are available to their children and to know what books they are checking out.

* Opting-out of select curricula does not deprive anyone of their rights and freedom. When a parent chooses to opt their child out of particular content they find inappropriate, that does not stop other parents and other children from seeing that

information. The act of opting out by a particular parent affects no one but that parent's child. Opting out does not censor, does not deny access to, does not coerce, nor in any way impact another parent's decision.

* If you don't like opting out, call Sacramento, don't try to shut us down. If the authors of the resolution believe--as they appear to--that opting out is on its face--"inherently," to use their language--unfair, then they should take their beef to the California legislature, where the right to opt out is baked into the California Education Code Sections 51937-51939, 51240, 51513, 60615, et. seq., 61614, and USC 1232h. For the City of San Jose to demonize Informed Parents for making people aware of a 100% legal, 100% constitutionally protected right is overreach of the wildest order, and in fact the City is becoming the censorious depriver of rights, not Informed Parents.

#2: The Resolution makes patently false claims.

The Resolution also states:

On the morning of September 1st, Informed Parents Silicon Valley, posted volunteers in front of schools in Cambrian Unified School District, San Jose Unified School District, Franklin-McKinley School District and other locations in our community, harassing children and parents trying to get to school with literature urging parents to pull students out of curriculum meant to increase acceptance and understanding of LGBTQ+ children and families.

This is flat-out inaccurate, on many levels:

- 1.) There were no Informed Parents volunteers at any San Jose Unified Schools or Franklin McKinley Schools or any other locations in our community, on September 1st. There were volunteers at two schools in the Cambrian School District. We have no idea what events the Resolution is addressing for that date, but they certainly did not include us.
- 2.) There have been zero legal findings of harassment or anything of the like regarding Informed Parents volunteers. None. Claims that we have committed harassment are simply baseless and unsupported by the facts.
- 3.) We always direct our volunteers to advocate peacefully, on public property, and treat all parents and school employees politely and respectfully.

In summary, we are aligned with the Resolution's high-level aspirations for a 100% inclusive and respectful city and society. Sadly, we find that the Resolution falls way short of achieving those goals by its baseless smearing of Informed Parents and its implicit message that advocating for 100% legal and protected rights is cause of shunning and otherizing.

Respectfully,

Informed Parents

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FW: Please Oppose Resolution 23-1441 Agenda 3.5 for Meeting 10/24/2023

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 10/16/2023 8:10 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Ha Tran <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 5:26 PM**To:** Doan, Bien <Bien.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>; Batra, Arjun <arjun.batra@sanjoseca.gov>**Cc:** Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Kamei, Rosemary <Rosemary.Kamei@sanjoseca.gov>; Torres, Omar <Omar.Torres@sanjoseca.gov>; Ortiz, Peter <Peter.Ortiz@sanjoseca.gov>; Candelas, Domingo <Domingo.Candelas@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Fw: Please Oppose Resolution 23-1441 Agenda 3.5 for Meeting 10/24/2023You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I forgot to include Bien Doan and Arjun Batra. Sorry about that. Please see below.
Thank you,

Ha

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Ha Tran <[REDACTED]>**To:** matt.mahan@sanjoseca.gov <matt.mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; david.cohen@sanjoseca.gov <david.cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; pam.foley@sanjoseca.gov <pam.foley@sanjoseca.gov>; sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; rosemary.kamei@sanjoseca.gov <rosemary.kamei@sanjoseca.gov>; omar.torres@sanjoseca.gov <omar.torres@sanjoseca.gov>; peter.ortiz@sanjoseca.gov <peter.ortiz@sanjoseca.gov>; domingo.candelas@sanjoseca.gov <domingo.candelas@sanjoseca.gov>**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 at 04:47:44 PM PDT**Subject:** Please Oppose Resolution 23-1441 Agenda 3.5 for Meeting 10/24/2023

Hello-

I have lived in San Jose for more than 40 years. I am a concerned citizen and parent with 2 kids.

