



STOP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM PSYCHOLOGICALLY PROFILING OUR CHILDREN!

The U.S. House of Representatives is considering the Strengthening Research Through Education Act (SETRA – S 227) -- a dangerous bill that allows the federal government to research and collect data on our children’s most sensitive psychological makeup. **This is nothing less than governmental child abuse.**

SETRA HAS ALREADY PASSED THE U.S. SENATE **BUT MUST BE STOPPED IN THE HOUSE!**

Section 132 of SETRA allows the expansion of federal education research into the area of “**social and emotional learning**” (SEL).¹ Here is why this expansion is so dangerous:

- Promoting **SEL**, instead of focusing on academics, will result in cultivating government-approved thoughts, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors in children. This already seems to be happening with Common Core and Competency Based Learning.² **The government has no constitutional, statutory, or moral right to collect data on any of these highly personal aspects of our children’s lives.** Schools should instill academic knowledge, not explore matters rightly left to family and place of worship.
- **SEL** data is notoriously subjective and hard to measure, and may be easily “faked.” **Even prominent researchers in the field warn about the inappropriateness of using this data the way the government wants to use it for school and teacher “accountability.”**³
- Section 157 of SETRA would allow **SEL** data to be fed into “cooperative statistics systems” that track data from early-childhood education through the adult years. **Subjective governmental analysis of children’s thoughts, feelings, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors should NEVER be fed into a longitudinal system that will potentially follow them for the rest of their lives.**
- A recent U.S. House hearing uncovered an appalling lack of data security within the U.S. Department of Education.⁴ **Our children’s most personal data would be at high risk!**

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, TAKE NOTICE:

**A VOTE FOR SETRA IS A VOTE FOR DANGEROUS PSYCHOLOGICAL PROFILING OF OUR CHILDREN.
WE WILL NOT FORGET!**

¹ <http://www.casel.org/social-and-emotional-learning>

² <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/magazine/blogs/november-december-2014/change-behaviors-by-changing-mindsets>

³ <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/05/20/accountability-measures-for-traits-like-grit-questioned.html?qs=angela+duckworthh>.

⁴ <http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/265209-oversight-chair-breach-of-education-department-would-dwarf-opm-hack>.