

## ZOE WONG

This is a brief account of how God turned a hopeless situation in our school around and gave us victory through Jesus Christ.

I'd like to first give thanks to the support I received from my husband, our Christian friends, Lisa Nolland and Susan Mason from the school gates campaign.

I'm Zoe, born again 12 years ago, a mom of three, two boys age 7, 2 and one one on the way. I was sceptical to send our children to public school because of the current sexual agenda being pushed. I chose a church of England school thinking it was a safer option. So I was devastated when my worst case scenario started to manifest.

During lockdown, less than 10% of our school's parents took any interest in our RSE providers presentation. I had no idea what to expect and was left shocked and shaken by what the outsourced provider Big Talk showed. It was rapid fire indoctrination to the parents and teachers that it ticked all the boxes. By the 2nd page, introduction to gay relationships, no mention of heterosexual marriage, normalising pornography, graphic cartoon pictures and vocabulary that I was not comfortable with. It did not sit well with my soul. I later found out was an illegally conducted consultation with no questions, no legally required opt-out given, illegally denied samples of teaching materials and no alternative choice or discussion was permitted.

What was even more devastating was the blind acceptance from parents I spoke to and the backlash and rejection when I raised the alarm to the school. Turns out sleepy and deceived Christians do not like being woken up. Shocking still, many are willingly ignorant of the devils schemes and want to trust the school just get on with their lives.

So I did what any good Christian should do, I got righteously angry, I prayed for help, researched, and started to send out many difficult emails with as much self-control as I could muster. Few others were willing to stand up for our rights and beliefs. It was a big risk of years of social rejection and awkwardness at the school gates. But I stood firm on article 2 of the European convention of humans rights. I reiterated many times that "the state shall respect the rights of parents to ensure the education and teaching is in conformity to my own religious and philosophical convictions" and was not afraid to escalate. I sought wise counsel from Susan and Lisa. Then I walked in radical obedience to twice campaign outside the school gates alone. I was ridiculed and applauded and then the Lord Jesus started to give me wisdom and the courage to win over souls. It was though love of God and not coming from a hate of sinful lifestyles that I had to root into. I had to love my neighbour and their children and have their best interests at heart. Then others started to stand up for their convictions. Many parents were just afraid to say what they felt in their hearts and just needed encouragement. I eventually found fellowship and allies in this spiritual battle and we gained some momentum. The school had various meetings with governors and the local church Diocese before sending out an anonymous consolation to the parents for their views. At least a dozen parents that I know objected to the provider. I suspect many more had fears. I was singled out to first speak to the director of Big Talk and then be brought into the lions den in a secular RSE audit. The auditor lavished praise on the students who reported it to be "age appropriate". It seemed we would not win and I foremost would be labelled as the example of a bigot and homophobic radical.

But when it seemed the darkest moment after a year of petitioning, we finally got our answer that Big Talk was out and in-house RSE training was in! We had requested Lovewise or other Christian providers but we concede this alternative as a win.

For our next steps, I'd like to see godly RSE changes in other schools. If it can be overturned in our school it can happen in others. I believe when we stand in unity we can protect and stop damage being done to the kingdom of God. If any parents or grandparents needs prayer or spiritual encouragement in their school, I'd be happy to help. Just ask. We have a group and links to support. You are not alone!

First step if this is all new to you is to find out in your local school what RSE provider they are using. Look them up. Some are worse than others. Please don't be afraid to get involved in school politics as a governor to represent others.

I'll close in a short prayer, We bind the enemy and declare victory in our UK schools in the name of Jesus. The battle is the Lords. Amen "