

Original: 2336

22 Wandell Road  
Sweet Valley, PA 18656  
April 16, 2003

Patricia A. White  
Executive Director  
State Board of Education  
333 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

Dear Ms. White:

I am writing with regards to the proposed rulemaking shown on page 1847 of the Pennsylvania Bulletin, Volume 33, Number 15, April 12, 2003. I tend to look at a very different topic in the Pa. Bulletin in my line of business, but I did notice this page about Academic Standards for Education. Since I have very definite opinions regarding our school system, I felt compelled to read it.

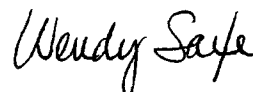
I see where the academic standards are organized into four areas, with the first being career awareness and planning. My question is this: Will housewife/homemaker be seen and promoted as a viable "career"? I hope it will. I work in the energy industry, but believe that the most important job a woman could possibly have is to be a mother. A real mother. I know there are situations where a woman must work, but I also know there are examples where a mother wants to work. I do not understand the point of purposely having children only to have others raise them. I have not yet had children, and unfortunately do not anticipate that great joy for myself, but if I did have children I would put them first and devote myself to them.

So, back to my question: Will housewife/homemaker be seen and promoted as a viable "career"? Today, society seems to think and act as if a woman has no worth if she is *only* a wife and mother. But, for those of us who are thinking individuals, we realize that a mother is far more than a female who stays at home. She is the CEO of a well-run organization. She is a nurse and caretaker. She is a financial analyst, and a maid, and a cook, and a teacher. A woman who stays at home and cares for her family is the most needed, least respected, and worst paid worker we have in our workforce. But, she's also the most necessary. I strongly believe that the mess our nation is in is largely due to the fact that no one is at home raising the children in the proper way.

My request is simply this. When developing the details of your Career Education curriculum, please don't forget to include homemaker as a valid option. Maybe if we impress upon these kids early enough the fact that to be a stay-at-home mom is nothing to be ashamed or embarrassed of, we will have a whole new generation who sees the importance of this role. Maybe then we will see an improvement in the next generation.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this letter. Have a great day!

Sincerely,



Wendy Saxe

**RECEIVED**

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