

Contacts:

JoAnn Fleming, Executive Director, Grassroots America – We the People PAC (903) 360-2858

Other contacts are contained in today's Press Packets and are available upon request.

Paid for by Grassroots America – We the People PAC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 28, 2019

"The Road to Hell is paved with Good Intentions."

A Hand-book of Proverbs, Henry G. Bohn, 1855

Coalition for the Protection of Parental Rights says, "Big Nanny State Mental Health bills are bad for kids, teachers, parents and taxpayers."

Austin, Texas – Today, a group of influential, long-time conservative leaders will hold a news conference to push back on Big Nanny State Mental Health bills being promoted by Republicans in the Texas House and Senate.

The Coalition for the Protection of Parental Rights will express strong objections to mental health legislation that grows state spending and state government, heaps more burdens on teachers, and threatens parental rights, privacy, and gun rights.

Speakers will include Cindy Asmussen, Ethics & Religious Liberty Advisor, Southern Baptists of Texas Convention; Trayce Bradford, President, Texas Eagle Forum; Pastor Stephan Broden, State Republican Executive Committeeman for Senate District 23; JoAnn Fleming, Executive Director, Grassroots America – We the People PAC; Barbara Harless, Co-founder, North Texas Citizens Lobby; Alice Linahan, Vice-President, Women on the Wall; and Rachel Malone, Executive Director, Gun Owners of America/Texas.

What: Press Conference to Oppose Republican-driven Big Nanny State Mental Health bills

When: Thursday, March 28, 2019

Time: Room opens at 11:30 AM for media set up; presser begins at Noon & ends at 1 PM **Where:** DoubleTree Suites by Hilton, **Longhorn Room**, 303 W. 15th Street, Austin, Texas

"SB 10 violates the principle of limited government. Taxpayer-funded universities and the dysfunctional Health & Human Services Commission will have direct authority over millions more of our tax dollars. Conflicts of interest from pharmaceutical companies, special interests, and the universities themselves will be unavoidable under this structure. Teachers, parents and school kids don't need this kind of help from state government!"

JoAnn Fleming, Executive Director, Grassroots America – We the People PAC

"We are concerned the new mental health consortium proposed in SB10 will introduce a new level of psychological screening and therapy to our children, which would bypass parental roles and even work against the biblical convictions of many Texans. This is a concern with several other mental health bills that have been filed as well."

Cindy Asmussen, Ethics & Religious Liberty Advisor, Southern Baptists of Texas Convention

"The proposed redefining of mental illness is an *insidious* attempt at long-term gun control. Current bills seek to stigmatize legal and safe gun ownership, and ultimately lead down a path in which owning firearms, using them, and talking about them could be targeted as threatening behavior."

Rachel Malone, Executive Director, Gun Owners of America/Texas

"SB 10 and SB 11 are in violation of the 2018 Texas Republican Party Platform, specifically principles 3, 4, 6 and 7. Those bills undermine our platform planks that deal with limited government and strongly support parental rights."

Pastor Stephan Broden, State Republican Executive Committeeman, Senate District 23 (Dallas)

"SB 10 was born from the Democrat Party Platform and will convert our public schools into community mental health providers, offering up our children as training material for "incentive programs to expand psychiatric residency programs" with the goal to "rank Texas number 1 in mental and behavioral health and substance use disorder services in the nation. The enormous government overreach in SB 10 and all of its potential for long-lasting "unintended" consequences are breath-taking."

Barbara Harless, Co-founder, North Texas Citizens Lobby

"The idea of Big Government getting intertwined in the mental health of our children is problematic. First, because it is not the proper role of government. Second, it encroaches upon parental rights and privacy rights of the child. Is mental health first aid a good idea? Who decides the standards or behaviors that put children into the category of needing assessments? Is there a provision for parents to opt in if they want to put their children into this experimental process? Government certainly should not be the one holding the reins on this issue, and as Texans, we can find better ways to help our children."

Trayce Bradford, President, Texas Eagle Forum

"Politically, EdTech is where the Right (Republicans) and the Left (Democrats) merge in Education Reform. Sadly, as we see from these Nanny State Mental Health bills, our kids are the guinea pigs for their Public/Private Partnerships. Previously, in America, your past did not determine your future; but things have changed. Now, Texas seems to be leading the way in this new wave of Statism. As a parent, and as Vice-President of Women on the Wall, I cannot stand by and watch as Texas students are psychologically profiled, and their private student data is used to create software to modify their attitudes, values, beliefs, and behaviors, and then *callously* used as a commodity for profit."

Alice Linahan, Vice-President, Women on the Wall



March 28, 2019 Press Conference

Press Packet: Short bios of today's speakers

Conservative Leaders Unite to Oppose Republican-driven Big Nanny State Mental Health bills



As the Ethics & Religious Liberty Advisor for Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, Cindy Asmussen works with governmental leaders and conservative coalitions to build unity and strategy in public policy and educates groups and churches on cultural and legislative issues. She has also worked for over a decade with Concerned Women for America of Texas serving as Legislative Director, Central Texas Area Director and Prayer/Action Leader. During the 2017 Texas legislative session, Cindy and two other Texas Grassroots leaders formed the "Mom Caucus" to bring the voice of moms who hold to traditional Biblical values to the state Capitol. She is a wife, mother and grandmother. Contact Cindy: 512-300-5322



First a Christian, **Trayce Bradford** is a wife, mother of seven children, and a new grandmother. She currently serves as **President of Texas Eagle Forum** after serving five years as President of Dallas Eagle Forum. Trayce is passionate about biblical truth, the value of self-government, the preservation of life, and our freedoms mandated by the Constitution. She has been recognized nationally and was presented the Texas Eagle award by Phyllis Schlafly, the founder of the national Eagle Forum. Mrs. Bradford also serves as the legislative director for the Texas Apostolic Prayer Network. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing from Texas A&M and currently homeschools her two youngest children. Mrs. Bradford has graduated her five oldest children. **Contact Trayce: 817-690-8149**



