

Time for tax aid to private schools?

To the Editor:

Your largest constituency in this country, parents, are also the ones that are most flagrantly discriminated against. Why is this? Primarily, the reason is that parents are not organized and do not present a united lobbying front. I would urge all parents to join some family organization to make their voice more effective in Washington. Your family organization will keep you informed about bills that are before the legislature that affect parents and how you can exert pressure for or against such legislation. One of the biggest issues that faces society today is how to educate our children—particularly how can we as parents get an equal share of the tax dollar to educate our children in the school of our choice.

The primary right to educate resides with parents. This is a natural right bestowed on parents by the Creator and no constitution or government can abrogate that right. After all, who educated children before there was a formal school? Parents. Yet, parents that send their children to a private school as well as contribute to the support of public schools don't get an equal share of the educational pot and this is a flagrant violation of their civil rights. The only way that public schools will have the incentive to improve their deplorable educational program is by being made to compete with a viable fully funded private school sector (for catalogue of violations of the Hatch Amendment, which was enacted to protect pupils' rights, see "Child Abuse In the Classroom"). Private school parents, and they would be in the

majority if parents' grievances are satisfied, you won't have any more flak about church-state boundaries and no need to push for prayer in the public schools since the only children in the public schools will be those whose parents are either atheists or agnostics.

With the coming of integration and the subsequent deterioration of the public schools the minority driving force behind the direction of education in this country hasn't boded well for themselves or us, the majority (Facts—20 percent of our population is functionally illiterate and nearly half of blacks). But with the present alignment of the Supreme Court we still can't look forward to an equitable share of the tax dollar. But they won't be there forever and now is the time for us to put pressure on legislators and judges for just laws and favorable decisions. Now is the time to write our representatives and senators to vote against all civil rights bills that don't have riders on them that assert and protect the civil rights of parents—particularly to grant to parents their fair share of the tax dollar to educate their children in the school of their choice. Let them know that if they don't support us on this issue, we won't support them at election time.

England, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Canada, Germany, Australia and others provide freedom of family choice in the education of their children. They provide a fair share of the education tax dollar to parents that send their children to God-centered and other private schools.

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