

8/05/08

Stephanie,

My wife's son and his wife home school their 2 school age children and seem to do a very good job. I certainly wouldn't try to make trouble for home schoolers just to please the teacher unions, but I don't really know at this point whether some sort of regulation is needed. I would go for whatever works, with the least possible interference from the government.

Steve

--- On Tue, 8/5/08, stephanie charlot <mynaturalfamily@gmail.com> wrote:

> From: stephanie charlot <mynaturalfamily@gmail.com>
> Subject: question for you as a candidate
> To: steve_harry@yahoo.com
> Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2008, 9:45 AM
> Dear Mr. Harry,
>
> I know it's late, but on the off chance you get this
> before I go vote this
> afternoon...
>
> What are your general feelings about regulation of
> homeschooling? Michigan
> currently leaves homeschoolers free to do what works for
> their families.
> (If we felt that what the schools did would work for our
> kids, we would send
> them to school!) If someone has a concern about an
> individual family, then
> they would report that and there would be a process of
> accountability. (Or
> at least there should be -- the system has failed often for
> schooled
> children, so I have to wonder, but that has nothing to do
> with
> homeschooling.) There have been rumblings in the

> legislature that
> homeschoolers should be subject to academic regulation. As
> a homeschooling
> mother, I would oppose such regulation. My experience has
> been that
> homeschooling families are doing as well or better than the
> public schools
> in educating their children, so let's leave well enough
> alone. Joan Bauer
> seems supportive of some regulation (perhaps due to her
> cozy relationship
> with teacher's unions?) I'd like to hear your
> thoughts.
>
> By the way, we are not a family of right-wing Christians.
> There are many
> secular and non-Republican religious (Christian and
> otherwise) families in
> Lansing who homeschool. I wish that could go without
> saying, but since
> media coverage of homeschooling often centers on
> conservative Christian
> families, I feel the need to make that clear. I should
> also mention that I
> DO support strong schools and school reform. The education
> of all children
> is important to me. Homeschooling is simply what works
> best for us.
>
> Thanks for sharing your thoughts if you get this in time,
> Stephanie Charlot
> Lansing