

## District Visit Gone Wrong

Do not barge into a legislator's office and demand to meet with your representative. Schedule an appointment ahead of time. Please do not wear jeans, graphic T-shirts or flip-flops.

Your representative may ask you or your children questions. Here are some ways NOT to answer them.

### Q. What is your favorite subject?

A. One kid looks at the floor, another mumbles, "I don't have a favorite subject."

### Q. Is there anything I can do for you?

A. We need accountability, and would like more clear laws about homeschooling.  
B. We want our kids to play public school sports.  
C. We want money for school supplies and textbooks.

### Q. What about Socialization? Do homeschooled kids receive a quality education?

A. I have no idea. My kids turned out fine but I don't know if that's common.  
B. I think socialism is bad.

### Q. What issues do you have concerns about?

A. What do you think about the war in Ukraine? Let's talk about that.  
B. We have an issue with water.  
C. We don't agree with you on that poster you have on your wall about abortion access.

### Q. Is there any legislation that is currently threatening homeschooling?

A. No, and I really don't like the legislation that's been introduced about public school curriculum changes (or insert any other issue here).  
B. I don't know, I don't think there's ever been any issues with homeschooling or threats to it.

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Do make an appointment to visit your legislator. Be Respectful and dress in a professional manner. Be polite and friendly. Be prepared to share information about private education and to answer questions about your own experiences.

The following are examples of questions they may ask you and some suggested answers.

### Q. What is your favorite subject?

A. Look in the eyes and answer with, science, math, writing, etc. Have your answer ready for this.

### Q. Is there anything I can do for you?

A. Homeschooling works the way it is! We don't want anything to change.  
B. The current law allows us to provide a quality education to our children in a unique way.

### Q. What about Socialization? Do homeschooled kids receive a quality education?

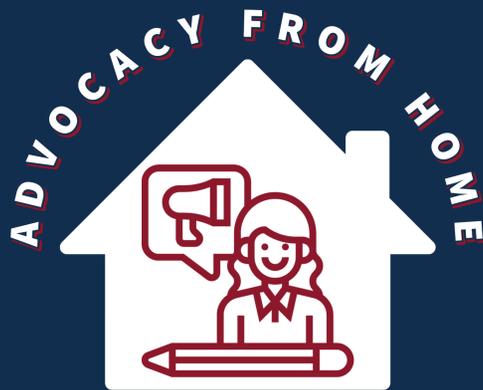
A. Yes, homeschooled students do well academically and socially. Research has shown outcomes as good and often better than their traditionally-schooled peers.  
B. Families get together for things like biology labs, field trips, sports and theater.

### Q. What issues do you have concerns about?

A. We do have concerns about things happening in California. But today we just want to talk about how homeschooling works for us and why it needs to remain free from regulation.

### Q. Is there any legislation currently or in the past that is threatening homeschooling?

A. There's no current legislation that is a direct threat to homeschooling, but we want to remain ready to work with any legislators that are looking to make legislation regarding homeschooling. There have been bills in the past that would have banned homeschooling outright.



FPM has a program called Advocacy From Home that will provide you with training and resources to help you have a successful visit with your legislator. One of the great benefits of this program is access to the Homeschool Information Packet. The research contained in this packet will address many questions that may be asked in your meeting. If you take the time to plan ahead and think through questions you might be asked, you will be able to have a profitable conversation with your legislator and be an effective advocate for private home education.



Visit our website or contact us for more information!

[www.fpmca.org](http://www.fpmca.org) | (916) 786-3523 | [contact@fpmca.org](mailto:contact@fpmca.org)

# FAMILY PROTECTION *ministries*

## District Visits Gone Right and Wrong

Legislative visits are a critical part of advocacy. It is essential that legislators have the opportunity to connect with homeschooling families in their districts.

Understandably, meeting with your legislator can be intimidating. As elected officials they hold an important position and should be given proper respect.

However, they are still people just like us! Following these a few simple guidelines should enable you to have a productive, in-person meetings with them. Don't worry, FPM has many valuable resources available to help you.