



Welcome to the Movement

Parent Tool Kit

Dear Parent,

Welcome to the My Kid, My Choice Parent Tool Kit. We're so glad you're here.

Parenting has always been one of the most important—and most challenging—roles in the world. Today, it comes with added pressures: schools making decisions without transparency, government agencies undermining family authority, and cultural voices telling us that parents don't know best. But here's the truth: you do.

No one knows, loves, or is responsible for your child more than you. And that's why My Kid, My Choice exists—because parents, not government or outside influences, should guide a child's education, healthcare, and future.

This Tool Kit was designed with you in mind. Inside, you'll find resources to help you:

- Clarify your family's values,
- Evaluate your child's school and curriculum,
- Understand your legal rights,
- Speak confidently at school board meetings, and
- Protect your child from harmful influences.

Our goal isn't to overwhelm you—it's to equip and empower you. Whether you use one worksheet, attend a board meeting, or simply start a conversation at home, every step you take matters. When parents are engaged, children thrive.

Together, we are part of a growing movement of moms, dads, grandparents, and guardians standing up to say: My Kid. My Responsibility. My Choice.

You're not alone. And you are exactly the right person to shape your child's future.

With you for the next generation,



The My Kid, My Choice Team



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Family Values Checklist

Clarify what matters most for your family, so you can confidently make decisions about your child's education, healthcare, and future.

Instructions

Read through each area below and mark the statements that reflect your family's priorities. Add notes where you want to expand. This checklist is a tool for conversations—with your child, with schools, with healthcare providers, and even within your own household—to make sure your values guide the choices being made.

Education

- ☐ I want my child's education to reflect academic excellence first and foremost.
- ☐ I believe parents should have transparency into school curriculum and materials.
- ☐ I want my child to learn in an environment that respects our family's values.
- ☐ I support freedom to choose the school (public, private, charter, or home) that best fits my child's needs.
- ☐ Other: _____

Health & Wellbeing

- ☐ I believe parents—not outside institutions—should make medical decisions for their child.
- ☐ I want healthcare providers to involve parents in all major decisions regarding treatment, mental health, and wellness.
- ☐ I want my child protected from unnecessary, experimental, or irreversible medical procedures.
- ☐ I value mental health supports that align with our family's approach to wellbeing.
- ☐ Other: _____

Safety & Media Exposure

- ☐ I believe children should be shielded from sexually explicit or violently graphic content until parents decide they are ready.
- ☐ I want age-appropriate library books, media, and classroom materials.
- ☐ I want schools to partner with parents in protecting kids online and in the classroom.
- ☐ I value setting healthy boundaries for technology, entertainment, and peer influences.
- ☐ Other: _____



Family Values Checklist

Clarify what matters most for your family, so you can confidently make decisions about your child's education, healthcare, and future.



Family & Community

- ☐ I believe parents—not government—are the primary influencers in shaping children's values.
- ☐ I value open communication within our family about difficult issues.
- ☐ I believe in building strong connections between home, school, and community.
- ☐ I want my child surrounded by mentors and role models who reinforce positive values.
- ☐ Other: _____



Future & Responsibility

- ☐ I want my child to be prepared for adulthood with life skills, integrity, and confidence.
- ☐ I believe children should learn personal responsibility and respect for others.
- ☐ I value opportunities for my child to explore their talents and interests in healthy ways.
- ☐ I want my child to be equipped to thrive in their future career, relationships, and community.
- ☐ Other: _____



Takeaway:

This checklist is for you. Use it to guide school choices, healthcare decisions, and conversations with leaders in your community. When challenges arise, you'll know where you stand: *My Kid. My Choice.*



School Evaluation Worksheet

*Use this tool to assess whether your child's school supports
your family's goals, values, and expectations.*

Instructions

For each category below, circle or check how well your child's school meets the criteria. Use the notes section to record specific examples or concerns. This worksheet is designed to help you identify strengths, spot red flags, and guide meaningful conversations with educators and administrators.

