

Support 4 the Family

Policy Survey for UKIP Leadership Candidates: September 2017

Answers from Anne Marie Waters

Support 4 the Family is an organisation of UKIP members who recognise that the bedrock institution of marriage and family is fundamental to a free and healthy society and, overall, is the best place for the nurture and flourishing of the next generation.



We invite leadership contenders to answer the following questions:

1. For the sake of our children and the healthy nurture of future generations, should UKIP in due course campaign to re-establish the natural definition of marriage as the life-long union of one man with one woman?

No. The wider public is largely unconcerned about this issue and it will create a very negative image of UKIP. It is unfair on people who are now in legal marriages (however you choose to define it, they define it differently) and it would be callous to take that away from them for no good reason. We need to win, and the public will strongly dislike this.

2. As pledged in UKIP's May 2015 manifesto, should the party extend the legal concept of 'reasonable accommodation' to give protection in law to those expressing traditional views about marriage in the workplace?

Yes. People should be able to hold and express any view they like without it affecting their employment. That it does is a great injustice that must be put right.

3. Do you agree that parents and guardians should have the fundamental right to raise their children in their own way?

Yes, but this does not extend to abuse - parents have no right to mutilate their child's body for example, for any reason.

4. Should children at school be taught about the health risks of sexual promiscuity?

Yes, from a factual perspective and teaching should include contraception.

5. Should children at school be taught about the benefits of not having sex outside of marriage, and staying with the same partner for life?

I've no problem with that, but I'm not sure the state-funded school is the place for teachers to impose their views. I have consistently argued this all along.

Note: Questions 6 to 10 are about the Government's plans for Relationships Education.

6. Is our sexual orientation (gay or straight) fixed at birth or not?

Nobody can answer this question, especially heterosexuals! I feel mine was, others feel it wasn't. It is irrelevant in any case: I'm a libertarian and feel adults should live as they see fit as long as they cause no harm to others.

7. At what stage in their education should children be taught about sexual orientation?

- a) pre-school
- b) primary school
- c) secondary school
- d) further education
- e) not at all

If it needs teaching at all (I'm not sure it does), then certainly not before secondary school.

8. Is our gender fixed at birth or not?

Yes I believe so. Male is male and female is female. That children are being taught otherwise, or taught that they can change their sex, amounts to nothing less than child abuse.

9. At what stage should children be taught about gender re-assignment?
(choices are the same as in question 7)

Not at all.

10. Should parents have the right to withdraw their children from lessons at school which are about lifestyle, ethics, morals and relationships, and arrange for these subjects to be taught in a different social context (for example at church), or teach the children themselves in their own way?

Yes.

11. Do you support abortion, and if so, in what circumstances should it be allowed?

- a) when the mother's life is at risk
- b) when the baby is expected to be born with a disability
- c) when the baby has been conceived under conditions of rape
- d) in the early stages of pregnancy, before a specified time limit
- e) when the baby is the wrong gender
- f) any other cause.

"Support abortion" is misleading. Very few people would "support" abortion. There are circumstances however when it is in the best interests of the woman, who is a grown sentient human being with rights. Criminalising abortion would simply send people down alleyways with knitting needles. I feel we should do more to prevent pregnancies occurring in the first place, including teaching young girls to value themselves and their bodies. We must do something about underage sex, but I would not ban or criminalise abortion. However, I would love to see it much reduced and taken more seriously.

12. Should health professionals have the absolute right as a matter of conscience to refuse to participate in abortion, without penalty to career prospects or other adverse consequences?

Yes.

13. Would you be in favour of bringing independent observers into the Family Courts so that they are no longer allowed to operate in secret?

I'd need more details on this.

14. Radical Islam is a threat to the safety and security of society. The causes may be one or more of the following. Please comment on all that you think might apply.

- a) A small minority of people have been radicalised into an extremist ideology called "Islamism" which has got nothing to do with conventional Islam.
- b) People are angry about the war in Iraq and other military interventions.
- c) The Qur'an tells them to kill people.
- d) Any other cause (please specify).

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15. Everybody should be expected to identify themselves in public places, and if they want to cover their faces for religious or other reasons they should do it at home or at other private venues. Do you agree?

I agree very strongly.

Support 4 the Family is an independent voluntary organisation of UKIP members campaigning for traditional family values. If you would like to get involved, see our website: support4thefamily.org