Stephan Broden is the Founder and Senior Pastor of Fair Park Bible Fellowship (a non-denominational inner-city church) in Dallas, Texas. He is a husband and a father to three children. Pastor Broden earned a Master's Degree in Communication from the University of Michigan and a Master's Degree in Bible from the Dallas Theological Seminary. Pastor Broden is a leader in the Black Pro-life Movement and received the Pro-Life Recognition award from the National Pro-Life Religious Council for continuous leadership in the cause of life on January 24, 2011. A founder of Ebony Berean, an organization with a mission to inform African-American Pastors of the "Culture Wars," Pastor Broden also serves as the Texas State Republican Executive Committeeman for Senate District 23 (Dallas). Contact Pastor Broden: 214-394-0098



JoAnn Fleming is the Executive Director of Grassroots America – We the People PAC, the largest all volunteer-led statewide conservative grassroots organization in Texas. A native Texan, Mrs. Fleming earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi and is a self-retired county commissioner. She has been a conservative activist leader for 27 years and has served on more than 25 public policy working groups, committees, task forces and advisory boards. Her private sector experience is in the Oil & Gas industry. JoAnn has been blessed in a Christian marriage for 40 years with her high school sweetheart. She and her husband have one adult son. Contact JoAnn: 903-360-2858



Barbara Harless is a retired security trader and has been married 38 years to the father of their successful adult children. She was elected at large and served on her city's first Charter Commission in 2003 and was appointed to the 2010 and the 2016 Murphy Charter Review Commissions. Mrs. Harless chairs her city's Ethics Review Commission. She has been active in the GOP for 2 decades, and for the last 5 years she has worked with the North Texas Citizens Lobby, teaching Texans how to follow what their government is doing locally and in Austin by engaging voters in the legislative and public policy process. Contact Barbara: 214-796-0528



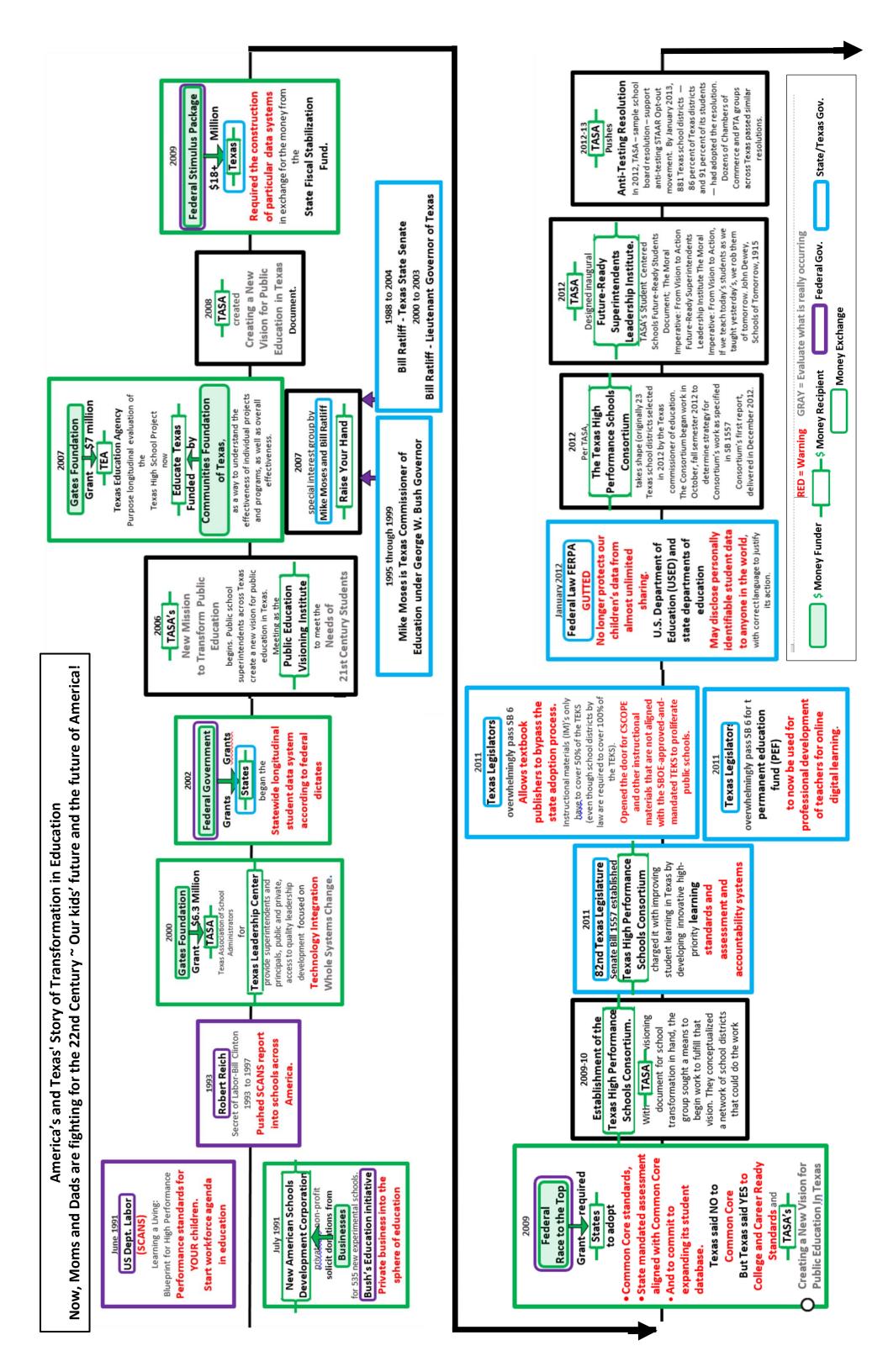
An established leader in New Media with Voices Empower and as Vice-President of Women on the Wall, Alice Linahan connects the dots between the issues of education, immigration, and national security. She is the author of Your Child's #1 Threat; 21st Century Learning and the Common Core and a talk show host of the weekly Women on the Wall Communication Team podcast. Ms. Linahan is a winner of **SINCLAIR** the 2014 **UPTON AWARD** with EducationViews.org for her work as an advocate for securing the best of education policies for the next generation of American children. Alice has worked tirelessly exposing the dangers of College and Career Readiness, Common Core aligned global standards. She educates citizens on the seriousness of the Statist issues in education and how best to be engaged in the battle.

