

Christina Blizzard on ...

# HYPOCRITES

## If you object to Catholic teachings, don't put your kids in their schools

So Premier Dad is set to add another title to his name: Pope Dalton the First.

Yep, our fearless leader is taking on the mantle not just of secular leader of the people of this province, but also as our moral, religious and spiritual authority.

How else can you explain McGuinty's edict this week that his government can overrule 2,000 years of Catholic theology with the stroke of a pen?

His new bullying legislation dictates that if one student in any school — even a Catholic one — wants a so-called Gay-Straight Alliance, then they can demand and get one.

What next? If one student says the communion wafer and wine aren't really the body and blood of Christ then the school has to adjust its theology accordingly?

This is the educational equivalent of the inmates taking over the asylum.

And it's pure hypocrisy. The premier's four children went to Catholic school. His wife, Terri, teaches in a Catholic school.

Education Minister Laurel Broten's sons also go to Catholic school.

The Catholic church hasn't made any secret about its view on gay rights.

So why would Broten put her kids in a school when she disagrees so vigorously with Catholic beliefs, I asked her in a scrum?

She answered with typical Liberal double-talk.

"This is about having schools where our students, if they draw a picture of their family and it has two moms in it or it has two dads, that they understand and know that other pupils in that classroom understand and know that's just as loving family as theirs," she said.

So, by putting her

kids in the school system she's going to change the church from within? I don't think it works that way.

The Catholic church isn't a buffet. You don't pick and choose which values you want and which you don't. You either buy into the whole bundle or you pull a Martin Luther and start your own religion.

We all know why people use Catholicism as a flag of convenience when it comes to putting their kids in separate schools.

The Catholic system does what the public system cannot. It teaches morals and values and ethics to children. It's able to enforce a stricter code of discipline, because it can expel students to the public system.

By keeping control of their schools, Catholics have been able to protect their kids from the social engineering and left-wing tinkering that has turned our public system into a dumping ground that brainwashes young people with every nutbar radical ideology that's fashionable — such as the U.S.-based Gay/Straight Alliances movement.

If the politicians who are accountable for the public school system don't have the courage to put their own kids in that system, they shouldn't hold office.

Alternately, they should pull the funding for Catholic schools. And no, it won't save \$7 billion we now give the separate school system, because those children in Catholic schools now still have to be educated.

So put up or shut up, Premier. You won the 2007 election squawking about religious schools being a horrific form of "segregation and sequestration."

So, either leave the Catholic schools alone. Or pull their funding and go with one public school system.

And everyone, please. Simmer down and do us all a favour. If you don't subscribe to Catholic beliefs, don't put your kids in Catholic schools and don't have family members teach in them.

Here endeth the first lesson.

## GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE



ERNEST DOROSZUK/TORONTO SUN

Protesters march against an anti-bullying legislation which would allow groups like Gay and Straight Alliances to form in all schools — including those operated by the Catholic board.

# 'Totalitarian legislation'

## Protest says bill orders Catholics to violate own beliefs

Laura Pedersen  
Toronto Sun

Nearly 300 protesters marched through downtown Toronto Thursday in a rally against Bill 13, calling it "totalitarian" legislation that will "strip religious and moral beliefs" from schools.

The group opposes the Accepting Schools Act, a bill that would require all schools in Ontario to allow students to freely name their gay-friendly organizations "gay-straight alliances."

"It is absolutely totalitarian legislation that requires and orders the Catholic Church to violate their religious beliefs," said Jack Fonseca, one of the organizers of the demonstration.

Calling the bill "against Catholic teaching," Fonseca added opponents believe the legislation would



Demonstrators yesterday initially taped their mouths shut in protest over Bill 13.

be "stripping parents of their parental rights to guide the moral education of their children."

Protesters marched from Dundas Square to Queen's Park in the

noon-time rally.

The rally began as a "silent protest" — with protesters taping their mouths to illustrate them "having their voices taken away by the government." But upon reaching Queen's Park, they used megaphones to urge the province to "stop bullying" them.

The Accepting Schools Act, introduced by the McGuinty government after two students committed suicide last year due to bullying, previously allowed the principal of any school the right to veto names chosen for gay friendly clubs.

Minister of Education Laurel Broten announced amendments to the act last Friday, which included the freedom for students to name their clubs in all schools — both public and Catholic.

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