

RED FLAGS IN EDUCATION: WHAT TO WATCH FOR

How to recognize when ideology is replacing education.

Today's classrooms often include content that goes far beyond reading, writing, and math. While many terms sound positive or neutral on the surface, they can often mask deeper agendas that challenge your family's values and parental authority.

Here's a guide to some common educational terms and trends—what they really mean and why parents should take notice:



GENDER IDEOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

Buzzwords to watch for:

- "Gender Identity Exploration"
- "Pronoun Practice" / "Gender Spectrum"
- "Safe Space for LGBTQ+ Students"
- "Transition Plan" or "Affirming Name"

Why it matters: These programs often teach children—sometimes as early as kindergarten—that **biological sex is irrelevant**, and that they can choose or change their gender. Many schools do this **without informing parents**, and some encourage secrecy between student and family.



EXTREME SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)

Buzzwords to watch for:

- "Equity-Based SEL"
- "Transformative SEL"
- "Healing-Centered Education"
- "Restorative Practices"

Why it matters: While SEL can teach valuable emotional tools, many programs have shifted into **values-based indoctrination**—teaching children to question their identity, embrace activist causes, or distrust their parents' beliefs. It's **emotional manipulation cloaked in care**.

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CRITICAL RACE THEORY (CRT)-ALIGNED CONTENT

Buzzwords to watch for:

- “Anti-Racism Curriculum”
- “Culturally Responsive Teaching”
- “Dismantling Systems of Oppression”
- “White Privilege” or “Oppressor/Oppressed”

Why it matters: These programs teach that identity is defined primarily by race and that children should **view themselves and others through a lens of guilt, victimhood, or division**. They often bypass actual history in favor of ideological storytelling.

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION (CSE)

Buzzwords to watch for:

- “Inclusive Sex Ed”
- “Gender-Affirming Healthcare”
- “Consent-Based Curriculum”
- “Pleasure-Centered Education”

Why it matters: Often graphic and age-inappropriate, these programs **normalize early sexual behavior**, teach children about masturbation and pornography, and promote **gender transition** as a healthy option for questioning kids—**without parent knowledge or approval**.

► *Progressive legislators have already tried to run a CSE bill in the 2025 Legislature, making the course a requirement for graduation in New Mexico. Thanks to the work of NMFAM and Sen. Jay Block, we stopped the bill! We must be prepared for them to run it again.*


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SUBTLE INDOCTRINATION TOOLS

Other red flags include:

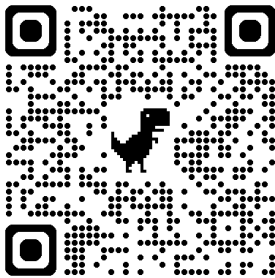
- School forms asking children their pronouns
- Teachers posting personal political/sexual identity flags in class
- Books with mature themes in elementary school libraries
- Assignments about activism or identity politics

 **Parents—not the government—should guide a child’s moral, spiritual, and sexual development.** If you see these red flags, it’s time to ask questions, request documentation, and speak up.

STAY INFORMED. STAY INVOLVED.

- Review your child’s assignments and class materials
- Talk to teachers and principals about lesson content
- Know your opt-out rights and assert them
- Connect with other parents through Protect Our Kids

PROTECT OUR KIDS | KNOW THE SIGNS. TAKE A STAND.



<https://nmfam.org/protect-our-kids>

New Mexico Family Action Foundation | Protect Our Kids