Contact Alice: 972-322-8313

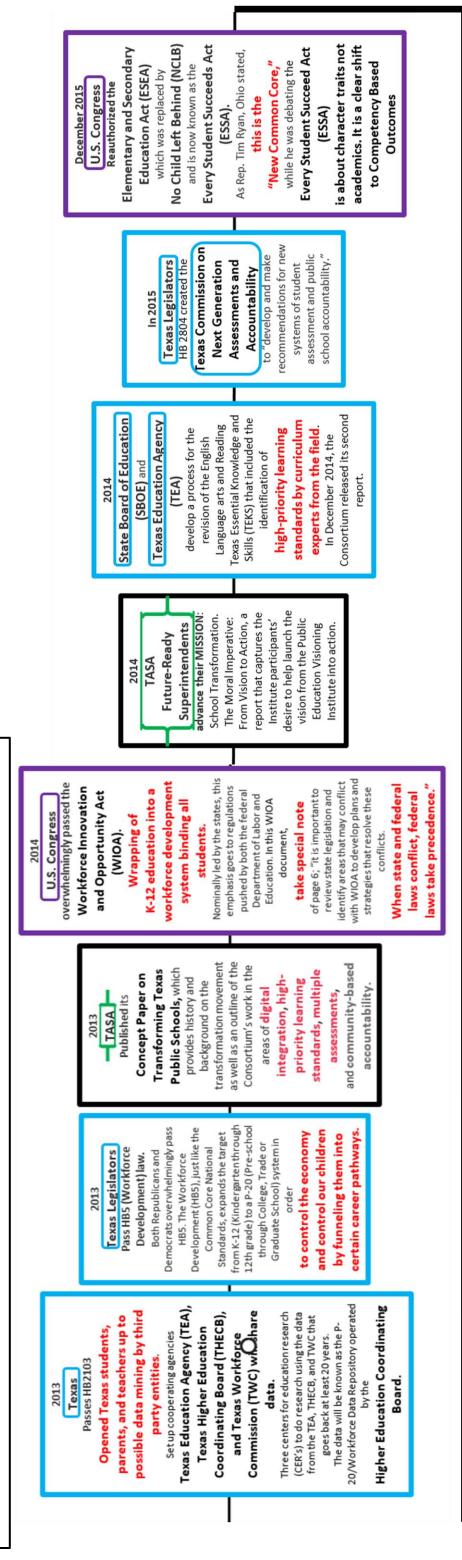


Rachel Malone is the Texas Director for Gun Owners of America, spearheading GOA's work within the Texas Legislature. A nationally-certified firearms instructor, Rachel teaches defensive handgun and rifle, finding joy in empowering individuals to protect themselves and their loved ones. She trains and shoots in disciplines from CQB to long-range rifle and participates regularly in Run n Gun biathlons. In 2012 she founded Texas Firearms Freedom, the first organization to champion constitutional carry in Texas, and has seen tremendous progress through her efforts. Prior to being named Texas Director for GOA, Rachel served as the Operations Director of the Republican Party of Texas, ran a private music studio, and performed as a classical musician. Coming from a long line of proud Texans, she enjoys living on a farm in central

Texas. Contact Rachel: 512-659-7118



America's and Texas' Story of Transformation in Education Now, Moms and Dads are fighting for the 22nd Century $^{\sim}$ Our kids' future and the future of America!



Dept/King/Duncan/Gates want them to. **JS Ed Dept.** and Corporation's Alliance Rethinking the High School Experience Trade school soviet model, for all kids. All ties into why states are moving to Goal turn 95% of kids into workers, In the Soviet Union they are called Assessments and Accountability conditioned to think as US Ed the Next Generation of for Excellent Education "Contractor Schools". Federal Government \$375 Million **Next Generation** Second Summit White House September 2016 gh Schools States Academics and Knowledge Texas Commission on Next "Behaviors" (Performance Standards and Competency **Generation Assessments** Based Assessments) to shifts from the "Menta and Accountability for the workforce).

See this link for an article with citations for this chart: http://www.voicesempower.com/total-quality-management-tqm-texas_points-of-compliance-in_the-education-system/



Alice Linahan - Works and Federal Legislation Cited

- 1. New Study Finds Multiple Problems with Push for Social-Emotional Learning in K-12 Education
 - https://pioneerinstitute.org/featured/new-study-finds-multiple-problems-with-push-for-social-emotional-learning-in-k-12-education/
- 2. Under certain conditions, the Family Education Rights and Privacy (FERPA) regulations allow broader access to PII [personally identifiable information]." John Moran, Principle Analyst, Office of <u>Legislative Research</u>. There are 16 conditions listed under which NO PRIOR CONSENT IS NEEDED
 - https://www.cga.ct.gov/2014/rpt/pdf/2014-R-0127.pdf
 - https://itemactions.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/NO-PRIOR-CONSENT-NEEDED.pdf
- 3. In 2001 The controversial No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) is approved by Congress and signed into law by President George W. Bush, January 2002. The law, which reauthorizes the ESEA of 1965 and replaces the Bilingual Education Act of 1968, mandates high-stakes student testing, holds schools accountable for student Achievement levels and provides penalties for schools that do not make adequate yearly progress toward meeting the goals of NCLB.
 - https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/107-110.pdf
- 4. In 2002 the federal government began the Statewide Longitudinal Data System grant program to offer grants to states that agreed to build their student data systems according to federal dictates (20 U.S.C. § 9501 et seq).
 - https://doleta.gov/research/pdf/Tate_Gould.pdf
- 5. In 2009, the federal Stimulus package, which Texas received 18+ million dollars, required the construction of particular data systems in exchange for the money from the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund. P. 171
 - https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-111hr1enr.pdf
- 6. In 2012, the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) was gutted, and no longer protected our children's data from almost unlimited sharing. Under the new regulatory interpretation, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) (and in fact state departments of education) may disclose personally identifiable student data to literally anyone in the world, as long as the disclosing agency uses the correct language to justify its action. See FERPA links above.
- 7. In July 2014, Congress overwhelmingly passed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). p wrapping K-12 education into a workforce development system binding all students. Nominally led by the states, this emphasis goes to regulations pushed by both the federal Department of Labor and Education. In this WIOA document, take special note of page 6; "it is important to review state legislation and identify areas that may conflict with WIOA to develop plans and strategies that resolve these conflicts. When state and federal laws conflict, federal laws take precedence." As shown here, states databases developed through the Workforce Initiative (WDQI) and Statewide Longitudinal Data System Grants are "required" to be linked at the individual level making it Personally Identifiable.
 - https://www.congress.gov/113/bills/hr803/BILLS-113hr803enr.pdf
 - https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEGL/TEGL_19-14.pdf
- 8. In Sept. 2015, Texas requested a waiver from the federal government from the mandates of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) fully aligning to the Common Core aligned National Standards. They just call them "College and Career Ready! (See pages 13 and 14) https://www2.ed.gov/policy/eseaflex/approved-requests/txrenewalreq2015.pdf
- 9. In December 2015, Congress reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) replacing No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and is now known as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) found here. As Rep. Tim Ryan, Ohio stated (video here), this is the "New Common Core," while he was debating the Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA) is about character traits not academics. ESSA Violations found here.
 - https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1177
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4GYRlvXRNs
 - http://www.voicesempower.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/violations of essa-4.pdf
- 10. In 2019, Congress passed the Foundation for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act (FEPA) (H.R. 4174) which creates a federal database containing data from every federal agency on every citizen and access to that information will be through D.C. BUREAUCRATIC APPROVAL; FEPA puts Student Privacy, Parental Consent, and Citizen's Data Confidentiality Rights in jeopardy under the guise of transparency, open government, and the claim that it will make for better decisions by lawmakers. Here are some important details from a summary and a rebuttal prepared by groups who opposed FEPA.
 - http://edlibertywatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/CEP-Database-bill-final.pdf
 - $\bullet \quad \underline{\text{http://edlibertywatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FEPA-rebuttal-full-final-document-with-ES.pdf} \\$



