

Dr Darren Henley OBE
Chief Executive
Arts Council England
14 Great Peter Street
London
SW1P 3NQ

30 September 2021

Dear Dr Henley,

We are writing to you to express our grave concern about Art Council funding for the so-called Fatt Projects, a company that organises what are called 'Palaver' performances for children 3-8. One such performance was recently held in the Cambridge Junction theatre. We do not believe that these highly sexualised drag performances constitute suitable entertainment for children so young, many of whom will not even have started school.

The imagery used in these performances is highly sexualised. This can be particularly seen in the lead performer Adam Carver who invariably appears dressed in tight, highly sexual, feminine clothing. On his website Mr Carver describes himself as a '*cultural activist...on a mission to celebrate low-culture and camp and to use them as weapons to disrupt normatively*'. The website contains numerous photos of Mr Carver in sexual poses including one in which he presents in women's lingerie. There is considerable use of the most vulgar sexual language. A photograph of Mr Carver posted on Instagram shows him wearing some form of bondage gear and holding a sex toy. We consider this strange behaviour from a man posing as a children's entertainer. The references to cultural activism and 'weapons to disrupt normatively' are significant and reveal precisely the agenda behind such performances. They are a form of activism and indoctrination masquerading as children's entertainment.

We do not believe that the work of Mr Carver and Fatt Projects are suitable or worthy to receive funding from the Arts Council since they are not so much art but rather as, Mr Carver openly admits, propaganda. We would ask the Council to take seriously our concerns and cease to fund such enterprises in the future.

Yours sincerely



Piers Shepherd
Senior Researcher

T:01784 242340 F:01784 252343 info@familyeducationtrust.org.uk www.familyeducationtrust.org.uk

Trustees: Mrs Sarah Carter ACIM
Arthur Cornell Med F.Coll.P (Chairman)
Martin Doe MSc MIAP MBCS CITP
James Eaton CA CTA (Hon Treasurer)
Dr Julie Maxwell MB BCH MRCPCH
Mrs Gillian White LRAM ARCM

Advisors
Dr Joseph Lim BPharm MRPharmS PhD
Prof. David Paton PhD AFHEA
Mrs Mary Russell
Dr Trevor Stammers MA FRCGP DRCOG

Sponsors
Prof. Brenda Almond MPhil doc.hc (Utrecht)
Professor John Bonnar MA MD FRCOG
Peter Dawson OBE BSc FRSA

The Duke of Montrose
The Baroness O'Cathain OBE
The Viscountess Brentford OBE
Michael McKenzie CB QC