

Judge Rules Drag Show with 'Lewd Sexual Acts' Can Take Place Next to Kid's Park

A U.S. District Judge has issued a preliminary injunction allowing a "grossly inappropriate, and sexually explicit drag show," to be held in view of children at a June 7 "pride" festival, a non-profit legal group reports.

As CBN News reported, Liberty Counsel filed a motion on behalf of three Collier County parents to keep the sexualized LGBTQ performance away from a children's playground.

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The Background in the Playground Case

The lawsuit came after the Naples City Council voted 5-2 in April to move the proposed drag show indoors away from Cambier Park, which is frequented by children, and to restrict the event to adults only. However, Naples Pride, an LGBT advocacy group, and the ACLU sued the city, claiming it violated their First Amendment rights by moving the event. The ACLU sought a preliminary injunction to overturn the city's location and age restrictions.

Earlier in May, a preliminary injunction hearing took place in U.S. District Court, where the city of Naples offered only one defense to its restrictions on the drag show.

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“The city noted that Cambier Park, which has a children’s playground a mere 100 feet away from where Naples Pride wants to hold its drag show, is a limited public forum where permits are subject to reasonable and viewpoint neutral criteria,” Liberty Counsel said in the statement.

“While this is true, Liberty Counsel argues this defense leaves out more significant arguments that would require the court to deny the injunction in the interest of protecting children,” it continued.

They point out that Florida’s “Protection of Children Act” of 2023 expressly outlaws public drag shows held in view of minors.

New Ruling Allows Drag Show Near Kids

But this week, U.S. District Judge John Steele sided with Naples Pride finding the drag show performance is “speech protected by the First Amendment,” and denied Liberty Counsel’s motion to step in and defend the interests of concerned parents.

He ruled based on the arguments presented to the court. While the court deemed that Liberty Counsel’s motion was not filed soon enough before the injunction decision, it will consider later whether Liberty Counsel can intervene and defend the city and parents as litigation continues to fully decide the merits of the case.

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Therefore, children at Cambier Park on June 7 will be exposed to sexually inappropriate content.

Attorneys with the Liberty Counsel are disappointed with the

ruling, but say they will not give up in the fight to protect children in Naples.

To read the full story, visit our content partners at CBN News.

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