



Safe Schools Alliance UK

Kerry Moscogiuri
Chief Executive
Amnesty International UK

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Peter Benenson House
1 Easton Street (2nd Floor)
London, England
WC1X 0DW [

Copied to: Helen Horton, Chair of the UK Section Board, Sandy Ruthven, Chair of the Charitable Trust Board

Dear Ms Moscogiuri,

Safe Schools Alliance's inclusion in *A Growing Threat – The Anti-Rights Movement in the UK*

We are writing regarding Amnesty International UK's recent briefing, *A Growing Threat – The Anti-Rights Movement in the UK*, in which Safe Schools Alliance has been included and described as a "gender-critical" organisation.

We were dismayed to discover our inclusion in this publication.

By including Safe Schools Alliance in a report whose central premise is that it forms part of an "anti-rights" movement, Amnesty International UK has effectively characterised a child safeguarding organisation as being opposed to human rights. We reject that characterisation completely.

Safe Schools Alliance exists to promote evidence-based safeguarding in schools and to advocate for policies that protect the rights and welfare of children. We are not an anti-rights organisation, nor are we a political campaign group. We are a child safeguarding organisation.

If Amnesty International UK believes that advocating for effective child safeguarding is somehow "anti-rights", then we ask you to explain precisely which rights you believe are incompatible with safeguarding children. The right of every child to protection from harm is one of the most fundamental human rights recognised in both domestic and international law. It is therefore extraordinary that an organisation with Amnesty's history should portray a child safeguarding organisation as part of an "anti-rights" movement.

We are equally concerned that the briefing describes Safe Schools Alliance as a "gender-critical" organisation. That description fundamentally misrepresents who we are and what we do. Our work is centred on safeguarding, not ideology.



Perhaps most concerning of all, Amnesty International UK made no attempt to contact Safe Schools Alliance before publishing these serious characterisations. At no stage were we asked to explain our objectives, our activities or our position. Had even the most basic enquiries been made, it would have become immediately apparent that your description of our organisation bears no resemblance to the work we actually undertake.

Given Amnesty's reputation and influence, we find it remarkable that such serious claims were published without giving the organisations concerned any opportunity to comment or correct factual inaccuracies before publication. We do not consider this consistent with the standards of fairness, accuracy and diligence that Amnesty rightly expects of governments, institutions and others whose work it scrutinises.

We are also concerned that the briefing groups Safe Schools Alliance alongside organisations with which we have no affiliation. Some of those organisations were entirely unknown to us before publication of your report. Others campaign on issues distinct from our own. Presenting such organisations collectively as a single movement is misleading and unsupported.

We therefore request that Amnesty International UK:

1. Explains the methodology and criteria used to include Safe Schools Alliance within this briefing.
2. Identifies the evidence relied upon in describing Safe Schools Alliance as a "gender-critical" organisation.
3. Explains the basis on which Safe Schools Alliance has been characterised as part of an "anti-rights" movement.
4. Identifies which human rights Amnesty believes Safe Schools Alliance opposes.
5. Explains why no attempt was made to contact Safe Schools Alliance prior to publication to verify the factual accuracy of its characterisation.
6. Confirms whether Amnesty International UK intends to correct or withdraw the inaccurate descriptions contained within the briefing.

We understand that a number of organisations named in the briefing are considering legal action in relation to its contents. We would welcome your substantive response within 14 days of the date of this letter.

We hope Amnesty International UK will recognise the seriousness of these concerns, correct the public record and reflect upon the implications of portraying organisations dedicated to child safeguarding as part of an "anti-rights" movement.

Yours sincerely,

Tanya Carter, Spokeswoman

Safe Schools Alliance