Academic Quality

- ☐ Strong focus on core subjects (reading, writing, math, science)
- ☐ High standards for student achievement
- ☐ Provides support for struggling students
- ☐ Offers enrichment for advanced learners
- ☐ Transparent grading and testing policies

Rating: ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Notes: _____

Curriculum & Instruction

- ☐ Curriculum is age-appropriate and transparent to parents
- ☐ Materials reflect academic rigor without unnecessary political or ideological bias
- ☐ Parents have the ability to review and question curriculum content
- ☐ Clear opt-out policies for sensitive subjects (e.g., sex education, surveys)
- ☐ Teachers are respectful of diverse family perspectives

Rating: ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Notes: _____

School Environment

- ☐ Safe, orderly, and respectful classrooms
- ☐ Anti-bullying policies are enforced fairly and consistently
- ☐ Communication between teachers and parents is clear and accessible
- ☐ Students are encouraged to think critically and express differing views respectfully
- ☐ Discipline policies are transparent and balanced

Rating: ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Notes: _____



School Evaluation Worksheet

*Use this tool to assess whether your child's school supports
your family's goals, values, and expectations.*

Library & Media Access

- ☐ Library materials are age-appropriate and aligned with community standards
- ☐ Parents are informed of reading lists and classroom media use
- ☐ Clear process for parents to raise concerns about inappropriate materials
- ☐ Technology and internet access are monitored for student safety

Rating: ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Notes: _____

Parental Involvement

- ☐ Parents are welcomed as partners in the education process
- ☐ Opportunities exist to volunteer, join parent groups, or give feedback
- ☐ School respects and upholds parents' role in guiding their children's development
- ☐ Decision-making processes are transparent and accessible to parents

Rating: ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Notes: _____

Alignment with Family Priorities

- ☐ School policies and practices align with my family's core values
- ☐ The school environment supports my child's emotional and social wellbeing
- ☐ The school respects my authority as a parent in major decisions
- ☐ My child is being prepared for future success in academics, career, and citizenship

Rating: ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Notes: _____

Takeaway:

No school is perfect, but parents deserve a clear picture of whether their child's school is a good fit. Use this worksheet to ask questions, start conversations, and advocate for your child. Because when it comes to their future—*My Kid. My Choice.*



Library & Curriculum Review Guide

A Parent Tool Kit Resource

Purpose

This guide helps parents review the materials their children are exposed to at school—including library books, classroom curriculum, and supplemental resources—and equips them with steps to raise concerns in a constructive, effective way.



Step 1: Check What's Available

Library Materials

- Visit your school's website to access the online library catalog. Many districts provide searchable databases.
- Search for books flagged nationally for sexually explicit or violent content (lists are often available from parental rights organizations).
- Ask the school librarian for a full inventory of your child's grade-level library. Parents have a right to this information.

Classroom Curriculum

- Request a copy of your child's syllabus, textbooks, and supplemental reading lists.
- Ask teachers about any digital tools, videos, or outside resources being used.
- Be aware that controversial material may come through supplemental programs (SEL modules, DEI "toolkits," or online platforms).



Step 2: Evaluate for Age Appropriateness

When reviewing materials, ask yourself:

- Does this content contain graphic sexual descriptions or violent imagery?
- Would this material be rated "R" if it were a movie?
- Does this content align with my family's expectations for age-appropriate learning?
- Would I be comfortable reading this book aloud in front of a room of children or parents?



Step 3: Document Concerns

- Write down the title, author, and page numbers of concerning content.
- Save screenshots or photos where appropriate.
- Note how the material was accessed (library, required reading, supplemental assignment).



Library & Curriculum Review Guide

A Parent Tool Kit Resource



Step 4: Address Concerns with the School

1. Start with the Teacher or Librarian
 - Share your concern respectfully and request an alternative for your child.
2. Escalate to the Principal or Curriculum Director
 - Submit a written request (email or letter) explaining why you believe the content is inappropriate.
3. Formal Review Process
 - Most districts have a “challenged materials policy.” Ask about it and follow the steps to submit a review.
4. School Board
 - If your concerns are dismissed, bring the issue to a public school board meeting. Use documented examples and keep your comments concise.



Step 5: Work with Other Parents

- Join or form a parent review committee to share findings.
- Organize respectfully—schools respond more quickly to unified parental voices.
- Share resources with your community so more parents know how to check what their children are being exposed to.



Sample Language for Parents

“I’ve reviewed [book/material] and found content that I believe is inappropriate for children at this grade level. I respectfully request that my child be given an alternative and that the school review this material for suitability.”



Bottom Line

Parents are the best advocates for protecting their child’s innocence and ensuring learning materials are age-appropriate. Review, document, and raise concerns confidently—because when it comes to what our kids see and read, My Kid. My Choice.



Know Your Rights

Parents, You Are Not Powerless.

The law recognizes that parents—not government agencies, schools, or outside activists—hold the primary responsibility and authority to raise their children. But many parents don't know the full extent of their rights, and some schools or institutions won't tell you unless you ask.

That's why My Kid, My Choice created a series of Know Your Rights resources: practical guides that explain what you're entitled to, how to access it, and what steps you can take if your rights are ignored.

