**Suggested verbiage:**

Dear Leaders of *Highlights* Magazine:

I have subscribed to Highlights Magazine for the waiting room of my pediatric practice for many years and have recommended it to the parents of my patients because until now it has been a source of educational fun that promoted good character and good health.  I am dismayed to learn that your policy is changing and that you will hereafter promote through inclusion same gender couples.

Same gender sexual behavior has been linked to numerous health risks including infections including Chlamydia trachomatis, Cryptosporidium, Giardia lamblia, Herpes simplex virus, Human immunodeficiency virus, Human papilloma virus, Isospora belli, Microsporidia, Gonorrhea, Neisseria meningitides , Viral hepatitis types A, B & C, Syphilis, typhoid fever, Human Herpes Virus 8 and Kaposi's sarcoma (a type of skin cancer), Anal Cancer, as well as hemorrhoids, anal fissures, anorectal trauma, and retained foreign bodies, and mental risks including depression, drug abuse, and suicide attempts (even in the socially accepting Netherlands).  References are available upon request.

I have heard it argued that some children live in households with same gender parents so we must include these couples to not exclude the children.  But by the same line of reasoning, even more of my patients live with parents who are never seen outside (or even inside) without a cigarette in their hand/mouth, or a can of beer, and *Highlights* has been responsible enough not to show adults smoking or drinking alcohol, thus not sending a message to children that this is healthy behavior.

I do not subscribe to or make available magazines that advertise, promote, or condone smoking or drinking (or non-marital heterosexual sex) and I cannot in good conscience promote or condone same gender sex either.  A physician's office – and a magazine publisher – should promote only healthy behavior. Therefore, I am asking you to reconsider your decision.

If you decide to include same gender couples, then I am canceling my subscription (please refund any credit balance on my account) and will remove all *Highlights* magazines from my office.

Sincerely,