The Texas Conservative Grassroots Coalition is a project of Grassroots America – We the people PAC.

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Contact: JoAnn Fleming, Executive Director, Grassroots America – We the People PAC (903) 360-2858

March 4, 2019

"The Road to Hell is paved with Good Intentions."

A Hand-book of Proverbs, Henry G. Bohn, 1855

Coalition says, "Big Nanny State Mental Health Bills are bad for kids, teachers, parents and taxpayers.

Seven reasons we strongly oppose SB 10:

- ♦ SB 10 infringes on the principle of limited government by creating an expensive new \$100 million program outside the core functions of state government. Instead of appropriating \$100 million for a new program, the state could re-prioritize some of the \$7.6 billion currently spent on mental health to improve and expand existing efforts. http://reports.texasaction.com/bill/86r/sb10
- ♦ SB 10 will jumpstart exponential growth of unelected bureaucracies. By enlisting the Texasfunded public universities and the HHSC as the primary constituents of the consortium, this unelected quasi-governmental body will have direct authority over millions more of Texas taxpayer dollars. We all know that once they are funded to start looking for a problem, they are going to find one. Conflicts of interest from pharmaceutical companies, special interests, and the universities themselves will be unavoidable under this structure.

- ◆ SB 10 duplicates what is already being done under existing authority. The TWITR Project of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center provides psychiatric help to hundreds of children throughout the ten school districts it serves and was implemented with a grant of \$565,000. Several medical schools across the state already participate in a mental health consortium that meets quarterly. A new consortium is not necessary to enable further collaboration and coordination of higher education institutions for the purpose of improving access to mental health care. http://reports.texasaction.com/bill/86r/sb10
- ♦ SB 10 has a high risk of evolving into a "Red Flag" monitoring program with respect to gun ownership. The 2018 Republican Party of Texas (RPT) Platform Plank #73 opposes red flag monitoring programs that seek to deprive someone of their right to keep and bear arms if their child is identified under these programs.
- ◆ SB 10 has the potential to make mental illness a cottage industry within our schools. The sale or sharing of any information collected in research or counseling for any commercial purposes is an affront to the constitutional liberties of Texas children and families. SB 10 clearly opens Pandora's Box of unintended consequences.
- ◆ SB 10 further endangers privacy of parents and their children and parental authority. The stigma attached to any child misdiagnosed or even inadvertently revealed could severely damage children and their families. Information gathered through research or treatment should not be included in a student's permanent file, should not be shared in a database, or released without express informed consent of the patient or guardian of the patient. Such sensitive information should be delivered to the parent(s) or legal guardians only and destroyed after the student leaves the school or graduates. http://reports.texasaction.com/bill/86r/sb10
- ◆ SB 10 is ripe for political agendas and abuse. Throughout the second half of the 20th century, the use of psychiatry for political purposes plagued communist and other authoritative regimes. The Soviet Union was infamous for the systemic abuse of psychiatry, where approximately one-third of political prisoners were locked up in psychiatric hospitals. Indeed, political abuse of psychiatric diagnosis is an important tool in stifling political dissent within socialist countries. Is there any doubt − given today's headlines − that the Democratic Left intends to push the United States into socialism? Mental health issues are becoming the "go to" tool of choice in today's political circles and are being used to attack gun ownership and the ability of veterans with a PTSD diagnosis to retain their Second Amendment rights.

The Coalition believes that using existing laws and programs to support children with special education conditions, including mental health conditions, can enhance childhood mental health care without creating an expensive new liberty-stealing government bureaucracy.

"Taxpayer-funded universities and the dysfunctional Health & Human Services Commission will have direct authority over millions more of our tax dollars. We all know that once they are funded to start looking for a problem, they are going to find one. Conflicts of interest from pharmaceutical companies, special interests, and the universities themselves will be unavoidable under this structure. **Teachers, parents and school kids don't need this kind of help from state government!"**

JoAnn Fleming, Executive Director, Grassroots America – We the People PAC

Barbara Harless, North Texas Citizens Lobby March 27, 2019 Press Packet info

STATEMENT

SB 10 was born from the Democrat Platform; attempting to convert our public schools into community mental health providers, offering up our children as training material for "incentive programs to expand psychiatric residency programs" with the goal to "rank Texas number 1 in mental and behavioral health and substance use disorder services in the nation."