Use these pages to get informed, take action, and protect your role as the decision-maker for your child's future.

Explore Know Your Rights Topics

◆ Education Freedom Rights in New Mexico

Understand your options—open enrollment, charter schools, homeschooling, 529 savings plans, and proposed Education Freedom Accounts—and how you can use them to direct your child's education.

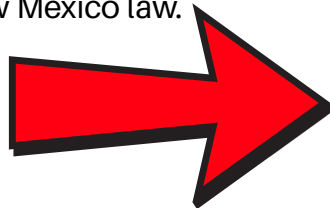
◆ Reviewing & Challenging School Materials

Get equipped with the step-by-step process for reviewing library books, curriculum, and classroom materials—and learn how to file a challenge if something is inappropriate for your child.

◆ Healthcare & Consent for Minors (coming soon)

Know where parents must be included in medical decisions, and where minors can access care without your consent under New Mexico law.

Scan To See Your Rights



Bottom Line

The best way to protect your children is to know your rights and use them. Don't wait for schools, doctors, or government officials to tell you what you're allowed to do. Knowledge is power—and parents who are informed are parents who can lead with confidence. Because when it comes to your child—My Kid. My Choice.



School Board Engagement Guide

A Parent Tool Kit Resource

Why It Matters

School boards make decisions that directly affect your child's education, the curriculum taught, the books in the library, and the policies that shape your child's daily environment. Attending—and speaking at—school board meetings is one of the most powerful ways for parents to influence local education.



Step 1: Find Your School Board Meetings

- Check Online: Visit your school district's website. Look for a tab called "School Board," "Board of Education," or "Governance." Meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes are usually posted there.
- Ask Directly: Call your school's front office and ask for the board meeting schedule.
- Sign Up for Alerts: Many districts allow you to sign up for email alerts when agendas are posted.
- Note: In New Mexico, boards are legally required to post their meeting agendas at least 72 hours in advance.



Step 2: What to Expect at a Meeting

- Structure: Meetings usually begin with formalities (pledge, roll call), then move into reports, agenda items, and public comment.
- Public Comment: This is when parents can speak—usually limited to 2–3 minutes each. You may need to sign up in advance, either online or at the meeting.
- Professional Atmosphere: Board members sit at a front table; the audience includes parents, teachers, and administrators. Comments are recorded as part of the public record.
- Respectful Conduct: Even when tensions run high, remaining calm and professional strengthens your impact.



Step 3: Preparing Your Comments

- Keep It Short: Most boards enforce a 2-minute limit. Aim for about 250–300 words.
- Stay Focused: Address one clear issue (curriculum, library content, parental rights, etc.) rather than trying to cover everything.
- Be Personal: Share why this matters to your family, not just statistics. Stories resonate.
- Bring Facts: Use evidence—like parental consent laws, NM curriculum rights, or Supreme Court cases—to back up your point.



School Board Engagement Guide

A Parent Tool Kit Resource



Step 4: Talking Points for Parents

Use these as starting points, depending on the issue:

On Gender Transitions / Medical Decisions

- “If a student needs parental consent for Tylenol at school, parents should also be involved in life-altering medical decisions like abortion or hormone treatments.”

On Education Curriculum

- “Parents are the primary educators of their children. We deserve transparency in what is being taught and the right to opt out of curriculum that conflicts with our values.”

On Age-Inappropriate Content in Libraries

- “If a book is too explicit to read aloud at this board meeting, it shouldn’t be available to middle school students in the library.”

On Education Freedom

- “Every child learns differently. Families—not zip codes—should decide where their kids go to school.”



Step 5: Sample Scripts

Script 1 – Curriculum Transparency

“Good evening, my name is [Name], and I am a parent of [X] children in this district. I’m here because I believe parents deserve full transparency in what our children are being taught. Too often, supplemental materials and digital programs are used without clear explanation to families. As parents, we have both the right and responsibility to direct our children’s education. I urge this board to ensure curriculum is accessible for parental review and to uphold opt-out rights when materials conflict with family values. Thank you.”

Script 2 – Library Content

“My name is [Name], and I’m speaking as a concerned parent. Recently, I reviewed titles available in the school library and found books containing graphic sexual content that is inappropriate for children. If a book cannot be read aloud in this room, it has no place in a school library. I respectfully request that this board establish clear review standards and provide parents with a process to challenge inappropriate materials. Our children deserve safe and age-appropriate learning environments.”



School Board Engagement Guide

A Parent Tool Kit Resource

Step 5: Sample Scripts (Cont.)

