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Statement by [Newgon Organization](#)* on media disinformation surrounding the proposed termination of Amber Parker's employment at Franklin High School, El Paso, TX.

Having witnessed the events of the last week via our ongoing review of the mainstream media's engagement with the [Minor Attracted Person](#) (MAP) key-phrase, people within and adjacent to the MAP Movement have been appalled by the seeming complicity of some media organizations in spreading misinformation. Inaccurate statements have been made not only about MAPs, but concerning the actions of the teacher in question. It appears that after making [sarcastic comments](#) (something confirmed by students, parents, the teacher's husband and a [school board member](#)) intended to challenge students' thinking on the topic of compulsory codes of language, the teacher has lost her job. This follows [local news attention](#), defamation on social media and the sharing of her and her family's photos [throughout the mainstream media](#).

Following initial viral [spread from Facebook](#), this manufactured outrage was amplified considerably by the Twitter account *Gays Against Groomers*, which far from being a genuine LGBTQ+ organization, is in fact a social media front group for [socially conservative](#), radically anti-trans and anti-queer lesbian feminists. The school board have apparently decided that a complicit or negligent media now lack the *will* to divulge the correct information to a public already misled by unchecked disinformation. As well as obvious ethical questions concerning the personal safety and future job security of the teacher, this incident has breathed new life into dangerous misconceptions about people who find themselves attracted to minors, and about young people themselves:

1. That all attraction to minors is necessarily "pedophilic"

This could not be further from the truth. Following well-documented [archive research](#), we have determined that the concept of "minor attraction" goes back [at least as far as 1998](#), where it was introduced to online communities of MAPs as an *umbrella term* for a *range* of attractions to minors. Subsequent research suggests that at least [20% of men are preferentially attracted to early teen or pre-teen minors](#), yet only approx. 10% of these MAPs have a preference for *prepubescent children*, i.e. Pedophilia. The vast majority of these MAPs are better described as [hebephiles](#), since they are attracted to pubescent youth. Following debates in academia, the [consensus on hebephilia is that it is not a disorder](#), and the consensus on [pedophilia](#) (enshrined in the American Psychiatric Association's DSM) is that it may under *some circumstances* be a disorder. This is without doubt, an expanding and fast-moving area of research, and the debate is far from settled.

2. That “pedophilia” is a “behavior”, “criminal act”, “psychopathy” or “social problem”

This is a long-standing colloquial misconception about [pedophilic attraction](#). A pedophile is simply a person who displays a preferential pattern of sexual or romantic attraction towards prepubescent children. As a medical diagnosis of “pedophilic disorder”, the definition differs somewhat, but the attractions must be accompanied by distress if they have not been acted upon. According to the [American Psychiatric Association](#), a non-offending, *egosyntonic* pedophile is not suffering from a psychological disorder, and instead merely has pedophilic “interests” or “[orientation](#)”. Pedophiles have shown similar levels of psychopathy to and [higher levels of empathy](#) than community controls, while only making up a [small minority](#) of child sex offenders. Pedophiles are tellingly, [almost absent](#) from samples of child rapists.

3. That mere knowledge of the “minor attraction” paradigm is unnecessary political interference in the lives of young people

Google scholar indicates that the term “minor attracted” has been [used almost 400](#) times since 2010, with [124 results](#) for “minor attracted people” over the same period. Most of these instances can be narrowed down to the last four years. If a term geared towards accuracy is in ongoing scholarly use within an expanding field of the natural sciences, it can at the very least be considered for use with high school students, as part of a *debate*.

A recent [survey](#) has indicated that despite the mainstream media-amplified clamour around the concept of MAPs (e.g. regarding educators such as [Allyn Walker](#) and [Miranda Galbreath](#)) there is both bipartisan tolerance *and* rejection of the term. [Basic observation](#) of the [MAP Community](#) reveals that the application of accuracy-led, person-centred language to MAPs (including Pedophiles) is not inherently related to so-called “wokism” or social-justice orthodoxy. MAPs come from backgrounds and persuasions as diverse as society itself, and are *not* attempting to [infiltrate the LGBTQ+ community](#) simply by using a [flag](#) – something no movement has a monopoly on. This is despite the LGBTQ+ movement’s [historical ties](#) with MAPs and the fact that some MAPs are *already* members of the LGBTQ+ community by virtue of identifying gay, queer, trans, etc.

Newgon Organization recommends that mainstream media outlets educate their staff on the subject and history of Minor Attracted People, both in political activism and in the scholarly literature. It is through the dissemination of clearly explained, dispassionate information that we will educate the public on this important subject, and avoid the spread of dangerous misinformation, as seen in the recent cases of Amber Parker, Miranda Galbreath and [Allyn Walker](#) – who is now the frequent subject of an [“assassination meme”](#) that runs unchecked on social media. As well as the research anthologies on NewgonWiki, we recommend that readers familiarize themselves with organizations such as [B4U-ACT](#) and for balance, various [preventionist](#) initiatives such as [Prostasia Foundation](#).

*The founders of Newgon Organization were in 2007 the [first to utilize](#) the *exact* term *Minor Attracted Person*, and along with others, played a part in building the discourse.