I am shocked about the proposed resolution 23-1441 (Agenda 3.5 for meeting 10/24/23) written by Councilmembers Pam Foley and Omar Torres.

I oppose the resolution to condemn groups that promote parent's rights and protect children from groomers and age inappropriate materials. Giving bookmarks/flyers to parents to let them know their rights to opt out of age inappropriate curriculum does not equate to anti-LGBTQ+ or anti-transgender. Preventing age inappropriate books/materials in the school libraries does not equate to anti-LGBTQ+ or anti-transgender. Thus, the resolution has false claims and should be eliminated.

Some schools are not doing their jobs...they are not focusing on teaching the core subjects and maintain a bully-free and respectful environment for all. The schools try to promote LGBTQ plus and transgenders. When you promote those groups in school like pride month and flag, you are causing other kids to want to be like them...you cause confusion and chaos and kids are unable to focus on the core subjects when there are distractions and make parents like me worry. I told my kids if they want to change their sexes, feel free to do so when your brain matures at 25 years old. I was a tomboy when I was young. If I was told that I might be lesbian or a boy, I would have believed and would have regretted it.

Government- do not make the same mistakes like some schools do. You need to be strong and don't promote one group like LGBTQ+ above another. We need equal treatment for all groups. Government's job is to keep all citizens safe, reduce crime and homelessness rates, and maintain and build a clean, safe working infrastructures for **all**.

Please stop promoting one group over another...stop dividing us by race, gender, sexual orientation, etc. We are all Americans and should be treated equally. No on the resolution and stop bullying groups that work hard to let parents know their rights and protect our children from groomers and inappropriate materials.

Thank you,

Ha Tran

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FW: City Council Public Comment - Item 3.5 Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities.

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Wed 10/18/2023 12:32 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Democrats for Public Education <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 11:54 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: City Council Public Comment - Item 3.5 Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities.

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We are the Santa Clara County Democrats for Education, a Democratic club of educators, school board members, and public school supporters. Because many of us work in the classroom during the day, we are unable to attend this City Council meeting. However, we would like to share our wholehearted support for this resolution.

Groups like Informed Parents of Silicon Valley, Values Action Council, and Moms for Liberty are bringing the culture wars into our classrooms, sowing chaos into our school board meetings, and turning our LGBTQ+ students into political pawns. We believe that every student deserves to live, learn, and grow in schools where they feel safe and where educators can teach the truth.

Despite what these "parents' rights" advocates may say to the contrary, we know that parents and educators are on the same page: we *all* want what's best for our students – their well-being, safety, and preparing them with the skills and knowledge they'll need in life.

Parents, educators, and elected officials need to come together to provide all students with the support, resources, and opportunities they need to succeed. Politicians trying to make a name for themselves by banning books, sowing division, and targeting LGBTQ+ students and educators have no place in our community.

This resolution makes that clear and that is why we are proud to support it.

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FW: Regarding resolution, 23-1441

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 10/23/2023 8:08 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: Lavonne <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Saturday, October 21, 2023 8:56 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Regarding resolution, 23-1441

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Dear City Clerk,

My name is LaVonne Carrick.

I have lived in Santa Clara County for proximately 50 years. I have children, grandchildren and great grandchildren in this community.

I am shocked about the proposed resolution 23-1441 (Agenda 3.5 for meeting 10/24/23) written by Council members Pam Foley and Omar Torres!

I oppose the resolution to condemn groups that promote parent's rights and protect children from groomers and age inappropriate materials.

The service of giving bookmarks/flyers to parents to let them know their rights to opt out of age inappropriate curriculum does not equate to anti-LGBTQ+ or anti-transgender behavior.

Preventing age inappropriate books/materials in the school libraries does not equate to anti-LGBTQ+ or anti-transgender behavior.

Thus, the resolution has false claims and should be eliminated.

Some schools are not doing their jobs...they are not focusing on teaching the core subjects and maintain a bully-free and respectful environment for all.

The schools try to POMOTE LGBTQ plus and transgenders.

When you promote those groups in school (for example, pride month and pride flags) you are

Influencing other kids to want to be like them...you cause confusion and chaos, kids are unable to focus

on the core subjects when there are these distractions!

Do not promote ONE group like LGBTQ+ above another! We need equal treatment for all groups. Sex, in one form or another, is not up to the schools to promote. Biology is appropriate in a biology class. Sexual Education belongs with the parents, mother and father.

The Government's job is to keep all citizens safe, reduce crime, homelessness and also maintain and build a clean, safe working infrastructure for all citizens.

Stop promoting ONE group over another...stop dividing by race, gender, sexual orientation, etc.

We are all Americans and should be treated equally.

NO on the resolution and STOP bullying groups that work hard to let parents know their rights. Do protect our children from groomers and inappropriate materials.

Sincerely,

LaVonne Carrick
Resident of Santa Clara County

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FW: My comments on Resolution 23-1441 (Agenda 3.5 on 10/24/23) condemning groups that promote parent's rights

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 10/23/2023 8:13 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: Jo Kawanami [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, October 22, 2023 11:32 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: My comments on Resolution 23-1441 (Agenda 3.5 on 10/24/23) condemning groups that promote parent's rights

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Dear San Jose City Clerk,

My name is Josephine Kawanami. I've lived in District 10 for 37 years, have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

Since I am unable to attend the 10/24/23 meeting, I am writing my comments and sending it to all City Council Members. This resolution to condemn groups that promote parent's rights to be informed about the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender + curriculum is wrong and violates our first amendment.

I don't understand why the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender+ group is favored over other groups, and that all children have to totally indoctrinated in this curriculum. This includes explicit book (Push) in school libraries that would make a parent blanch and angry that their children should be subject to it. I am not anti-Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender + but prefer that my child be an adult to understand this agenda. Why aren't parents given choice to this curriculum? Our schools are for learning reading, writing, math, history and not to indoctrinate them in sexual awareness, especially at ages younger than 12 years old! It just doesn't make sense, and is very harmful to their young minds and innocence. Please let our kids be kids and enjoy school and not be overwhelmed with this type of curriculum.

I have heard that the parents handing out the Opt Out bookmarks are being harassed by certain parents, and they are the one that are belligerent to the volunteers and not the other way around at certain school districts. Next time, get the facts straight from both sides! Multiple parents have said thank you

and chose to Opt Out...A legal decision that ensures knowledge and comfort for families and students. After all, City Council Members are elected by constituents and must remember to put families first, not agendas selected by council members.

Sincerely,

Josephine Kawanami

Sent from my iPad

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FW: Council Agenda: October 24, 2023 Item 3.5

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 10/23/2023 3:05 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: SV IP <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 3:01 PM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Cc:** CAO Main <cao.main@sanjoseca.gov>; Webmaster Manager <webmaster.manager@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Council Agenda: October 24, 2023 Item 3.5

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***Council Agenda: October 24, 2023
Item 3.5***

Open Letter for Immediate Release

To: San Jose City Councilmembers

From: Informed Parents of Silicon Valley

Re: Edited Resolution (no longer) targeting Informed Parents
October 23, 2023

Honored San Jose City Councilmembers:

We noticed, while wandering around the Web, that you have edited the misguided Foley/Torres resolution such that our name no longer appears in the resolution.

So, in a certain sense, you have addressed some of our concerns expressed in our previous communications as you no longer explicitly and directly claim falsehoods and slander about our organization.