<u>CITATTIONS/REFERENCE</u> (SB 10 v. Democrat Platform)

[1] 2018 Texas Democrat Platform https://www.txdemocrats.org/our-party/texas-democratic-party-platform/ [2]SB 10

https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/Text.aspx?LegSess=86R&Bill=SB10 [3]Health & Safety Code, CH 534

https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.534.htm

[4] SB 10, Bill Analysis by Sen. J Nelson

https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/86R/analysis/html/SB00010S.htm

Rachel Malone - GOA/TX

Last summer, a Red Flag Gun Confiscation scheme was proposed in Texas. Under that proposal, the ability to own guns could have been taken away from a person who hadn't committed any crime and wasn't even accused of committing a crime. The grassroots made it abundantly clear they weren't going to stand for it because of the inherent lack of due process. They stood up and made their voice heard, and the "red flag" proposals went away — temporarily.

Now the legislature is back with "mental health" proposals that are actually long-term gun control and "red flag" in disguise.

First, the **Threat Assessment Teams.** SB 11 and other bills would mandate that schools instruct teachers, staff, and students in how to identify a threat. The standards are open-ended. Schools are instructed to utilize resources from the Texas School Safety Center. This Center's current resources include suggestive statements identifying legal gun possession as a potential threat. That's a problem.

In addition, compounding this problem, multiple bills² seek to **stigmatize and marginalize gun ownership**. They are blatant attempts to paint the image that people who own guns, or shoot them, or carry them, or have them in their cars are atypical, may be prone to violence, and should be viewed with suspicion. They want to control the way you think about guns, and that's wrong.

They also want even more control over **firearms ownership**. Texas already has a long list of people who may not possess firearms — some legislators would like to see that extended to include people who can't manage their own estate³ or who didn't make the cut for court-ordered treatment but the judge still thinks they shouldn't have a firearm.

So here's why all of this is such a problem.

- It violates due process to take away guns when there's not even probable cause of a crime. This is far too low of a threshold for removal of a Constitutional right.
- It is *not* true that people are likely to be violent as a result of mental illness. When you harp on the myth that mental illness causes violence you marginalize people who are suffering from issues such as depression or hopelessness or suicidal thoughts and make them less likely to seek the help that they need.
- These proposals focus on psychiatric treatment but they don't recognize that psychiatric drugs may actually make these individuals MORE violent instead of less. This leads to the conclusion that modern mental health treatment may be a very WRONG solution for reducing violence.
- Experts say that it is very difficult perhaps impossible to accurately predict future violence. Yet these proposals are based around being able to make these predictions!
- Even if the legislative intent is pure, and even if the legislature wouldn't dream of a law being used nefariously against gun owners, an open-ended law can always be interpreted in a hostile way that marginalizes populations such as gun owners.

Firearms are a valuable tool. Stigmatizing firearm ownership & safe, legal use of gun is wrong, and it's dangerous. A gun is a useful defensive tool. My gun gives me a fighting chance at saving my life — or

¹ SB 11, SB 1849, HB 976, HB 2353

² HB 316, HB 2849

³ HB 544. HB 545

maybe yours. Guns are a tool. They are one of many tools that can be used for good or for evil, but in the hands of civilians, guns are used so much more often to protect innocent life than to harm it.

Don't look to the nanny state to keep you safe. Their solution is to spread a wider net of control over your behavior. But evil will always exist, and all the government control in the world can't stop it. The most effective legislative solution would be to repeal restrictions on law-abiding citizens carrying guns. Government needs to get the heck out of our lives and start respecting our personal responsibility of protecting ourselves.

Gun Owners of America stands firmly behind individual rights. That means we believe in limited government, we stand against unlawful searches and seizures, we honor property rights, and we work to uphold your Constitutional right to keep and bear arms in defense of yourself and your liberty. We will never compromise on those beliefs. And the legislature had better take note.

References:

Friedman, Richard. (2017) "Psychiatrists Can't Stop Mass Killers." New York Times. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/11/opinion/psychiatrists-mass-killers.html

Get in the Fight to Stop Red Flag Laws! (2019) Gun Owners of America. https://gunowners.org/get-in-the-fight-to-stop-red-flag-gun-grabs/

Gun Ownership & Carry Prohibitions. (2018) Gun Owners of America, Texas. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JWt47oi eDPcqaf4Zm0uSPTYdAtucQUZ/view?usp=sharing

Kirschner, David, Ph.D. (2014) "Mass Shooters Received Only Limited Treatment." National Psychologist. https://nationalpsychologist.com/2014/09/mass-shooters-received-only-limited-treatment/102638.html

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https://crimeresearch.org/2019/02/why-we-shouldnt-depend-on-mental-health-professionals-to-detect-mass-killers-elliot-rodgers-slipping-under-the-radar-is-hardly-rare/

Malone, Rachel (2018). "TWO VIEWS: 'Red flag' law makes us vulnerable to 'thought police'". Austin American-Statesman.

https://www.statesman.com/news/20180812/two-views-red-flag-law-makes-us-vulnerable-to-thought-police

Svitek, Patrick & McCullough, Jolie. (2018) "Prospects for "red flag" gun law in Texas plummet as Abbott sees "coalescence" against it." The Texas Tribune. PATRICK SVITEK AND JOLIE MCCULLOUGH https://www.texastribune.org/2018/07/27/red-flag-gun-law/

The School Shooter: A Threat Assessment Perspective (1999). FBI. https://locker.txssc.txstate.edu/dd38e149e33959e8e9cd3724d831f2aa/The-School-Shooter-A-Threat-Assessment-Perspective.pdf

Pastor Stephen Broden, SREC SD 23

References for March 28, 2019 Press Conference - The Coalition for the Protection of Parental Rights

From the 2018 Republican Party of Texas Platform:

10 Principles

21

- We, the 2018 Republican Party of Texas, believe in this platform and expect our elected leaders to
 uphold these truths through acknowledgment and action. We believe in:
- 1) "The laws of nature and nature's God," and we support the strict adherence to the original language and intent of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitutions of the United States and of Texas.
- 2) The sanctity of innocent human life, created in the image of God, which should be protected from fertilization to natural death.
- 3) Preserving American and Texas sovereignty and freedom.
- 4) Limiting government power to those items enumerated in the United States and Texas
 Constitutions.
 - 5) Personal accountability and responsibility.