Script 3 – Parental Rights in Healthcare

“Good evening. As a parent, I was shocked to learn that in New Mexico, minors can access abortion and gender-related medical treatments without parental consent. This undermines the most basic responsibility of parents: to protect our children’s health and wellbeing. Schools should never encourage or hide medical decisions from families. I ask this board to adopt policies requiring parental notification and involvement whenever sensitive medical issues are raised with students. Parents must not be cut out.”

Step 6: Strategies for Speaking with Confidence

- Practice Aloud: Read your comments out loud several times. Time yourself to stay within the limit.
- Bring Notes: Use an index card or printout—you don’t have to memorize.
- Speak Clearly & Calmly: Slow down and make eye contact. Passion is good, but shouting weakens your impact.
- Stand with Others: Attend with a group of parents. Multiple voices on the same issue make a stronger statement.
- Follow Up: Send a copy of your comments by email to the board afterward for the record.

Bottom Line

School boards exist to serve families—not the other way around. When parents show up, speak up, and stay engaged, real change happens.

Because when it comes to our children’s schools—**My Kid. My Choice.**



School Board Engagement Worksheet

Prepare to speak confidently for your child's future



Step 1: Meeting Details

- School District: _____
- Date of Meeting: _____
- Location/Link: _____
- Public Comment Sign-Up Deadline: _____

Step 2: My Issue

- ☐ Curriculum Transparency
- ☐ Age-Inappropriate Content (Library/Assignments)
- ☐ Parental Rights in Healthcare (gender/abortion)
- ☐ Education Freedom / School Choice
- ☐ Other: _____

Describe your concern in one sentence:

Step 3: Key Talking Points

(Tip: Keep it short—one clear idea per point)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Step 4: Personal Story / Connection

Why does this issue matter for your family or your child?

Step 5: Draft My Script

(Aim for 250–300 words. Use your talking points + personal story.)

Step 6: Follow-Up Plan

- ☐ Email a copy of my remarks to the school board.
- ☐ Share with other parents/community members.
- ☐ Attend the next meeting with more parents.

Takeaway: Preparation is power. The clearer your message, the stronger your impact. When parents show up united, school boards listen. Because when it comes to our children's schools—**My Kid. My Choice.**



Education Freedom Resources

Parents deserve the freedom to choose the learning environment that best serves their children.



Why Education Freedom Matters

Every child is unique. Some thrive in traditional public schools, while others do better in charter schools, private schools, or at home. Education freedom gives parents the ability to choose the setting that best matches their child's needs and their family's values—without being restricted by zip code or income.



School Choice Options in New Mexico



Public School Transfers (Open Enrollment)

- New Mexico allows students to transfer between public schools, even across district lines, if space is available.
- Parents can apply directly to the receiving district.



Charter Schools

- Publicly funded but independently operated, offering innovative approaches to learning.
- Open to all students, regardless of home district.
- Popular options in New Mexico include STEM-focused, arts-integrated, and online charter schools.



Magnet & Specialty Programs

- Certain public schools offer magnet programs with emphasis on science, technology, the arts, or bilingual education.
- Often open through application or lottery.



Online Schools

- New Mexico offers full-time online public schools like New Mexico Connections Academy and Pecos Cyber Academy.
- Families seeking flexible schedules or specialized programs may benefit.



Homeschooling

- Fully legal in New Mexico with notification to the Public Education Department.
- Parents must teach core subjects but have wide flexibility in choosing curriculum.
- Standardized testing is not required.



Education Freedom Resources

Parents deserve the freedom to choose the learning environment that best serves their children.

Funding & Scholarships

529 Education Savings Plans (The Education Plan)

- Tax-advantaged savings that can be used for K-12 tuition, apprenticeships, and college costs.
- Parents control how and when the funds are spent.

Proposed Education Freedom Accounts (EFAs)

- EFAs would allow parents to use state-allocated education dollars for private school tuition, tutoring, or homeschool expenses.
- Currently not available in New Mexico but continually introduced in legislation.

Private Scholarships

- Many private and faith-based schools in New Mexico offer tuition assistance.
- National organizations like ACE Scholarships also provide help for qualifying families.

How to Start Exploring Options

1. Identify Priorities – What matters most to your family: safety, academics, values, flexibility, or special programs?
2. Research Local Options – Visit district websites, charter school listings, and private school directories.
3. Ask Questions – What curriculum is used? How are parents involved? What support systems exist?
4. Visit Schools – Request tours, meet teachers, and talk to other parents.
5. Compare Costs & Funding – Consider scholarships, tuition assistance, and 529 savings.