But while that's a welcome change, it's nowhere near enough to satisfy our deep-seated ethical and legal concerns about the memo, which remain unaddressed. Namely:

- * The resolution's complete inability to acknowledge that the parental right to opt-out their children from public school curriculum is an explicitly stated right enshrined in California education code;
- * The chilling assault on the First Amendment the Resolution advances by limiting the ability and rights of parents who choose to opt out, as the Resolution coerces all local elected officials to otherize and shut

their doors to those parents;

* The monumental overreach of the memo as it attempts to hijack the responsibilities of another branch of government--the elected representatives of School Districts--by coercing those School Districts, via the City's financial and regulatory power, into doing the Council's bidding;

* The ever-broadening, if vaguely defined, foci of the Resolution's punitive ire. Previously, the Resolution just called our Informed Parents and the Values Advocacy Council as preferred targets. The Resolution's updated draft now includes any parent who has the temerity to believe that they're allowed to follow state law and advocate for that law to their elected representatives. "These groups," which is the Resolution's replacement language for Informed Parents and Values Advocacy Council, throws such a wide net that the Resolution pre-emptively convicts tens of thousands of local parents of the Thought Crime of challenging the false and malicious Narrative peddled by Foley and Torres.

We will not be attending your council meeting on October 24, as we have already expressed on the record our concerns regarding the unethical, potentially illegal, and certainly misguided and illiterate ramblings of the Resolution.

We acknowledge your edits and look forward to working with you in the future. That is, of course, if any one of you will take our calls.

Respectfully,

Informed Parents



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FW: support for Item 3.5 Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities.

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/24/2023 7:54 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Alie Victorine [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 4:23 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; Doan, Bien <Bien.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; Torres, Omar <Omar.Torres@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; Kamei, Rosemary <Rosemary.Kamei@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: support for Item 3.5 Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities.

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[External Email]

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

I am writing to you today in support of Item 3.5 the Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities.

I am a retired teacher who spent thirty years educating students in the Franklin McKinley School District. It does not take long for a new teacher to realize that in addition to teaching language arts, mathematics, science and history, that all students' emotional and social growth must be supported as well. I knew this 30 years ago and the education systems today give guidance and training to support teachers in supporting students today. This emotional and social support can only be achieved if a student's identity is recognized and valued, whether this be ethnic background, gender, language, religion, culture or ability. And this can only be achieved if all students are able to see themselves as a valued part of society.

Throughout my teaching career I have witnessed a wonderful transformation where LGBTQ+ students and families are more accepted, instead of ostracized. This has allowed schools to more openly support the LGBTQ+ students in our care. And just as we celebrate the contributions of other historically marginalized groups such as women or ethnic groups throughout history, we also can celebrate the contributions of the LGBTQ+ community. There is no grooming or persuasion happening in our classrooms. There is no hidden agenda. There is care, acceptance and education.

I am proud that the city of San Jose is considering this resolution to support students, families and educators of the LGBTQ+ community and to pull support for groups that are using misinformation and disinformation which spread fear and hatred towards the LGBTQ+ community as well as the school staff that support them.

Sincerely,

Alie Victorine
San Jose, CA

FW: Agenda Item 3.4 SUPPORT

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/24/2023 7:55 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Kathryn Hedges [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 8:50 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Agenda Item 3.4 SUPPORT

[External Email]

Dear Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and Councilmembers:

I support the resolution proposed by Councilmembers Foley and Torres and urge you to vote YES.

I am a resident of District 3 and voted for Councilmember Omar Torres. I am also a member of Showing Up for Racial Justice, which is currently fighting the same fight across the country against school book bans and other manifestations of hatred against LGBTQ+ people. Even if many of my dear friends in the art community weren't LGBTQ+, I would fight against groups that spread disinformation and hatred for LGBTQ+ people because "none of us are free until we are ALL free."

If we let groups use "protecting our children" as an excuse to use our public meetings as a platform to tell disgusting lies about one marginalized population, today it seems to be LGBTQ+ and tomorrow it will be some other group. Maybe it will be Black people, immigrants, Disabled people--who knows? We cannot allow them to undermine the diverse culture that makes San José great. Nobody should live in fear of hatred and discrimination sown by people suppressing the truth about them.

Please pass this resolution against hate groups in San José.

