

Dear

I hope you will join with me in work that we can do together that will make it easier, more normal and yes, legal! to give children reasonable independence. I am working to form a group of allies to seek a possible change in laws that are holding our kids back. Such laws have passed in three states and I want to make our state the next to pass a “reasonable independence for kids” law.

Why do children need reasonable independence? Because school-aged children every day are stopped from [playing in parks](#), [staying home alone](#), or even [being in their own front or backyards](#), when their parents have made the sound judgment that they are ready and able to have this degree of freedom ([which is good for kids!](#)). Our “[surveillance society](#)” has led to constant fear that children can never be alone, at increasingly older ages, out of an overblown fear that they will be kidnapped or molested. But these fears have been growing even [when crime rates have been going down since the 1990’s](#) and remain at historically low levels (even with recent reports of spikes during the pandemic). As a result, children’s freedom has been under assault and with it have come increasing [childhood mental health issues](#) because children are deprived of the most meaningful ways of developing their own skills and resilience. This is a problem that such luminaries as Prof. Jonathan Haidt, with Lenore Skenazy (founding board members of Let Grow), have [written and spoken extensively about](#). And Let Grow’s President, Lenore Skenazy, has literally written the [book](#) (now in its second edition) that has sparked the movement [Free Range Kids](#).

This is an especial concern in our state because: (add a story from your state, personal experience, general concern that is prevalent in the state).

As [this article discusses](#), three states now guarantee the right of reasonable independence to children. And one of those states is a big one—Texas! . So [10% of American families](#) now have protection that the other 90% deserve. Let Grow views the law that passed in [Oklahoma this May](#) as a great model.

I have been in contact with Let Grow and they are interested in working with legislators in every state to see reasonable independence laws pass to protect common sense parenting. Let Grow stands ready to help us with resources, testimony in support, suggested bill language, and other tools to help get the legislation passed.

Are you in? When can we talk? I’m excited about working on this with you!

Yours truly,

Phone:

Email: