

April 2, 2025

Vice President J.D. Vance Office of the Vice President The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Vice President Vance,

As a deal regarding TikTok's future in America nears completion, I know you're weighing countless perspectives and considerations. The results of this deal will have a lasting effect and among the most impactful will be the well-being of the next generation. For this reason, I ask that you make the safety of America's children a top priority as you finalize negotiations.

As both a mother and the Executive Director of American Parents Coalition, I have seen how TikTok is a serious threat to the mental and emotional health of America's youth. TikTok is a breeding ground for harmful content, exposing our kids to videos promoting self-harm, eating disorders, and dangerous so-called viral challenges. In fact, according to Center for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH), eight minutes after joining the platform kids are exposed to content promoting eating disorders. It takes less than three minutes for a child to be exposed to content about suicide.

The consequences of TikTok's content have been devastating. TikTok has been exposed for pushing gender and sexuality content to minors, with some users claiming the algorithm "identified their bisexuality before they did." Children have lost their lives after attempting deadly challenges like the "Blackout Challenge" and the "Benadryl Challenge." Moreover, rates of self-harm among elementary and middle school girls (10 to 14-year-olds) have skyrocketed, with *five times* more emergency room visits attributed to self-harm in 2023 compared to 2009.

This is no accident. TikTok's design is deliberate. The Chinese-owned algorithm is being used to endanger our children. TikTok's algorithm preys on vulnerable minds by feeding a steady stream of toxic content, and it often happens without parents realizing it.

In the waning days of your negotiations I ask that you ensure this app has no connection to our country's primary adversary. We cannot allow an adversary to have power akin to controlling all children's television programming combined. TikTok cannot be owned, controlled, or influenced by foreign adversaries, and we must not allow those who wish to see our country fail have the power to manipulate and poison our kids.

This decision is about whether we protect our children or leave them vulnerable to a platform that has already done so much harm. The Trump-Vance Administration has already done so much to protect American families, and I trust that you will deliver once again. I know you believe the safety of our kids is vital to the future of America, and I'm confident that your leadership will continue to prioritize what matters most—our children's future.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to defending American families.

Sincerely,

Alleigh Marré

Alleigh Marré Executive Director American Parents Coalition