In solidarity,

Kathryn Hedges
Member, SURJ
Member, Liminal Grove Collective
[REDACTED]

San José, CA 95112

District 3

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FW: Letter to CSJ from REAL Coalition re Item 3.5, Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/24/2023 7:55 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

📎 1 attachments (75 KB)

REAL Letter re Item 3.5, 10.24.23.pdf;

From: Angel Aliano [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 5:05 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Kyra Kazantzis [REDACTED]; Alan Gouig [REDACTED]; Yvonne Jimenez <[REDACTED]> Isela Reyes [REDACTED]

Subject: Letter to CSJ from REAL Coalition re Item 3.5, Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities

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Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council,

Please see attached a letter prepared by the nonprofit Race Equity Action Leadership (REAL) Coalition regarding **Item 3.5, Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities**.

We look forward to your discussion around this. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Ángel Aliano | Nonprofit Policy & Advocacy Fellow

Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Web: svcn.org | Twitter: [@SVCN](https://twitter.com/SVCN)

Pronouns: he/him

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October 23, 2023

Mayor & City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San José, CA 95113
Sent via electronic mail

Re: Item 3.5, City Council Meeting, October 24, 2023

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council:

This letter was prepared by the City of San José Racial Justice Workgroup of the Race Equity Action Leadership (REAL) Coalition. (See below for more information about the REAL Coalition.)

We are writing to strongly urge the Mayor and City Council to support the resolution drafted by Councilmembers Foley and Torres that challenges efforts by some organizations in our region to oppose the fundamental values of inclusion and justice that have long been hallmarks of the City of San José.

As active members of a racial equity coalition, we have often contacted City leaders indicating our positions on budget and policy issues. In many cases, there is room for negotiation and compromise on these matters. But there is no room for compromise when we are confronting groups that would deny the basic human rights of long-marginalized segments of our community. The lessons from history are too horrific to be ignored. Attempts to prevent schools from acknowledging the dignity of LGBTQ+ families deserve to be condemned. Moreover, unless repudiated, they will likely lead to demands for further levels of dehumanization. The organizations that initially target people based on sexual orientation, if successful, will return to target others based on race, religion, or national or ethnic identity.

We also call to the Mayor and City Council's attention the fact that in the recent election, the voters approved the Measure I charter amendments. These included provisions requiring the City to adopt a statement of values promoting racial and social equity and inclusion. This resolution is an action that moves the City forward in beginning to fulfill that charter mandate. Failing to take a strong stand against the organizations that are denounced in this resolution will be not only assisting in the spread of hatred and bigotry but will also be at odds with clear City charter language recently endorsed by the electorate.

Letter from Members of the REAL Coalition
October 23, 2023
City Council Item 3.5, October 24, 2023

We wish that it was not necessary to express our viewpoints so strongly. But the consequences of silence or timidity in the face of organized hateful behavior leaves people of good will no other option.

Please consider this letter signed by 45 member organizations of the REAL Coalition and a number of individuals. You can reach REAL by emailing iselar@sacredheartcs.org.

Signed by:

Mark Tolley
American Leadership Forum

Zahra Billoo
CAIR San Francisco Bay Area

Misrayn Mendoza
Amigos de Guadalupe

Gregory Kepferle
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County

Bea Pangilinan
Asian Law Alliance

Shana Peete
Center for Excellence in Nonprofits

Dennis Chiu
Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute

Erin O'Brien
Community Solutions

Elisa Koff-Ginsborg
Behavioral Health Contractors' Association (BHCA)

Pete Settelmayer
Downtown College Prep

Josh Selo
Bill Wilson Center

Jason Su
Guadalupe River Park Conservancy

Marsha Hovey
Collaborating Agencies' Disaster Relief Effort (CADRE)

Susan Frazer
Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley

Ashley Raggio
Joint Venture Silicon Valley

Letter from Members of the REAL Coalition
October 23, 2023
City Council Item 3.5, October 24, 2023

