





Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, my name is Jeff Hunt and I'm representing the Centennial Institute at Colorado Christian University. We strongly urge a YES vote on HB20-1063, a bill concerning fundamental family rights in Colorado.

The issue of parental rights is a non-partisan issue. Both Justice Thomas and Ginsburg have voted in favor of parental rights. Justice O'Connor wrote that "the interest of parents in the care, custody, and control of their child is perhaps the oldest of the fundamental liberty interests recognized by this Court."

A child born in Colorado is not a creature of the state. Moreover, a child belongs first and foremost to their family. We must respect that sacred bond between parents and their children.

Too often, special interests, seek to interrupt the parent/child relationship to drive an agenda. We have seen that over and over again from this legislature regarding comprehensive sex education and youth counseling.

Legislatures don't agree with a parenting decision, they seek to take away a parent's rights, and drive a special interest agenda. You don't have that right.

Whether it's religious freedom or parental rights, our state government thinks it knows better how to raise our children.

Now, there may be members of this committee that raise their children differently than I do. I have no right to use the force of government to impede the sacred responsibility you have to raise your children according to your values and beliefs.

If you don't want the government telling you how to raise your children, then support this bill.