

CULTURAL APOLOGETIC SERIES



Modern Sex Education

**The Indoctrination
of a Generation**

By S. Michael Craven

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This is the fourth booklet in the Cultural Apologetics Series. Others include “Where the Battle Rages: The Sexualizing of America,” “Why Is Marriage Important? The Reasonable Defense of Marriage” and “Thinking Critically, Acting Compassionately: A Christian Perspective on Homosexuality.”

Modern Sex Education

The last four decades have seen a subtle but cataclysmic shift in the philosophy driving modern sex education in America's schools. Prior to the sexual revolution, human biology and reproduction, hygiene, and marriage were the focus of sex education in America's schools. This was an abstinence-until-marriage centered approach. Today that focus has shifted to promote a perspective of sex that is instrumental for individual pleasure and not intrinsic to marriage and procreation. This is the paradigm that has driven so-called "safe-sex" or more recently "abstinence-plus" education.

Furthermore the new emphasis offers no moral distinctions about any sexual behavior; instead the student's "choice," is given the supreme authority and the goal of the curriculum is merely to aid in the safest expression of their choice thus the emphasis on contraception. In fact, when comparing abstinence centered curriculum with its safe-sex counterpart, Robert Rector of the Heritage Foundation points out that "True abstinence curricula devote, on average, 71 percent of their page content to abstinence. In contrast, comprehensive sex ed [safe sex] curricula, on average, allocate only 4.7 percent of their content to abstinence; the overwhelming focus is on encouraging teens to use contraception... The principal message that pervades comprehensive sex education curricula, through repeated example, is that it is okay for teens to have sex as long as they use contraception." ¹

For years many have argued that comprehensive or safe-sex education encourages early sexual activity. The proponents of safe-sex education dismiss these concerns often characterizing those who make these claims as puritanical dolts, out of touch with reality. However, at issue is not education about sex but specifically what kind of education.

In 1986 Planned Parenthood commissioned a poll to determine how “comprehensive” sex education affected behavior. Much to the agency’s dismay, the study showed that kids exposed to such a program had a 47% *higher* rate of sexual activity than those who’d had no sex education at all!² In contrast, a 1996 study on Project Reality’s use of *Choosing the Best* curriculum, indicated a 54% decrease in sexual activity after teens were exposed to the abstinence curriculum.³ Study after study shows that comprehensive sex education leads to experimentation. “There are currently ten evaluations showing that abstinence education is effective in reducing teen sexual activity. Half of these evaluations have been published in peer-reviewed journals.”⁴

From “1971 to 1986 the government spent \$2 billion of taxpayers’ money on sex education. During this same period, the number of girls who became pregnant while using contraceptives rose 266%. There was also a 107% increase in those who had abortions and a 93% increase to those who contracted STDs.”⁵

This morally bankrupt approach has