## Rick Santorum barnstorms Iowa with 7 kids in 2 minivans

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## **EXCERPTS**

Rick Santorum told Iowans that early childhood education can be used by socialists, who drill their agenda into impressionable kids to their own and society's detriment.

Former Pennsylvania Senator and current GOP presidential hopeful Santorum was politicking in Iowa and told an assembled group that parents should be in charge of their kids' education. He certainly practices what he preaches.

The Santorum family is stopping in 50 cities in just shy of three weeks. The kids are learning about the family business, spread among Rick's campaign stops and other volunteer efforts nearby. With campaign contributions still difficult to come by, he's using what he has at his disposal.

He hammered his point about early childhood education being a potential breeding ground for socialists-in-training because, "Socialists love children." One can only wonder how that can be viewed as a negative thing since the GOP candidate might also say that Christians love children, or right wing conservatives love children.

The context in which he uttered the phrase, however brings to light the sinister nature of socialists' love of kids. "Of course, the government wants their hands on your children as fast as they can. That is why I opposed all these early starts and pre-early starts, and early-early starts."

Santorum thinks the country needs a leader, presumably him to entice, "parents to demand that the educational establishment in this country start meeting the needs of their child, not children. See, that is the difference. Obviously, socialists love children, just like they love people in groups of one million or more," he said.

Pre-schools that are independent of any school system were lumped into his broad strokes approach, although it's a good assumption that he meant to include only state or community sponsored schooling.

The Des Moines Register covered his town hall meeting in Perry, Iowa where Santorum told the 20 or so in attendance that all his children were "to some extent" home schooled.

The Register reports that only last week there was a state summit on the topic of early childhood education. U.S. Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan attended the gathering and it seems that Iowans aren't debating whether state sponsored classes are a good idea. They are discussing the costs to the state and their affordability.

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