1

- 563 170. Tax Burden: We in the Republican Party of Texas believe in the principles of constitutionally limited 564 government based on federalist principles. To this end we encourage our elected officials at all levels of 565 government to work to reverse the current trend of expanding government and the growing tax and debt 566 burdens this places on "We the People." We believe the most equitable system of taxation is one based 567 on consumption and wish to see reforms toward that end at all levels of government.
- 420 131. Local Control for Education: We believe that all children should have access to quality education.
- 421 Under the US Constitution, the power to regulate education is reserved exclusively to the States and to the
- 422 people. Parents have the primary right and responsibility to educate their children. The classroom should
- 423 be a place where all viewpoints are welcomed, free speech is celebrated, and "person before politics"
- 424 beliefs are preached. We support the right of parents to freely choose public, charter, private, parochial, or
- 425 homeschooling for their children. We support the right of parents to choose the specific public school that
- 426 their children attend. No child should be forced to attend a failing school. We reject the imposition of
- 427 federal education standards and the tying of any government funding to the adoption of federal education
- 428 standards. We reject the intrusion of government in private, parochial, or homeschools. We affirm that the
- 429 policies, procedures, activities, and finances of public education in Texas at all levels should be fully
- 430 transparent. To ensure transparency, the check register of all traditional school districts and charter
- 431 schools should be posted online with the link on the home page. We respect parental authority regarding
- 432 sex education. We believe that abortion providers and affiliates should be prohibited from providing any
- 433 curriculum or instruction in schools. [State, Local]
 - 856 257. Parental Rights and Responsibilities: Local, state, or federal laws, regulations, or policies that limit
 - 857 parental rights in the rearing of both biological and adopted children shall not be enacted. Parents have
 - 858 the God-given right and responsibility to direct and guide their children's moral education.
 - 859 258. Parental Consent: We support parental consent for all medical care, counseling, etc., for all minors.
 - 1052 312. No Sexuality Indoctrination: We call on the State Legislature to pass legislation so that no public
 - 1053 school or other educational institution may force, require, or pressure any child or student to profess,
 - 1054 espouse, or adopt, or otherwise be indoctrinated without explicit parental consent, specific views on sex,
 - 1055 sexuality, gender, or gender identity.

Sources from statement by Cindy Asmussen, Ethics & Religious Liberty Advisor to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention regarding Senate Bill 10 and Senate Bill 11:

- (1) https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/stress-relief/201809/truthiness-the-trauma-informed-science-policy-gap
- (2) See #1-36 below:
 - 1. Austin, Texas May 1, 2017: **Kendrex J. White**, 21, stabbed four people with a machete-like hunting knife at the University of Texas, killing one and wounding three. The stabbings occurred within a one-block area as the attacker "calmly walked around the plaza," according to the chief of police. After he was arrested, White told police he did not remember the attack. The police department said that White had recently been involuntarily committed in another city, and county records showed that he had been arrested and charged with a DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) on April 4, 2017. When an officer spoke to him, White said he had taken two "happy pills," listed as the antidepressant Zoloft. https://www.statesman.com/news/20170503/ut-stabbing-suspect-had-mental-health-issues-investigators-say
 - 2. Tallahassee, Florida November 20, 2014: 31-year-old Myron May, a Florida State University alum, opened fire in the school's library, wounding three before he was shot and killed by police. ABC Action News found a half-filled prescription for the anti-anxiety drug Hydroxyzine in his apartment after the shooting. In addition, according to May's friends, he had seen a psychologist and had been prescribed the antidepressant Wellbutrin and the ADHD drug Vyvanse. He also checked himself in to a mental health center called Mesilla Valley Hospital around September of 2014. Shortly after this, his friends discovered the antipsychotic Seroquel among his prescriptions. https://www.tampabay.com/news/education/college/fsu-shooters-friends-tried-to-get-help-for-him-months-before-the-shooting/2207514
 - 3. Seattle, Washington June 5, 2014: 26-year-old Aaron Ybarra opened fire with a shotgun at Seattle Pacific University, killing one student and wounding two others. Ybarra planned to kill as many people as possible and then kill himself. In 2012, Ybarra reported that he had been prescribed the antidepressant Prozac and antipsychotic Risperdal. A report from his counselor in December of 2013 said that he was taking Prozac at the time and planned to continue to meet with his psychiatrist and therapist as needed. His lawyer also said that Ybarra had a long history of mental health issues for which he was taking prescribed drugs for at the time of the shooting. https://schoolshooters.info/sites/default/files/ybarra_analysis_1.0.pdf
 - 4. Milford, Connecticut April 25, 2014: 16-year-old **Chris Plaskon** stabbed Maren Sanchez, also 16, to death in a stairwell at Jonathan Law High School after she turned down his prom invitation. According to classmates and a former close friend, Chris was taking drugs for ADHD. https://www.ctpost.com/local/article/Milford-families-torn-apart-by-stabbing-death-5451593.php
 - 5. Sparks, Nevada October 21, 2013: 12-year-old **Jose Reyes** opened fire at Sparks Middle School, killing a teacher and wounding two classmates before committing suicide. The investigation revealed that he had been seeing a psychiatrist and had a generic version of Prozac (fluoxetine) in his system at the time of death. https://mynews4.com/news/local/sparks-middle-school-shooter-had-prozac-in-system-day-of-shooting
 - 6. St. Louis, Missouri January 15, 2013: 34-year-old **Sean Johnson** walked onto the Stevens Institute of Business & Arts campus and shot the school's financial aid director once in the chest, then shot himself in the torso. Johnson had been taking prescribed drugs for an undisclosed mental illness. https://www.cchrint.org/school-shooters/
 - 7. Snohomish County, Washington October 24, 2011: A 15-year-old girl went to Snohomish High School where police alleged that she stabbed a girl as many as 25 times just before the start of school, and then stabbed another girl who tried to help her injured friend. Prior to the attack the girl had been taking "medication" and seeing a psychiatrist. Court documents said the girl was being treated for depression. https://www.cchrint.org/school-shooters/

