

Children's Wellbeing And Schools Bill

Children not in school

- **Violating human right to privacy**
- **Violating human right to parent a child**

I am a twenty-two-year-old female physics graduate, with a dream to become a mother and educate my children at home, exactly as I was educated.

I grew up in a warm and beautiful household, learning via a method that perfectly suited me, and studying exactly what I had interest in. From birth, my parents have taught me values and given advice that they know are required for me to excel in life. Values and advice which were not decided and dictated by a committee, but by two loving parents who want the best for their children, and know exactly what their children need.

Aged twelve, I woke up one day and announced to my mother I wanted to take a GCSE, and she allowed me to, holding no legal requirement to follow an education plan; being free to teach me how she wished. Free to teach, with a right to privacy, and holding no legal requirement to clarify my situation to the authorities. She offered me different options and pathways I could take to achieve this goal; pathways and options she knew would fit me best, because she had spent every minute of my childhood with me, exactly as a mother should hold right. For the next four years I took my GCSEs, studying one to three subjects simultaneously for three to six months and taking the exams whenever I was ready. I turned sixteen with eleven GCSEs graded A*-B, several in topics such as Latin or Human Biology which were not offered in any school in Bristol at that time.

After completing my GCSEs, I attended sixth form open days in state schools, with a curiosity to find out if they would work for me, and a right to decide if they would not. I attended three open days, and knew immediately that I would hate to study in such a place. I would hate to be grouped in a class of many equally unique people who were forced to follow a one-size-fits-all curriculum that somebody determined was best for them. It works for some, but it did not work for me. I self-studied my A-levels at home, receiving 3 A*s in maths, physics and chemistry. I finished my home-educated journey when I enrolled at the University of Sheffield, and have absolutely no doubts that I want to bring me own children up in the same way I was. At home, free to learn and free to express themselves.

I write this with the dream of becoming a mother who can home-educate her children. I want to teach them in ways I have learned from my parents and from my friends, and from other people that inspire me. I want to be the person who watches my children grow, and knows exactly what they need to live their best lives. I want to be a mother who holds the basic human

right to teach my children the values and the education which I believe is right and fitting for them, with the ability to teach them utilising my basic human right to privacy.

If my country's government is allowed to force itself into my home, violate my and my children's right to privacy, and violate my right to parent, how is it any different to a police state?

I don't want my parenting to be dictated by another adult who has no relationship with my children. I don't want to live in a novel-like world in which a parent is only a parent by name, and is puppeted by somebody who has the power to take their children away.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.