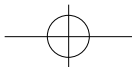
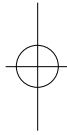
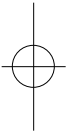


The Right to Home School

*A Guide to the Law
on Parents' Rights
in Education*



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on Parents' Rights
in Education*

Third Edition

Christopher J. Klicka
Senior Counsel of the Home School
Legal Defense Association

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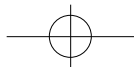
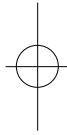
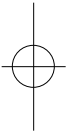
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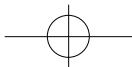
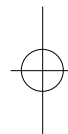
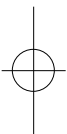
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*To my wife Tracy for her sacrificial support of me and my work
and to my seven wonderful children Bethany, Megan, Jesse,
Susanna, Charity, Amy, and John whom I love dearly.*





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Preface

Home schooling is exactly what the name implies: a school in the home. The teachers in a home school are the parents, and these parents have a commitment to make the necessary career sacrifices in order to personally provide an education for their children. For the majority, their primary reason to home school is to teach their children Christian principles and give them a thorough education — a reaction to the steady academic and moral decline in the public schools. And home schooling works. Over nine state departments of education and numerous independent studies have found that, on the average, home schooled children score above average on standardized achievement tests. Numerous educational curricula and resources are readily available to families who home school. Furthermore, these home school students are being accepted into hundreds of universities across the country including Harvard, Yale and Princeton.

This success is achieved by home school parents even though over half have only a high school diploma. Their success with their children, along with hundreds of other studies, show there is no positive correlation between teacher qualifications and student performance. Their commitment to their children is the key to their success.

Furthermore, these home schooled children are protected from negative socialization, such as drugs, sexually transmitted diseases, and violence present in the public schools. Instead, the home

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schooling is trained in the traditional values on which our country was founded, and their self esteem, which best determines the socialization of a child, is carefully nurtured.

Historically, home schooling was one of the major forms of education until the early 1900s. Hundreds of great leaders in America have been home schooled, including at least eleven presidents and Patrick Henry, John Marshall, John Stuart Mill, George Bernard Shaw, Thomas Edison, Pearl Buck, Mark Twain, Andrew Carnegie, George Patton and Douglas MacArthur.

Today, the number of home schooled students is estimated as high as 1.5 million. Since 1982, 35 states have specifically enacted laws to protect the constitutional rights of parents to teach their own children. Home schooling is not a passing fad. Home schooling works, and as it steadily grows, it will continue to promote academic excellence and graduate productive citizens many years ahead of their peers.

This book will discuss in detail the phenomena of home schooling, especially its impact on education law and parental rights. The following chapters will review scores and scores of home school cases which secured rights for home school parents throughout the country. This book will also summarize the statutory trend to deregulate home schooling, which is encouraging families to continue this highly successful form of education.

Christopher J. Klicka
April, 2001

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