



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.



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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.



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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!



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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.



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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.)



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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.



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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.



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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.

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



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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

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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.