- 8. **Planoise, France** December 13, 2010: A 17-year-old youth held twenty pre-school children and their teacher hostage for hours at Charles Fourier preschool. The teen was reported to be on "medication for depression". He took a classroom hostage with two swords. Eventually, all the children and the teacher were released safely. https://www.cchrint.org/school-shooters/
- 9. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina September 21, 2011: 14-year-old **Christian Helms** had two pipe bombs in his backpack, when he shot and wounded Socastee High School's "resource" (police) officer. However the officer was able to stop the student before he could do anything further. Evidence showed that he was planning an attack similar to the Columbine High School shooting and had even made a list of who he was going to kill. Helms had been taking drugs for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and depression. https://wpde.com/news/local/student-on-hit-list-helms-sentence-ridiculous
- 10. Huntsville, Alabama February 5, 2010: 15-year-old Hammad Memon shot and killed another Discover Middle School student Todd Brown. Memon had a history for being treated for ADHD and depression. He was taking the antidepressant Zoloft and "other drugs for the conditions." He had been seeing a psychiatrist and psychologist. http://www.waff.com/story/15069575/did-accused-killers-doctor-dad-prescribe-medication-to-son/
- 11. Kauhajoki, Finland September 23, 2008: 22-year-old culinary student Matti Saari shot and killed 9 students and a teacher, and wounded another student, before killing himself. Saari was taking an SSRI and alprazolam (Xanax). He was also seeing a psychologist. https://www.baumhedlundlaw.com/medication-induced-violence/school-shootings-prescription-drugs/
- 12. Fresno, California April 24, 2008: 17-year-old Jesus "Jesse" Carrizales attacked the Fresno high school's officer, hitting him in the head with a baseball bat. After knocking the officer down, the officer shot Carrizales in self-defense, killing him. Carrizales had been prescribed Lexapro and Geodon, and his autopsy showed that he had a high dose of the antidepressant Lexapro in his blood that could have caused him to be paranoid, according to the coroner. https://ssristories.org/violent-high-school-student-shot-to-death-on-campus-by-police/
- 13. DeKalb, Illinois February 14, 2008: 27-year-old Steven Kazmierczak shot and killed five people and wounded 21 others before killing himself in a Northern Illinois University auditorium. According to his girlfriend, he had recently been taking the prescribed drugs Prozac, Xanax and Ambien but had stopped taking Prozac three weeks before the shooting. Toxicology results showed that he still had trace amount of Xanax in his system. He had been seeing a psychiatrist. https://www.nytimes.com/2008/02/19/us/19depress.html
- 14. Jokela, Finland November 7, 2007: 18-year-old Finnish gunman **Pekka-Eric Auvinen** had been taking antidepressants before he killed eight people and wounded a dozen more at Jokela High School in southern Finland, then committed suicide. https://www.nytimes.com/2008/02/19/us/19depress.html
- 15. Texas November 7, 2007: 17-year-old **Felicia McMillan** returned to her former Robert E. Lee High School campus and stabbed a male student and wounded the principle with a knife. McMillan had been on drugs for depression, and had just taken them the night before the incident. https://ssristories.org/teen-17-year-old-girl-stabs-friend-principal-at-high-school/
- 16. Cleveland, Ohio October 10, 2007: 14-year-old **Asa Coon** stormed through his school with a gun in each hand, shooting and wounding four before taking his own life. Coon had been prescribed the antidepressant Trazodone. https://www.baumhedlundlaw.com/medication-induced-violence/school-shootings-prescription-drugs/
- 17. Sudbury, Massachusetts January 19, 2007: 16-year-old **John Odgren** stabbed another student to death with a large kitchen knife in a boy's bathroom at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School. In court his father testified that Odgren was prescribed the drug Ritalin. https://www.telegram.com/article/20100421/NEWS/100429941

- 18. North Vernon, Indiana December 4, 2006: 16-year-old **Travis Roberson** stabbed another Jennings County High School student in the neck, nearly severing an artery. Roberson was in withdrawal from Wellbutrin, which he had stopped taking days before the attack. https://www.cchrint.org/school-shooters/
- 19. Hillsborough, North Carolina August 30, 2006: 19-year-old Alvaro Rafael Castillo shot and killed his father, then drove to Orange High School where he opened fire. Two students were injured in the shooting, which ended when school personnel tackled him. His mother said he was on drugs for depression. https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/crime/article10353392.html
- 20. Chapel Hill, North Carolina April 24, 2006: 17-year-old **William Barrett Foster** took a shotgun to school and took a teacher and a fellow student hostage at East Chapel Hill High School. After being talked out of shooting the hostages, Foster fired two shots through a classroom window before fleeing the school on foot. Foster's father testified that his son had stopped taking his antidepressants and antipsychotic drugs without telling him. https://ssristories.org/teen-holds-teacher-student-hostage-with-gun/
- 21. Red Lake, Minnesota March 21, 2005: 16-year-old **Jeff Weise**, on Prozac, shot and killed his grandfather and his grandfather's girlfriend, then went to his school on the Red Lake Indian Reservation where he shot dead 5 students, a security guard, and a teacher, and wounded 7 before killing himself. https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-2005-03-26-0503260276-story.html
- 22. Greenbush, New York February 9, 2004: 16-year-old **Jon Romano** strolled into his high school in east Greenbush and opened fire with a shotgun. Special education teacher Michael Bennett was hit in the leg. Romano had been taking the antianxiety drug Xanax. He had previously spent time in a psychiatric care facility. http://duluthreader.com/articles/2013/01/31/1405 guns and drugs dont mix
- 23. Red Lion, Pennsylvania February 2, 2001: 56-year-old **William Michael Stankewicz** entered North Hopewell-Winterstown Elementary School with a machete, leaving three adults and 11 children injured. Stankewicz was taking four different drugs for depression and anxiety weeks before the attacks. https://strictories.org/man-attacks-11-children-3-teachers-at-elementary-school/
- 24. Ikeda, Japan June 8, 2001: 37-year-old Mamoru Takuma, wielding a 6-inch knife, slipped into an elementary school and stabbed eight first- and second-graders to death while wounding at least 15 other pupils and teachers. He then turned the knife on himself but suffered only superficial wounds. He later told interrogators that before the attack he had taken 10 times his normal dose of antidepressants. Police said he had been under the care of a psychiatrist. https://www.wired.com/2001/06/stunned-japan-seeks-answers/
- 25. Wahluke, Washington April 10, 2001: Sixteen-year-old Cory Baadsgaard took a rifle to his high school and held 23 classmates and a teacher hostage. Three weeks earlier, his doctor had switched Baadsgaard's prescription from Paxil to Effexor. The morning of the incident, his dosage of Effexor had been increased. Baadsgaard said he had no memory of the incident. https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-2004-mar-21-na-violent21-story.html
- 26. El Cajon, California March 22, 2001: 18-year-old **Jason Hoffman**, on the antidepressants Celexa and Effexor, opened fire on his classmates, wounding three students and two teachers at Granite Hills High School. He had been seeing a psychiatrist before the shooting. http://www.psychdrugshooters.com/jason-hoffman-granite-hills-high-school-shooting-2001/
- 27. Williamsport, Pennsylvania March 7, 2001: 14-year-old **Elizabeth Bush** was taking the antidepressant Prozac when she shot at fellow students, wounding one. https://www.cga.ct.gov/asaferconnecticut/tmy/0128/Diana%20Gaita%20-%20Bethel%20CT.pdf
- 28. Oxnard, California January 10, 2001: 17-year-old **Richard Lopez** went to Hueneme High School with a gun and shot twice at a car in the school's parking lot before taking a female student hostage. Lopez was eventually killed by a SWAT officer. He had been prescribed Prozac, Paxil and "drugs that helped him go to sleep." https://www.drugdangers.com/psychiatric-drugs-and-violence-htm/