Additional Resources

- New Mexico Public Education Department – Charter Schools Directory
- The Education Plan – New Mexico's 529 Savings Program
- EdChoice: School Choice in New Mexico
- ACE Scholarships – New Mexico

Bottom Line

Education freedom means putting families—not the government—in charge of where and how children learn. Every parent deserves the right to choose the school that helps their child thrive.

Because when it comes to your child's education—My Kid. My Choice.



My Kid, My Choice

Parent Gathering Packet

*Equip and empower parents in your community
to stand for their rights.*



What is a Parent Gathering?

A parent gathering is a simple event where moms, dads, grandparents, and guardians come together to talk about the issues facing their children and families. It can be as small as a few parents in a living room, or as large as a community workshop at a church, school, or civic center.

The purpose is the same no matter the size: to connect parents, share resources, and empower families to protect their rights and guide their children's future. Parent gatherings create space for conversation, encouragement, and action—because parents are stronger when they stand together.



Purpose of the Packet

The Parent Gathering Packet is designed to help you host a group event—whether in a church, community center, living room, or school parent association. The goal is to inform parents about their rights, the challenges facing families in New Mexico, and practical steps they can take to protect and guide their children.



Bottom Line

Parent gatherings are one of the most powerful ways to build community and momentum. Whether in a church, living room, or local group, these conversations remind families that they are not alone—and that parents, not government, have the final say in their child's life. Because when it comes to raising the next generation—My Kid. My Choice.



My Kid, My Choice Parent Gathering Packet

*Equip and empower parents in your community
to stand for their rights.*



What's Inside the Packet

1. Welcome & Host Guide

- Tips for organizing your event (small group, workshop, or town-hall style).
- Suggested agenda (30–60 minutes).
- Conversation icebreakers to get parents engaged.

2. Introductory Message

- A short script you can read to introduce My Kid, My Choice and explain why parental rights matter.
- Flexible wording—works in both faith-based and secular settings.

3. Talking Points & Key Issues Overview

- Simple breakdown of the main issues:
 - Medical decisions for minors (gender transitions, abortion access).
 - Education curriculum and transparency.
 - School choice and education freedom.
 - Age-appropriate content in schools/libraries.
- Clear, concise talking points to share with attendees.

4. Discussion & Reflection Guide

- Questions to spark conversation, such as:
 - What challenges are you seeing in your child's school or community?
 - How do you think parents and schools should work together?
 - What resources do you need to feel empowered?

5. Call to Action

- Ways parents can get involved:
 - Sign up for MKMC updates.
 - Use the Parent Tool Kit resources (opt-out letters, school evaluation worksheet, etc.).
 - Attend a school board meeting.
 - Host another gathering and keep the momentum going.

6. Optional Add-ons

- For Faith Settings: Suggested scripture references (Deuteronomy 6:6–7, Proverbs 22:6) and prayer prompts.
- For Secular Settings: Family-strengthening quotes, child-development research, and community action steps.



My Kid, My Choice Parent Gathering Packet

*Equip and empower parents in your community
to stand for their rights.*

Welcome & Host Guide

Welcome!

Thank you for stepping up to host a My Kid, My Choice Parent Gathering. Whether you're meeting in your living room, at a community center, or in a church fellowship hall, you are creating a powerful space for parents to connect, learn, and take action together.

Remember: you don't have to be an expert to lead this. You just need to care about kids, believe in the power of parents, and be willing to bring people together. We'll give you the tools—you just bring the people.

Tips for Organizing Your Event

- Choose the Setting:
 - Small Group (5–10 people): A living room, coffee shop, or library meeting room. Perfect for casual conversation and deep connection.
 - Workshop (10–30 people): A church classroom, community center, or school multipurpose room. Good for structured teaching and group discussion.
 - Town-Hall Style (30+ people): A fellowship hall, civic center, or public meeting space. Best for guest speakers, Q&A, and momentum-building.
- Promote the Gathering:
 - Invite friends, neighbors, and fellow parents personally—word of mouth is powerful.
 - Share a flyer, social media post, or group text to spread the word.
 - Frame it as a safe, welcoming space to talk about parenting challenges and rights.
- Prepare the Space:
 - Arrange seating so parents can see each other—conversation matters.
 - Have a sign-in sheet (so you can share follow-up resources).
 - Provide copies of any MKMC handouts or Tool Kit resources.
 - Keep it light—snacks, coffee, and water always help!



My Kid, My Choice Parent Gathering Packet

*Equip and empower parents in your community
to stand for their rights.*



Suggested Agenda (30–60 minutes)

Welcome & Introductions (5 min)

- Greet attendees, thank them for coming, and explain the purpose of MKMC.
- *A welcome script is provided for you in this packet.*

Overview of My Kid, My Choice (10 min)

- Share a brief description of the movement and why parental rights matter.

