



Written by [Alex Newman](#) on April 16, 2019

Brazilian President Nullifies Homeschooling Ban

From [FreedomProject Media](#):

The new administration of [anti-establishment firebrand Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro](#) just enshrined new protections for homeschooling into federal law, ensuring equal rights for home-educating families. However, a number of concerns have been expressed, including vaccine mandates and a provision that infringes on the right of parents to home educate their children if the students fail government tests two years in a row.



The measure, which was launched by the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights in conjunction with the Ministry of Education, officially protects the human rights of all Brazilian parents to homeschool. The move follows a [radical ruling by the Supreme Court of Brazil](#) last year purporting to outlaw homeschooling in the country unless and until the Brazilian Congress passed laws regulating it.

However, the new measure by the Bolsonaro administration effectively nullifies that decision, paving the way for families across Brazil to leave the government's infamously terrible "education" system. Officials described the policy as necessary to uphold human rights, which have always been understood to include the right of parents to decide what sort of schooling their children ought to receive.

"We understand that it is the right of parents to decide about the education of their children," said Brazilian Minister of Women, Family and Human Rights Damara Alves, one of the lead figures behind the move. "It is a question of human rights. So, this initiative comes out of this ministry under this understanding. It is a question of human rights, too."

But while homeschooling advocates praised the decision, some analysts and activists are expressing serious concerns, too. Brazilian evangelical leader Julio Severo, for example, who has advocated for homeschool freedom for over two decades, highlighted a requirement under the measure that forces parents to show proof to authorities that homeschooled children have received all of their government-mandated vaccines.

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