# JCSH News and Resource Bundle June 2 2023

Hello everyone

Here is the News and Resource bundle for this week.

Cheers

Susan

News Articles:  
1. 3344. Scared of School: Even in U.S. States With Protective Laws, LGBTQ Students Are Reporting Attacks from Other Kids — and Teachers

There is a lot of information in this story. Although reflecting a US perspective, one of the points made is that students in states with strong civil rights laws are feeling the impact of the rights-restricting legislation of Republican-dominated states. “Regardless of whether the so-called culture wars are a coordinated political strategy aimed at voters, they are endangering queer students’ sense of safety even at schools with strong anti-discrimination protections,” said Austin Johnson, a sociology professor at Kenyon College and director of the Campaign for Southern Equality’s Research and Policy Center. “It’s not enough anymore to say, ‘These laws don’t exist here.’ Even when a law doesn’t exist, the rhetoric around it creates this environment of hostility, fear and confusion.” The message students hear, he notes, is, “We don’t want LGBTQ people to be a part of our society.” If a child’s parents are not accepting, the new laws choke off their other sources of support. They may no longer turn to their doctors or find a safe haven at school. “Think about that,” he adds. “…. Where can you exist?”

<https://www.the74million.org/article/scared-of-school-even-in-states-with-protective-laws-lgbtq-students-are-reporting-attacks-from-other-kids-and-teachers/?utm_source=The%2074%20Million%20Newsletter&utm_campaign=ee123297a6-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_07_27_07_47_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_077b986842-ee123297a6-177218748>

2. 3343. US surgeon general issues advisory on ‘profound’ risks of child social media use

US surgeon general Dr. Vivek Murthy, in a new advisory issued May 18th, calls on tech companies and policymakers to take ‘immediate action’ to protect children’s mental health. Dr. Murthy noted in this story that robust research linking social media use and harm is lacking and, without it, there is insufficient evidence to show that social media use is safe for kids. He also notes that accessing apps does offer benefits to many young people, allowing connections and community for those who are isolated by geography, culture, identity, and/or interests. His advice to parents is to draw “boundaries around the use of social media in your child’s life so there are times and spaces that are protected, that are tech-free...”

The link to the advisory is found in the first resource, below.

<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2023/may/23/social-media-warning-kids-mental-health>

3. 3333. Taking the lead: What happens when students help run their high schools

When some U.S. public charter schools invited students to be leaders in their learning and school experiences, the students’ responses led to changes. In New Orleans, LA, “We refined our professional development training for staff and we ultimately created a trauma-informed culture guide that is the basis for how we talk to and work with kids as a school,” said the school’s founding leader. Adam Fletcher, director of [SoundOut](https://soundout.org/" \t "_blank), said students are now faced with multiple layers of challenges, and more access to information, and this has changed how they want to access education: “They want better learning and teaching and leadership in schools…. And they’re using language around mental health, and they’re using language around pedagogy. Students, themselves, being able to say, ‘I want interactive learning.’” “If students feel a sense of belonging, then all other things fall into place,” said the principal of a Washington, DC school. “You’ll feel more connected with the teacher and you’ll also feel more connected to doing the things that need to get done in order to excel for yourself and for others.”

<https://www.the74million.org/article/why-letting-students-co-lead-high-schools-with-adults-is-critical/?utm_source=The+74+Million+Newsletter&utm_campaign=5b445ec254-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_07_27_07_47_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_077b986842-5b445ec254-177218748>

4. 3334. As conservative states target trans rights, a Florida teen flees for a better life

New legislation targeting anti-trans policies in health care and education in U.S. states such as Florida has families making tough choices. This is the story of one teen who left her parents to finish high school in Rhode Island. "I thought that they [Florida legislators] would realize what they've done wrong and, you know, repeal some things," she says. "But they just kept going. It just became, like, too real, too fast." The new laws and anti-trans political rhetoric are hurting kids across Florida, says Jennifer Evans, a clinical psychologist at the University of Florida's [Youth Gender Program](https://endo.pediatrics.med.ufl.edu/resources/youth-gender-program/) in Gainesville. "I'm seeing more anxiety, more depression. Things I hear patients say are, 'The government doesn't want me to exist.' They don't feel safe."

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2023/05/11/1172589936/as-conservative-states-target-trans-rights-a-florida-teen-flees-for-a-better-lif?utm_source=npr_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=20230514&utm_term=8422538&utm_campaign=ed&utm_id=62242991&orgid=&utm_att1=>

Map of US states where bans on gender-affirming care have passed

<https://www.hrc.org/resources/attacks-on-gender-affirming-care-by-state-map>

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**Resources:**

**Resource 1.** (Resource) Social media and youth mental health: An advisory from the U.S. Surgeon General

“A Surgeon General’s Advisory is a public statement that calls the American people’s attention to an urgent public health issue and provides recommendations for how it should be addressed. Advisories are reserved for significant public health challenges that require the nation’s immediate awareness and action. This Advisory calls attention to the growing concerns about the effects of social media on youth mental health. It explores and describes the current evidence on the positive and negative impacts of social media on children and adolescents, some of the primary areas for mental health and well-being concerns, and opportunities for additional research to help understand the full scope and scale of social media’s impact. This document is not an exhaustive review of the literature. Rather, it was developed through a substantial review of the available evidence, primarily found via electronic searches of research articles published in English and resources suggested by a wide range of subject matter experts, with priority given to, but not limited to, meta-analyses and systematic literature reviews. It also offers actionable recommendations for the institutions that can shape online environments—policymakers and technology companies—as well as for what parents and caregivers, young people, and researchers can do.”

[chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/sg-youth-mental-health-social-media-advisory.pdf](chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https:/www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/sg-youth-mental-health-social-media-advisory.pdf)

Resource 2. 3310. (Resource) Media use by tweens and teens infographic

This infographic, created by Common Sense Media (US), provides the results of a 2015 survey of the media habits and preferences of American youth aged 8-18.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/the-common-sense-census-media-use-by-tweens-and-teens-infographic>