Key Issues Presentation (10–15 min)

- Highlight 1–2 issues most relevant to your group (e.g., curriculum, parental consent laws, or age-inappropriate materials).

Group Discussion (10–15 min)

- Use discussion questions (provided later in this packet) to spark conversation.

Call to Action & Next Steps (5–10 min)

- Share ways to get involved: email sign-up, school board engagement, volunteering, or hosting the next gathering.

Closing (2–5 min)

- Thank attendees, remind them they are not alone, and end with encouragement.



Conversation Icebreakers

Choose one to start your gathering:

- One Word: Ask everyone to share one word that describes how they feel about parenting today.
- School Snapshot: Ask: “What’s one thing you appreciate about your child’s school—and one thing you’d like to see change?”
- Looking Ahead: Ask: “What’s the biggest hope you have for your child’s future?”
- Quick Poll: By a show of hands, “Who here feels fully informed about what’s happening in your child’s school curriculum?”



Host Tip

Your goal is not to lecture but to start a conversation. Encourage openness, validate concerns, and remind parents that they are not alone in this journey.



My Kid, My Choice Parent Gathering Packet

*Equip and empower parents in your community
to stand for their rights.*



Host Welcome Script

Opening

"Hi everyone! Thank you so much for being here today. My name is [Your Name], and I'm really glad you decided to join this My Kid, My Choice Parent Gathering.

We all know parenting isn't easy. On top of the daily challenges, there are bigger issues—like what's being taught in our kids' schools, what materials they're being exposed to, and what medical decisions are being made without parents even knowing. That's why My Kid, My Choice exists: to protect the rights of parents to direct their children's upbringing, education, and healthcare.

This gathering isn't about politics or labels—it's about something every parent can agree on: no one knows or loves a child more than their family.

Purpose of the Gathering

"Today, we're here to connect with each other, learn more about the challenges facing families in New Mexico, and talk about practical steps we can take to protect our kids and support one another. You don't need to be an expert—just a parent who cares."

What to Expect

"Here's how our time will go:

- We'll start with a short overview of My Kid, My Choice.*
- Then we'll highlight a couple of key issues parents are facing right now.*
- After that, we'll have some time for discussion—so everyone can share experiences and ideas.*
- And finally, we'll talk about ways to stay connected and take action together."*

Icebreaker

"To start us off, let's go around and share [choose one]:

- One word that describes how you feel about parenting today,*
- Or, one thing you appreciate about your child's school and one thing you'd like to see change."*

Transition

"Thank you for sharing! Let's jump in with a quick overview of what My Kid, My Choice is all about..." (see the Introductory Message below to help explain what MKMC is all about.)



My Kid, My Choice Parent Gathering Packet

*Equip and empower parents in your community
to stand for their rights.*



Introductory Message

Here's a short, ready-to-read Introductory Message for you to use at the beginning of a My Kid, My Choice Parent Gathering.

"My Kid, My Choice is a movement built on a simple truth: no one knows, loves, or is responsible for a child more than their parents. Yet today, parental rights are being challenged in ways we've never seen before.

In New Mexico, minors can make life-altering medical decisions without their parents ever being notified. Schools often introduce controversial curriculum without transparency. Libraries hold books with content we'd never want our kids to see at home. And for too many families, the ability to choose a safe and values-aligned education is out of reach.

These are not small issues—they impact our children's health, their minds, and their future. My Kid, My Choice exists to protect the rights of parents to direct their children's upbringing, education, and medical care—ensuring families, not government, shape the values and future of the next generation.

This isn't about politics or labels. It's about common sense, protecting kids, and empowering parents to do what they do best: raise their children with love, wisdom, and care.

And that's why we're here today: to learn, to connect, and to take steps together to make sure our children grow up safe, supported, and prepared for the future."



Talking Points & Key Issues Overview

Next, you'll find talking points on the key challenges facing families in New Mexico—and why My Kid, My Choice exists. Use these talking points to guide discussion and help parents understand what's at stake.

Consider using the "Key Issues Every Parent Should Know" as a handout for your guests.



My Kid, My Choice Parent Gathering Packet

*Equip and empower parents in your community
to stand for their rights.*



1. Medical Decisions for Minors

The Issue: In New Mexico, minors can access abortion and gender-related medical treatments (including hormones and surgeries) without parental consent or notification.

Talking Points:

- Parents must sign for field trips and Tylenol—yet are cut out of life-altering medical decisions.
- Puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and abortion procedures carry serious risks that children cannot fully understand.
- Parents are a child's best safeguard against exploitation, abuse, or pressure from outside influences.