Bob Nuñez
La Raza Roundtable

Alison Brunner
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley

Quency Phillips
Lighthouse Silicon Valley

Héctor Sánchez-Flores
National Compadres Network

Colsaria Henderson
**Next Door Solutions to Domestic
Violence**

Rhonda Berry
Our City Forest

Heather Cleary
Peninsula Family Service

Dianna Zamora-Marroquin
Planned Parenthood Mar Monte

Mary Gloner
Project Safety Net

Kathy Cordova
Recovery Cafe San José

Poncho Guevara
Sacred Heart Community Service

Michael Dao
**San José State University Human
Rights Institute**

Wisa Uemura
San José Taiko

Carlos Rosario
**Santa Clara County Black Lawyers
Association**

Jessica Paz-Cedillos
Vanessa Shieh
**School of Arts and Culture at the
Mexican Heritage Plaza**

Huy Tran
**Services, Immigrant Rights, &
Education Network (SIREN)**

Gabriel Hernandez
¡Sí Se Puede Collective!

Sandhya Laddha
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition

Shiloh Ballard
**Emerita, Silicon Valley Bicycle
Coalition**

Kyra Kazantzis
Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Sheri Burns
**Silicon Valley Independent Living
Center**

Angelica Flores
SOMOS Mayfair

Letter from Members of the REAL Coalition
October 23, 2023
City Council Item 3.5, October 24, 2023

Kim Guptill

SURJ at Sacred Heart

Regina Celestin Williams

SV@Home

Michele Lew

The Health Trust

Yvonne Maxwell

Ujima Adult and Family Services

Kevin Zwick

United Way Bay Area

Sujatha Venkatraman

West Valley Community Services

Lucila Ortiz

Working Partnerships, USA

Leif Erickson

Board, Youth Community Service

Mora Oommen

Youth Community Service

Jennifer Masuda

Yu-Ai Kai Senior Center

Adriana Caldera

YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley

About the REAL Coalition

The REAL community of nonprofit leaders and allies has been meeting since June 2020 to use our positional power to advocate for a more racially-just and equitable society; to establish a peer network of leaders committed to fighting white supremacy and systemic racism in ourselves and our institutions; and to hold each other accountable to the promises we made in the Nonprofit Racial Equity Pledge. The REAL coalition is broadly representative of the nonprofit community including human and community services, behavioral health and health, arts and culture, domestic violence, older adults, food distribution, education, environmental, farming, legal, disability rights, LGBTQ rights, ethnic, immigrant rights, housing and homelessness, criminal justice reform, urban planning, and intermediary organizations, and others. Over 125 organizations have participated in the REAL coalition.

FW: In support of Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities (Agenda item 3.5 23-1441)

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/24/2023 9:22 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Rebekah Jensen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 9:17 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: In support of Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities (Agenda item 3.5 23-1441)

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Last week, outside my kids' elementary school, a man approached parents with some version of 'Are you concerned about your child's math scores?' Thinking this was about math tutoring or after-school activities, many parents took the flyer the man offered. But what was on the flyer was the claim directly connecting 'failing test scores' with 'Critical Race Theory-based ethnic studies' and 'Comprehensive Sexuality Education'. The flyer urged parents to 'opt out' of this supposedly 'dangerous' curriculum.

The flyer ignored the reality that this 'opt-out' would require a school to remove a student from all history, science, language arts, and even math - because of the strong likelihood that a teacher might acknowledge contributions and viewpoints of history/science/literature/math from anyone other than white cisgendered heterosexual people. The group behind the flyer's has blustered about not being anti-LGBT, but this is patently false - when you suppress acknowledgement of people who are queer, gender-fluid, transgender, gay, not gender-conforming, etc., you are attempting to deny their existence and erase their reality from our communities. This group also seeks to suppress, with the claim of 'CRT-based ethnic studies', students exploring any history or social studies that includes the experiences and viewpoints of Black, brown and indigenous people.

Allowing this kind of choking rhetoric to dominate our schools would be a tragedy. My white non-LGBT+ (as far as I know) children have learned empathy in San Jose schools, to value the contributions and company of all people. My children have gained a more complete understanding of the world around them, not limited by religious beliefs of anyone else. The group behind the flyer want to keep all children in a narrow, white-washed artificial world, but my children will be finishing San Jose schools prepared to thrive in the multi-cultural, multi-peopled world that we live in. I hope that all San Jose children will have the same opportunity.

