The National Science Teachers Assoc Just BANNED Use Of Words Including 'Mother', 'Fa ther', 'Man' And 'Woman' Because They Are 'Oppressive '

Description

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According to the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), science teachers must cease using words like "parent," "men," "women," "mother," and "father" since they are "oppressive".

The world's largest association of science teachers has released a guide for science teachers on "antioppression" vocabulary, which includes instructions to refer to men as "XY individuals" and fathers as "persons with testes."

In the <u>guide</u>, titled "Gender-Inclusive Biology: A framework in action," the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) mothers are now referred to as "persons with ovaries" in reference to reproduction cycles. The NSTA also announces its support for biological men competing in women's sports, declaring the move of various states toward "Sex verification in sports" as an example of oppression.

Jonathan Turley <u>reports</u>: The use of such a guide by a state school would raise serious First Amendment issues. We have already seen successful litigation challenging mandatory pronoun usage, including the recent litigation involving a teacher in Loudoun County, Virginia. Yet we have also seen new cases, including the <u>charging of three high school students</u> for not using preferred pronouns.

Under the new guidelines, teachers are encouraged to drop terms like "male" in favor of "XY individuals."

The NSTA suggests that this can be a fun exercise like having students come up with an entirely new name for the word "parents," such as "gene-givers" or "biological life transmitters." This is not likely to be viewed as a fun exercise by some teachers or students, including those with opposing deeply religious views.

I happen to believe that teachers can and should address different gender identities in relevant courses. However, this type of sweeping guide, if made mandatory or enforced through "microaggression" policies, could contravene constitutional protections.

It is important to keep this guide in its proper context. The guide does not call for mandatory rules in schools barring the use of these terms. The guide is not calling for Father's Day cards to be converted into "Happy Person with Testes Day." However, we have seen such guides cited as the basis for sanctions, including allegations of hostile classroom environment or micro aggressive speech.