2. Education Curriculum & Transparency

The Issue: Parents are often kept in the dark about what their children are being taught in the classroom. Supplemental materials, activist-driven lessons, and hidden curriculum can conflict with family values.

Talking Points:

- Parents are the primary educators of their children, and schools should partner with families—not hide from them.
- Transparency builds trust; secrecy erodes it.
- Parents deserve access to curriculum and the right to opt their children out of lessons that don't align with their family's values.



3. School Choice & Education Freedom

The Issue: A child's future shouldn't be determined by their zip code, yet many families are trapped in schools that don't fit their needs.

Talking Points:

- Every child is unique—no one school model works for everyone.
- Families should be able to choose from public, charter, private, online, or homeschool options.
- Education freedom gives parents—not bureaucrats—the power to decide where kids learn and thrive.



My Kid, My Choice

Parent Gathering Packet

*Equip and empower parents in your community
to stand for their rights.*



4. Age-Appropriate Content in Schools & Libraries

The Issue: Graphic, sexually explicit, or violently graphic books and resources are showing up in school libraries and classrooms, often without parental knowledge.

Talking Points:

- If a book is too graphic to read aloud at a school board meeting, it doesn't belong in a child's library.
- Early exposure to explicit content harms children's mental and emotional health.
- Parents should guide when and how their children are introduced to sensitive topics—not schools.



Bottom Line

These issues are different, but they all point to the same truth: parents must remain the primary decision-makers in their children's lives. When families lead, kids thrive. Because when it comes to raising the next generation—My Kid. My Choice.



My Kid, My Choice

Key Issues Every Parent Should Know

A quick guide from My Kid, My Choice - Parent Handout



Medical Decisions for Minors

- In NM, minors can get abortion or gender treatments without parental consent or notification.
- These procedures carry serious physical and emotional risks.
- Parents—not schools or outside influences—are the best safeguard for kids.



Education Curriculum & Transparency

- Parents are often kept in the dark about classroom materials and supplemental lessons.
- Transparency builds trust—secrecy undermines it.
- Parents deserve access to curriculum and the right to opt out of conflicting content.



School Choice & Education Freedom

- A child's future shouldn't depend on a zip code.
- Families should choose public, charter, private, online, or homeschool options.
- Education freedom puts parents in charge of where kids learn and thrive.



Age-Appropriate Content in Schools & Libraries

- Graphic, sexually explicit, or violent books are appearing in school libraries and classrooms.
- If it's not appropriate to read at a school board meeting, it's not appropriate for kids.
- Parents should decide when and how their kids are exposed to sensitive topics.



Bottom Line

Parents must remain the primary decision-makers in their children's lives. When families lead, kids thrive.

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Parent Gathering Discussion Card

Parent gatherings work best when everyone has a chance to share. These questions are designed to spark conversation, surface real challenges, and help parents learn from each other. Choose 2-3 based on your group size and time.

General

- What challenges are you seeing in your child's school or community?
- What's one thing you wish school leaders understood about parents?
- Where do you feel the most confident—and least supported—as a parent?

Schools & Curriculum

- Have you ever felt left out of decisions about what your child is learning?
- What role should parents play in reviewing or challenging classroom materials?
- How can schools and parents work together instead of against each other?

Healthcare & Consent

- Did you know NM law allows minors to access certain medical treatments without parental involvement? How does that make you feel?
- What safeguards should be in place to keep parents part of major medical decisions?

Education Freedom

- If cost or location weren't an issue, what kind of education would you choose for your child?
- How could more school choice options help your family or community?

Age-Appropriate Content

- Have you or your child ever found inappropriate materials in school? What did you do?
- What standards should guide what's available in school libraries?

Action Steps

- What resources would help you feel more confident as a parent?
- What's one small step you can take this month to be more engaged?
- How can we support each other as parents in this community?

✓ **Tip for Hosts:** Encourage every parent to share! Encourage parents to listen to one another without judgment. The goal isn't to debate, but to connect and build shared solutions.



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Call to Action

A conversation is just the beginning. Real change happens when parents take the next step together. Here are a few simple ways you can get involved today:



Sign Up for MKMC Updates

Stay connected. Get updates on laws, resources, and events that impact your family—plus action alerts when your voice is needed most.



Use the Parent Tool Kit

Download and share resources like opt-out letters, the Family Values Checklist, and the School Evaluation Worksheet. These tools make it easier to take action right away.



Attend a School Board Meeting

Show up, speak up, and make your voice heard. Your presence reminds school leaders that parents are paying attention and expect accountability.



