

From the Desk of Josue Sierra, Director of Communications

One of the things I've learned as a father of five is that children have a remarkable way of changing your perspective.

Before children enter our lives, much of our attention is naturally focused on our own plans, preferences, ambitions, and desires. But once children arrive, something changes in ways that are uncomfortable but good. Children require a lot of sacrifices. We rearrange schedules. We spend money differently. We lose sleep. We make decisions not simply based on what we want, but on what our children need.

That principle doesn't just apply to families. It applies to societies, too.

### **A healthy society asks a simple question: What is best for children?**

Increasingly, however, our culture seems to be asking a different question: What do adults want? When adult desires become the highest good, children's needs inevitably become secondary.

As Pride Month unfolds across our nation, and we approach the 11th anniversary of the *Obergefell* decision, it is worth asking whether the cultural debate was ever simply about marriage. In the years since, we have watched a growing effort to redefine motherhood, fatherhood, and family itself, including a bill sent to New York Gov. Kathy Hochul's desk last week that replaces "mother" and "father" in state law with "gestating parent" and "non-gestating parent." When adult preferences become the organizing principle of society, the unique, irreplaceable, and protective role of mothers and fathers is often the first casualty, and children are usually the ones who pay the price.

Children need a father and mother willing to sacrifice for them. Every child begins life as a distinct human being made in the image of God. Every child deserves protection. Every child deserves to be viewed as a gift rather than a commodity. Every child has an interest in knowing and being connected to the mother and father who brought him or her into the world. These truths are increasingly countercultural.

The common thread running through many of today's debates is the growing belief that adult desires, self-expression, and fulfillment should be society's highest priority. But when adult desires become the center of the story, children become an afterthought and suffer.

### **Scripture presents a very different vision.**

Jesus taught that greatness is found not in self-fulfillment but in self-sacrifice. Parents understand this instinctively. Love often means setting aside our own preferences for the good of another. The strongest families are built on that principle. The healthiest communities are as well.

Whether we are discussing marriage, sexuality, education, reproductive technology, or family policy, the question should not simply be, "What do adults want?" The better question is: "What is best for children?"

That is not only a conservative principle. It is a Biblical one. Let us discern. A society that protects children will not satisfy every adult's desire. But it will be a healthier, stronger, and more compassionate society for generations to come.

We ask for your prayers as we stand watch at the Capitol in defense of children, of life, and of marriage and family each and every day during this busy legislative season.

**1 Peter 5:8:** "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

For Faith, Family, and Freedom,



**Josue Sierra**  
Director of Communications  
*Pennsylvania Family Institute*

P.S. One practical way we seek what is best for children is by actively and boldly helping them navigate technology wisely. Join us for a FREE webinar with Protect Young Eyes and learn how to create a safer, healthier digital environment for your family. Visit [pafamily.org/protectyoungeyes](https://pafamily.org/protectyoungeyes) to reserve your spot. If you can't attend live, [register anyway so you can get access to the limited-time recording](#) of the webinar.

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