Please pass this resolution affirming that all children and families deserve to exist and be free of harassment in our schools. So that all children can grow and learn in a safe, inclusive and caring environment regardless of race, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

--R. Jensen
District 2
San Jose, CA

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FW: Letter for city council mtg 10/24/23 agenda item 3.5

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/24/2023 9:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Kattengell, Donna <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 9:57 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Letter for city council mtg 10/24/23 agenda item 3.5

10/24/23

Dear City Council,

My name is Donna Kattengell. I am a citizen and employee of San Jose and an ally of the LGBTQIA+ community. I am writing today to support the resolution set forth by Council Members Foley and Torres regarding support of LGBTQIA+ students in San Jose schools. This is agenda item 3.5 on the City Council meeting agenda for 10/24/23. I encourage all of you to support this resolution for the betterment of all our children. Learning about differences in others is a part of learning about life. This is a way to promote tolerance and understanding amongst children (and adults) so that everyone can live in a more understanding and diverse community together.

The flyers and pamphlets being distributed to children and parents by members of Informed Parents of Silicon Valley (IPSV) are dripping with misinformation and hate. Learning about others who are different from you is not going to cause trauma or low standardized test scores in children. What causes that kind of trauma is tension, misunderstanding and conflict which arises from having no education about others around you. IPSV is ironically named as these parents are far from "informed." If they were informed, they would be "informed" of the fact that per TheTrevorProject.org, (a leader in LGBTQIA+ youth issues and research), 59% of LGTQIA+ youth in the past year have "seriously considered suicide" with 23% actually attempting it. This community of children needs our help to understand themselves and also to be more accepted by those around them. If these "informed parents" were truly informed, they would know gender confusion is a symptom of a transgender child being told repeatedly that they are one gender by family, church, or others when they feel like a different gender entirely. Being told you're one thing that does not match who you feel you are inside is what causes confusion. Learning about LGBTQIA+ subjects helps kids who are questioning why they feel a certain way, and teaches kids who are not part of that community to accept those who are.

Banning books with any association to LGBTQIA+ topics is the wrong step to take for San Jose. We are as diverse as a city gets here regarding race, culture, religion, gender, sexuality, and a number of other factors. Being a diverse community is who we are. Removing this aspect of learning for students does not improve anything for our children. Whether or not the books are available to youth will not change the fact that LGBTQIA+ people (including children) exist here and everywhere. It's just a matter of whether you want to have accepting, educated and understanding youth or you want to support the ideas of hate and exclusion.

The IPSV is trying to poison the minds of kids into thinking people of the LGBTQIA+ community are bad or harmful. That's what they're saying when they remove books and education about a topic and brand it as a means of "protecting kids." I have two children in their teens. Both of them have friends who are part of the LGBTQIA+ community. Neither of my kids bats an eye about those friends being "different" in any way, because my children are educated about others who may not be exactly the same as them. Why is that not a norm for kids? My kids don't introduce their LGBTQIA+ friends as "my trans friend Bob" or "my gay friend John." It's simply "Mom, this is my friend Bob." So guess what? If you don't program kids to hate, they don't hate! It's very normal for my kids, having friends in the LGBTQIA+ community. It is the adults who seem to take issue with these kids existing, and that's wrong.

If you would please imagine the flyers and bookmarks being handed out by IPSV being not about the LGBTQIA+ community, but about black people, would their behavior be acceptable? I would hope you would all agree that would be completely unacceptable and you would want it to be stopped on school campuses. This is no different. A marginalized group is being attacked by a hate group for no apparent reason. It's not acceptable and needs to be stopped. Our children deserve to be educated about the community they live in and/or may be a part of. They deserve to be free from harassment by hate groups at a place where they are expected to feel safe. They deserve better and I hope you will help make changes to facilitate that improvement.

Thank you,

FW: Public Comment - Jordan Moldow 95112 - 10/24/2023 Council Item 3.5 File 23-1441 "Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities."