Host Another Gathering

Keep the conversation going. Invite more parents to the table—whether in your living room, a church, or a community space. Every gathering builds momentum for this movement.



Remember: You don't have to do everything—but everyone can do something. When parents take action together, families win.

Because when it comes to raising the next generation—**My Kid. My Choice.**

Consider using the "Parent Action Checklist" as a handout for your guests.



My Kid, My Choice Parent Action Checklist

*Equipping and empowering parents
to stand for their rights.*



Parent Action Checklist

Take the next step to protect your child's future

✓ Sign Up for Updates

☐ Add my name to the MKMC email list to receive updates, resources, and action alerts. (scan QR code below)

✓ Use the Parent Tool Kit (Scan QR Code Below)

- ☐ Download the Family Values Checklist.
- ☐ Complete the School Evaluation Worksheet.
- ☐ Review the Opt-Out Letters & Templates.
- ☐ Explore Know Your Rights resources.

✓ Engage Locally

- ☐ Attend my next school board meeting.
- ☐ Speak during public comment (use the MKMC guide).
- ☐ Connect with other parents in my community.

✓ Host & Share

- ☐ Host a Parent Gathering in my home, church, or community center.
- ☐ Share MKMC resources and graphics on social media.
- ☐ Invite another parent to get involved this month.

✓ Support the Movement (Scan QR Code Below)

- ☐ Volunteer with MKMC or partner with local leaders.
- ☐ Make a donation to help reach more parents across New Mexico.

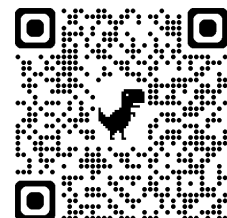


Tip: Start with one or two action steps and build from there. Every parent doing something creates a movement that cannot be ignored.

Because when it comes to raising the next generation—My Kid. My Choice.



**Visit the My Kid, My Choice Website
For Updates, Resources,
& Engagement**



www.mykidmychoicenm.com



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Optional Add-Ons

Every parent gathering is unique. Use these optional resources to adapt your event for a faith community or a secular/community group. Choose the add-ons that best fit your group. The goal is the same: to strengthen families, connect parents, and equip them to lead with confidence.

For Faith Settings

Scripture References

- Deuteronomy 6:6–7 – “These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.”
- Proverbs 22:6 – “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Prayer Prompts

- Pray for wisdom and strength for parents as they guide their children.
- Pray for schools and leaders to honor the role of families.
- Pray for protection over children—physically, emotionally, and spiritually.
- Pray for a movement of families who stand together for truth and freedom.

For Secular / Community Settings

Family-Strengthening Quotes

- “The family is the first essential cell of human society.” – Pope John XXIII
- “In every conceivable manner, the family is link to our past, bridge to our future.” – Alex Haley
- “The child’s first teacher is the parent.” – Charles W. Shedd

Child-Development Research Highlights

- Studies show children with engaged parents perform better academically, have stronger emotional resilience, and are less likely to engage in risky behaviors.
- The American Psychological Association notes that family involvement is one of the strongest predictors of student success.
- Research consistently finds that parental monitoring and guidance protect children from exposure to harmful influences.

Community Action Steps

- Form a parent coalition to regularly review curriculum and library materials.
- Partner with local organizations to host educational workshops for parents.
- Create a network of “parent buddies” who can attend school board meetings together for support.
- Share positive stories of parental involvement to inspire others in your community.



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Closing the Gathering

For the Host

As you wrap up, remind parents that this gathering is just the beginning. The purpose is not only to share concerns but to build connections and spark action. Parents leave encouraged when they know they are not alone.

Closing Script (Ready to Read)

"Thank you all for being part of this gathering. Tonight, we've shared our concerns, learned more about the challenges facing families in New Mexico, and discovered practical tools to protect our children and strengthen our role as parents.

But most importantly, we've reminded each other of a simple truth: parents matter. Your voice matters. And together, we are stronger.

I encourage you to take one step this week—use a resource from the Parent Tool Kit, attend a school board meeting, or simply start a conversation with another parent. Every step forward helps build a culture where families—not government—shape the next generation.

Thank you again for coming. Let's stay connected, support each other, and continue to stand together for our children.

Because when it comes to raising the next generation—My Kid. My Choice."

Follow-Up Suggestions for Hosts

- Share the MKMC email digital sign-up link.
- Pass out the *Parent Action Checklist* so everyone leaves with clear next steps.
- Take a group photo (optional) to celebrate your gathering and encourage others.
- Encourage someone else in the group to host the next gathering.