

Parental Rights Resource

In Canada, parental rights predate the state and arises from natural and divine law. The right of parents to educate, guide and protect their children is enshrined in our Constitution, Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the law and the biblical foundations of our nation.

Canada's constitutional framework is rooted in the supremacy of God and the rule of law, as declared in the Preamble to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. This foundational statement is not merely symbolic, it defines the moral and legal hierarchy upon which our democracy was built. **Rights and freedoms in Canada flow from a higher authority than the State itself. They are endowed by the God of the Bible, whose moral law undergirds our Common Law, Constitution, and the very principles of justice and liberty.** Our system of governance is therefore accountable not to secular ideology, but to the divine moral order revealed through Scripture: the same truth that inspired the Magna Carta, guided the Coronation Oath, and shaped Canada's founding institutions.

This inheritance is deeply woven into our constitutional fabric. **The Magna Carta of 1215 established that rulers are subject to law and that families, individuals, and property are protected from arbitrary interference.** Canada's constitutional monarchy carries forward that principle. Under the Coronation Oath Act of 1688, every Sovereign, including the current monarch, swears to maintain the laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel. Because all governing authority in Canada derives from the Crown, this Oath permanently integrates the moral law of God into the foundation of Canadian governance. Every minister, judge, and public servant acts under delegated authority from that Crown, and therefore bears responsibility to uphold this sacred trust.

In Canadian law, parents possess both the right and the duty to direct their children's moral and intellectual formation. This right predates the State and arises from natural and divine law. The Supreme Court of Canada affirmed this in [R. v. Jones \(1986\)](#)¹, recognizing that freedom of religion includes a parent's right to educate children according to conscience and moral conviction, subject only to reasonable limits.

In [Adler v. Ontario \(1996\)](#)², the Supreme Court confirmed that Canada's public education system is constitutionally anchored in its Christian denominational roots. The Court held that section 93 of the Constitution Act, 1867 entrenched denominational education rights as part of the historical compromise of Confederation, reflecting the Christian foundations of Canada's identity. Chief Justice Lamer clarified that this provision was not a general guarantee for all religions but a specific constitutional recognition of the country's Christian denominational heritage. **The ruling thus confirmed that Canada's publicly funded education system is constitutionally anchored in its Christian structural inheritance.** Other faith-based schools may operate privately, but they do not share this constitutional guarantee.

Scripture affirms that parents are entrusted by God with the responsibility for the moral and spiritual upbringing of their children. Deuteronomy 6:6–7 commands parents to impress God's truths upon their children. Proverbs 22:6 instructs, *"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."* Ephesians 6:4 directs fathers to bring up their children *"in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."* These passages make clear that parental authority is a divine commission, not a state privilege. **Governments and educational institutions exist to safeguard, not replace, that sacred duty.**

Our Charter's recognition of the supremacy of God, the Coronation Oath's commitment to maintain His law, and centuries of legal tradition all establish a clear moral hierarchy: God's law is supreme; the rule of law expresses that divine justice; the family, under parental authority, is the cornerstone of moral and educational formation; and the State serves as protector of this divine and constitutional order.

Any attempt by government or educational authorities to diminish or override the parental role in a child's moral, cultural, or educational formation not only contradicts the biblical order but undermines the very constitutional foundation upon which Canada was built. The family is the first institution ordained by God. Parental rights are sacred, inalienable, and recognized by law as God-given. To subordinate parents to the State in matters of faith, morality, or education stands in direct opposition to both the rule of law and the sovereign moral order that defines Canada as a nation under the God of the Bible.

Canada's children need defenders, not bystanders. This is the moment for every patriot and parent to act. [Join Action4Canada!](#) Lend your voice, your time and your [financial support](#) as we lead the charge to reclaim our education systems, protect our children and preserve this nation under God.

¹ <https://decisions.scc-csc.ca/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/item/165/index.do>

² <https://decisions.scc-csc.ca/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/item/1446/index.do>