The text below is from Pete Hegseth's <u>The Battle for the American Mind</u>. Our Sunday School teachers are on the front lines of today's combat. Pastors are their drill instructors, trainers, and coaches. We must all do what we can to prepare and protect the upcoming generation from the attacks of Satan and his world-system. Only the Word of God, the Spirit of God, and the armor of God can protect them.

Please remember to pray for our Pre-School teachers every day and for those who lead them.

In the Grip of the Lamb, Pastor Dean

"THE REAL BATTLEFIELD ISN'T COLLEGES; IT'S KINDERGARTENS It's sad to say, but if I had a dollar for every parent I met across America in a FOX & Friends diner segment who told me that they sent a patriotic, faith-filled conservative off to college and soon had an America-hating socialist on their hands . . . I'd be a rich man. Save for a few exceptions—Hillsdale College, Liberty University, College of the Ozarks, to name a few—higher education is a wasteland. We know that, and this book does not need to make that case. However, Christians and conservatives have been living under the false impression that colleges and universities are a self-contained ecosystem with little impact on the broader culture and K–12 education.

My former mentor at Princeton University—intellectual giant and constitutional scholar Professor Robert P. George—put it best, saying to me, "It used to be that liberal professors in higher education licked their chops at the prospect of challenging the conventional and conservative views of their incoming students. Today, it's the opposite. Conservative professors like me lick my chops at the opportunity to challenge incoming students who have already been indoctrinated by the 'woke' Leftist educational system. Especially in the past decade, the kids show up already indoctrinated."

Let me stop here to remind you: I'm no different than you. I'm learning these things right alongside you. Until last year, I had two kids in public schools. It was easy, familiar, and free. I still don't have all my kids enrolled in precisely the type of school we want. I have no idea where—or even if—I will suggest that my kids go to college. For many years, my fear was higher education—but, as has become clearer and clearer, the real problem is high school, middle school, and now elementary school.

The battlefield for the hearts and minds of our kids is the 16,000 hours they spend inside American classrooms from kindergarten to twelfth grade . . . it's the 16,000-hour war, for our kids and our country.

Through a seemingly unstoppable progressive pipeline—teachers union priorities, teachers colleges, Common Core prerogatives, and unchecked teachers and administrators—the woke, social justice agenda is showing up in the youngest of classrooms. Often the books and curricula are hidden from parents, or at least largely until now. In one Idaho school district alone, books like A Is for Activist, Antiracist Baby, and Not My Idea: A Book about Whiteness are being read to elementary students. Not only is A for Activist, but L is for L-G-B-T-Q, T is for Trans, X is for Malcom X, and Z is for Zapatista (I had to look that one up . . . but, of course, it's a socialist, militant group at war with the Mexican government). Anti-racist babies are taught to "confess when being racist" and that "whiteness is a bad deal. It always was."

At Creekside Intermediate School in Michigan, students read Black Brother, Black Brother, which highlights a black student who feels like he is "constantly swimming in whiteness." Cambridge, Massachusetts, public schools' "Early Childhood Curriculum" teaches black families to be "free from patriarchal practices" as part of the "disruption of Western nuclear family dynamics" and a return to the "collective village." Kindergarten students in Illinois and fourth and fifth graders in parts of Pennsylvania also read Not My Idea: A Book about Whiteness. The book pounds home the idea that being white is inherently evil and that being black means you are inherently oppressed. This is being taught to six-year-olds in America. These books—and so many more like them—are designed to divide students by race and gender; that is the goal, not just the result.

Stories for kids with good life lessons are no longer good enough; the pages must contain an agenda. Maybe your sixth or seventh grader will encounter the "gender unicorn" instead—a widely used Barney look-alike purple unicorn who explains concepts like gender identity, gender expression, and sexual attraction. But even before there was a gender unicorn, I had "sex education" in my middle school in the 1990s—a small conservative community—and my parents pulled me out, preferring to discuss intimate topics like that within our household. And it was pretty straightforward back then. Today, the gender unicorn, and ubiquitous concepts like it across the country, normalize the concepts of gender identity being completely separate from sex assigned at birth, and encourage kids to grapple with physical and emotional attraction—especially toward the same sex. It's not informational; there is only one right answer: biology doesn't matter. In elementary school. It's sheer indoctrination . . . for 16,000 hours."