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/24/2023 10:01 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Jordan Moldow [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 10:00 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; CouncilMeeting <CouncilMeeting@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Public Comment - Jordan Moldow 95112 - 10/24/2023 Council Item 3.5 File 23-1441 "Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities."

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Public Comment from Jordan Moldow (95112; District 3) regarding Strategic Support Item 3.523-1441 "Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities." - City Council 10/24/2023:

I support the resolution for the San Jose City Council to "affirm the importance [...] to take action to ensure all San Jose residents, especially our children, can grow, learn and work in a safe, inclusive and caring environment regardless of race, gender identity, or sexual orientation."

That sentence in the resolution should not be controversial.

As a society, we cannot achieve that goal through inaction or ignorance. To combat environments which exclude or otherwise mistreat people on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation, one must actively learn:

- That there are people who choose to identify in ways which are different from how you might assume them to be.
- That (unfortunately) there are environments (in the past and present, and likely the foreseeable future) which mistreat people based on those identities.
- That if you know (or suspect) that you identify differently from how your family/friends/peers/community assume you to be, that there are safe resources that you can make use of, and safe communities that you can reach out to.
- How to be supportive of your family/friends/peers/community.
- In a secular, multi-cultural society such as what we have here in San Jose, there is nothing wrong, nor immoral, nor anti-social about choosing your own identity or choosing your own romantic/sexual relationships, and that choice harms no one.

If we skip learning/teaching any one of those, we cannot ever create an informed community where "all San Jose residents, especially our children, can grow, learn and work in a safe, inclusive and caring environment regardless of race, gender identity, or sexual orientation."

Furthermore, this isn't a subject that you can just ignore and wait to teach until a young person has turned 18 and left their home. These issues will affect them and their peers long before that moment. Whether you like it or not, it is fact that:

- Young people develop crushes and form romantic relationships while they are still minors in public school.

- Most young people have a solid grasp of their sexual orientation long before they turn 18, regardless of whether you teach them about LGBTQ+ issues or not.
- People are happier and healthier when they are accepted for who they are, even if it goes against perceived societal "norms".

Parents have a right to teach their children whatever they want, including teaching their children that their parents believe the school curriculum is wrong. But parents should not have the right to whitewash their children's basic, essential education. More importantly, parents should not have the right to prevent their children from having access to essential resources that their children would need safe access to if they find themselves exploring an LGBTQ+ identity. Parents' rights do not trump children's rights.

Groups that are specifically working to prevent their children from receiving LGBTQ+ education should rightly be called out as being anti-LGBTQ+. Because these actions will actively harm and ostracize their own children, if their children question the identity that their parents have given them.

Finally, I'd like to reject the notion that teaching LGBTQ+ topics is somehow "age inappropriate", or "promoting one group over another". It is age appropriate, because children of all ages are already aware of romantic/sexual relationships, and genders. It is not "promoting one group over another", because it teaches about all options. The societies of old, that ignored all options except for heterosexual relationships and cis-gendering, was what promoted one group over another. Look at the media around you. Despite the "LGBT agenda", most media is still very heterosexual focused and cis-gendered. LGBTQ+ education is not biased or indoctrination. It is simply teaching all aspects of our reality.

Jordan Moldow
District 3
95112

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FW: Comment on October 24th City Council Meeting: Item 3.5

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 10/24/2023 2:46 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Mary Grunthaner [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 2:45 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Comment on October 24th City Council Meeting: Item 3.5

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Resolution Affirming Support of the Transgender and Broader LGBTQ+ Communities

Good Afternoon Members of the City Council:

My name is Mary Grunthaner and I am a teacher in San Jose Unified School District. I have made my classroom a safe space for all students. The LGBTQ+ youth in our community deserve the same treatment as all other people: namely respecting their dignity and protecting them from bullying and harassment. As our elected leaders, you have a responsibility to protect and speak up for those among us who experience any form of discrimination, especially those who are part of the LGBTQ+ community. I wholeheartedly support this resolution and urge each of you to do the same. Thank you.

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