- 29. Conyers, Georgia May 20, 1999: 15-year-old **T.J. Solomon** was being treated with the stimulant Ritalin when he opened fire on and wounded six of his classmates. http://criminal-justice.iresearchnet.com/crime/school-violence/t-j-solomon/
- 30. Columbine, Colorado April 20, 1999: 18-year-old **Eric Harris** and his accomplice, **Dylan Klebold**, killed 12 students and a teacher and wounded 26 others before killing themselves. Harris was on the antidepressant Luvox. Klebold's medical records remain sealed. Both shooters had been in anger-management classes and had undergone counseling. Harris had been seeing a psychiatrist before the shooting. https://breggin.com/prozac-like-drug-luvox-taken-by-eric-harris/
- 31. Notus, Idaho April 16, 1999: 15-year-old **Shawn Cooper** fired two shotgun rounds in his school, injuring one student. He was taking a prescribed antidepressant and Ritalin. https://newspunch.com/adhd-drug-death-toll-cover-up-by-fda/
- 32. Springfield, Oregon May 21, 1998: 15-year-old **Kip Kinkel** murdered his parents and then proceeded to school where he opened fire on students in the cafeteria, killing two and wounding 25. Kinkel had been taking the antidepressant Prozac. Kinkel had been attending "anger control classes" and had previously been under the care of a psychologist. http://www.psychdrugshooters.com/kip-kinkel-thurston-high-school-shooting-1998/
- 33. Blackville, South Carolina October 12, 1995: 15-year-old **Toby R. Sincino** slipped into the Blackville-Hilda High School's rear entrance, where he shot two Blackville-Hilda High School teachers, killing one. Then Toby killed himself moments later. His aunt, Carolyn McCreary, said he had been undergoing counseling with the Department of Mental Health and was taking Zoloft for emotional problems. http://murderpedia.org/male.S/s/sincino-toby.htm
- 34. Chelsea, Michigan December 16, 1993: 39-year-old chemistry teacher Stephen Leith, facing a disciplinary matter at Chelsea High School, shot Superintendent Joseph Piasecki to death, shot Principal Ron Mead in the leg, and slightly wounded journalism teacher Phil Jones. Leith was taking Prozac and had been seeing a psychiatrist. https://www.deseretnews.com/article/356145/LATEST-MURDER-SPREE-REVIVES-PROZAC-DEBATE.html
- 35. Houston, Texas September 18, 1992: 44-year-old **Calvin Charles Bell**, reportedly upset about his second-grader's progress report, appeared in the principal's office of Piney Point Elementary School. Bell fired a gun in the school, and eventually wounded two officers before surrendering. Relatives told police on Friday that Bell was an unemployed Vietnam veteran and had been taking anti-depressants. https://ssristories.org/man-angry-over-daughters-report-card-shoots-1ssri-editor-rounds-inside-elementary-school/
- 36. Winnetka, Illinois 20 May 1988: 30-year-old **Laurie Wasserman Dann** walked into a second-grade classroom at Hubbard Woods School in Winnetka, Illinois carrying three pistols and began shooting children, killing an eight-year-old boy, and wounding five others before fleeing. She entered a nearby house where she shot and wounded a 20-year-old man before killing herself. Dann had been seeing a psychiatrist and subsequent blood tests revealed that at the time of the killings, she was taking the antidepressant Anafranil. https://www.baumhedlundlaw.com/medication-induced-violence/school-shootings-prescription-drugs/
- (3) Turning Teachers Into Psychotherapists Will Not Prevent School Shootings by Dr. Karen Effrem https://thenationalpulse.com/commentary/turning-teachers-psychotherapists-will-not-prevent-school-shootings/
- (4)Dr. Moira Dolan, an internal medicine doctor in Austin, testified on SB10 and questioned whether telemedicine programs that are in use now and billions of dollars the state has spent on mental health services have worked given that suicide rates among those 15-19 years old grew by 43 percent between 2007 and 2017. https://www.statesman.com/news/20190212/emergency-mental-health-bill-advances-in-texas-senate)

- (5) https://www.texastribune.org/2015/07/10/ut-system-partners-pharma-company/
- (6) http://tango.uthscsa.edu/protected/education/, slide on "Ancestors"
- (7) Resolution #2 and #3, 2005, http://sbtexas.com/about-sbtc/values-vision/resolutions/
- (8) https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/stress-relief/201709/trauma-informed-approaches-the-good-and-the-bad, https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/stress-relief/201803/the-myth-trauma-informed-care
- (9) https://www.ncjfcj.org/sites/default/files/Finding%20Your%20ACE%20Score.pdf
- (10)https://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/activities/adverse_childhood_experiences/questionnaire.pdf?ua=1