

Parents of Sexually Confused Boy Sue for End to NJ Change Therapy Ban

Liberty Counsel filed suit on behalf of New Jersey parents against the law that bans their son from receiving counsel from a licensed professional counselor regarding unwanted same-sex attractions, behavior or identity.

The teenage boy Liberty Counsel represents experienced unwanted same-sex attractions. When this minor was just 10 years old, he began contemplating suicide because of gender identity confusion. He eventually developed unwanted same-sex attractions. Anxious and distressed, he developed obsessive-compulsive traits and suicidal tendencies. Eventually, while on a family vacation, he tried to commit suicide in front of his parents by attempting to jump off of a hotel balcony.

After speaking with their son, the family sought counsel from a licensed counselor to address the boy's unwanted same-sex attractions. As a result of the counsel he received, the boy regained his self-confidence and is now secure in his masculinity. He no longer or almost never experiences same-sex attractions, and he no longer has thoughts of suicide.

This young man is certain that change therapy has helped him overcome his feelings of hopelessness and despair, and he desperately desires to continue to receive the counseling. But under the law signed by Gov. Chris Christie, such counsel is now banned.

"Before states began passing legislation banning change therapy, the treatment was driven by the minor's desired outcome. Our client and his family were on the way to that desired outcome until Gov. Christie signed a law prohibiting further treatment," says Mat Staver, founder and chairman of

Liberty Counsel.

“Change therapy bans are a flagrant violation of a client’s right to self-determination,” says Staver. “Gov. Christie has no right coming into the therapy session of this young man and telling him what kind of counseling he can receive. This is a horrible government intrusion into personal health care and counseling choices. Driven by ideology and not science, this law banning change therapy will seriously harm children and their parents,” Staver says.

The lawsuit is seeking an injunction against the law.