



Spring, 2024

Dear Pastor:

We want to alert you and the members of your church of the threat to Catholic values within the proposed Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to our New York State Constitution.

This state constitutional amendment, *among other things*, provides minor children with the fundamental right to abortion, chemical and later-term, as well as the fundamental right to engage in transgender medical interventions. The ERA empowers Courts to either uphold laws that ignore parental notice or consent or invalidate laws that require parental notice or consent for both of these life-ending or life-altering procedures. *The ERA also potentially erodes protections for churches and other religious institutions to teach beliefs that run contrary to these newly-created fundamental rights.*

The so-called ERA reads as though it simply promotes ‘freedom and justice for all,’ but it potentially harms children, families, and religious institutions; its impacts are far reaching. NY statutes already protect against the horrors of discrimination as does our current NYS Constitution. The ERA goes further, by not only eroding parental authority and crystallizing ‘rights’ for children that could be dangerous for them, but by *threatening the ability of churches and other religious institutions to promote principles misaligned with radical reproductive and gender ideology.*

The Coalition to Protect Kids-NY is a ballot issue committee missioned to defeat passage of the ERA. The Coalition is registered with the NYS Board of Elections, where any expenses paid to promote the defeat of this ballot measure must be reported. We have materials— [Paid for by the Coalition to Protect Kids-NY](#)— that we hope you will share, at your discretion. Polls show that when people understand the effects of the ERA support for the amendment plummets.

The New York State Catholic Conference and the Archdiocese of New York oppose the ERA, and support the Coalition’s mission to defeat it. Here are two ways we pray you will help us defeat the ERA:

- Post and share the Coalition's materials, (without any monetary expenditure) on your parish's website, social media, and on-line bulletins or newsletters.
- Make available and/or distribute (without any monetary expenditure) Coalition materials at your parish.

We are asking your parish to post, share or display Coalition materials, paid for by the Coalition, at your discretion.

The Coalition's basic materials include a variety of printed and digital content outlining the impacts of NY's ERA as well as NY Voter Education Information.

Please go to PROTECTKIDSNY.COM.

For an in-depth analysis of several impacts of NY's ERA, please see *New York State's Equal Rights Amendment: A Revolutionary Camel*, published by our friends at the **Human Life Review**, here, <https://humanlifereview.com/new-york-states-equal-rights-amendment-a-revolutionary-camel/>

We can win, if we spread the message, with God's help.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Very Sincerely,

The Coalition to Protect Kids-NY
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