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New American

Tenn. Plan for "Wellbeing Check" of Every Child Shocks America

Apparently, parents are all suspects in Tennessee. And apparently, in the eyes of officials, government must oversee parents' parenting to ensure that parents care for their children — and families must prove their innocence. With that in mind, authorities launched a totalitarian federally funded plan that shocked the state and all of America.

Faced with a massive public outcry of unprecedented proportions, Big Brother did hit the pause button on the radical program sending government bureaucrats to interrogate every child in Tennessee under the guise of performing a "wellbeing check." However, state officials are not giving up yet. Great danger remains.

The scandal began [on August 11], when the Tennessee Department of Education <u>released</u> a "toolkit on child wellbeing checks." The announcement unveiled a totalitarian plan to invade every family home in the state on a monthly basis. Homeschoolers, private school children, and government-school children were all in the cross-hairs.

"Since we know many children have experienced adversity due to the pandemic, child wellbeing checks are a deliberate way all stakeholders in the community can help ensure the needs of our children are met," said "Education" Czarina Penny Schwinn, as if "stakeholders," rather than parents, were in charge of caring for "our" children.

The taskforce's goals included to, on a monthly basis, "verify the wellbeing and identify needs of all Tennessee children" with "monthly child wellbeing calls." Also on the agenda was to have "communities" (read: government bureaucrats) "come together to check on our kids and support the holistic needs of Tennessee children."

It was not clear where Commissioner Schwinn got the totalitarian idea that children in her jurisdiction belong to the government — a noxious idea peddled by tyrants ranging from National Socialist (Nazi) leader Adolf Hitler to International Socialist leaders such as Mao and Stalin. Nor was the concept of "holistic needs" defined.

But according to Schwinn, who was appointed by RINO (Republican In Name Only) Governor Bill Lee, bureaucrats — not parents — are already doing a great job providing for the "holistic needs" of "their" children. "I am encouraged by the hard work and dedication of the Task Force and our districts to support kids and their holistic needs," she said.

According to documents obtained by The Newman Report, these "wellbeing checks" include in-home





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interviews of children, preferably without parents around. The "checkers" are instructed to speak with the child "directly and as privately as possible." Parents who refuse to allow it would be entered into a database for unspecified purposes. The goal is to have the government check on every child in the state, from birth to age 18.

They are also supposed to "gauge general stress level" and try to push government "services" on families, including the provision of "devices." Everything from food, transportation, and housing to dentistry, "hygiene procedures," "mental health," and vaccines are included in documents about what the government is seeking to meddle in.

After an enormous outcry from lawmakers, civil-liberties advocates, families, taxpayers, and nontotalitarians everywhere, the state "Education Department" withdrew the "toolkit" and promised to "revise it." "We've updated the language for its actual intent, but there is there's no big brother," <u>claimed</u> Commissioner Schwinn after the firestorm.

But it's not over. "It is very obvious to me and others this was not meant to be a short term project," education expert and former Tennessee County Commissioner Karen Bracken told The Newman Report. "It stated in the policy that it was to be implemented during and AFTER Covid. This smells suspiciously like the home visits and partnering with parents from ESSA [the <u>federal Every Student Succeeds Act</u>]."

Calling for authorities to allow life to get back to normal, Bracken also said that Tennesseans will refuse to accept any revision or re-branding. "No matter what warm and fuzzy words you wrap around this policy it is a total violation of our Constitutional rights and an overreach into an area in which they have no authority," she said. "It is felt they are using COVID as the excuse to implement a plan that has been in the works for quite some time."

The safest place for virtually every child on the planet is in his or her home with parents and family. Parents love their children more than anybody else in the world, bar none. And historically, when government has intruded on the sanctity of the family and God-given parental rights and responsibilities, tragedy and disaster always follow.

This outrageous scheme in Tennessee is a flagrant attack on the most fundamental God-given rights of every parent and child in the state. And it is reminiscent of the grotesque anti-family abuses of the 20th century's worst mass murderers. Officials involved in this must be held accountable. But be warned: This battle is not over yet.

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