



Title: Utilization of Comprehensive Sex Education Resources Beyond Abstinence

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- 1 **WHEREAS**, American Academy of Family Physicians endorses opt-out comprehensive sexual education in all states
2 and does not support abstinence-only sexual education,¹ and
- 3 **WHEREAS**, Michigan State Medical Society recognizes that comprehensive sex and reproductive education
4 programs are the most effective in creating positive health outcomes for students,² and
- 5 **WHEREAS**, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists defines comprehensive sex education as “medically
6 accurate, evidence-based, and age-appropriate, and should include the benefits of delaying sexual intercourse, while
7 also providing information about normal reproductive development, contraception (including long-acting reversible
8 contraception methods) to prevent unintended pregnancies, as well as barrier protection to prevent sexually
9 transmitted infections,”³ and
- 10 **WHEREAS**, Michigan Department of Education presents a model curriculum that proposes “abstinence-only” (i.e.,
11 condoms are not discussed as a means of risk reduction) for middle school education and abstinence-
12 based/abstinence-only education for high schoolers,⁴ and
- 13 **WHEREAS**, the Michigan State Board of Education states that abstinence from risky sexual behavior must be
14 stressed as the only certain way to avoid HIV, other sexually transmitted infections, and pregnancy,^{5 6} and
- 15 **WHEREAS**, in 2019, 35.3% of youth in Michigan reported ever engaging in sexual intercourse, and among those
16 who were currently sexually active (24.4% of Michigan youth), 45.2% reported not using a condom during their last
17 sexual intercourse,⁷ and

¹ Adolescent Health Care, Sexuality and Contraception. AAFP. <https://www.aafp.org/about/policies/all/adolescent-sexuality.html>. Accessed May 16, 2021.

² Support Funding for and Access to Comprehensive Sex Education. Michigan State Medical Society. <https://www.msms.org/About-MSMS/House-of-Delegates/Search-Resolutions/Details/1283>. Published 2018. Accessed May 16, 2021.

³ Comprehensive Sexuality Education. Number 678 (Reaffirmed 2020). <https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committeeopinion/articles/2016/11/comprehensive-sexuality-education>. Published November 2016. Accessed May 16, 2021.

⁴ HIV/STD and Sex Education in Michigan Public Schools: A summary of Legal Obligations and Best Practices. Michigan Department of Education. https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/Michigans_Sex_Education_Laws_Summary_303019_7.pdf. Published 2007.

⁵ Current Revised School Code (PA 451 of 1976) and State School Aid Act (PA 94 of 1979) Provisions Regarding the Teaching of HIV/AIDS, Sex Education, Health Education, and Physical Education in Michigan Schools. Legislative Service Bureau: Michigan Legislature. <https://www.legislature.mi.gov>. Published 2019. Accessed May 16, 2021.

⁶ Policy to Promote Health and Prevent Disease and Pregnancy. State of Michigan State Board of Education. <https://www.michigan.gov>. Accessed May 16, 2021.

⁷ High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Michigan 2019 Results. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/>. Accessed May 16, 2021.

18 **WHEREAS**, in 2019, Michigan ranked 18th among the states with the greatest number of chlamydia cases from age
19 15-19, 19th for gonorrhea, and 20th for syphilis,⁸ and

20 **WHEREAS**, the Community Preventive Services Task Force found that comprehensive risk reduction sexual
21 education was associated with a decrease in sexually transmitted infections, HIV, and adolescent pregnancy rates,
22 while data remains inconclusive on the effects of abstinence-based sexual education,⁹ and

23 **WHEREAS**, results from the National Survey of Family Growth revealed a significant decline in the number of
24 adolescents receiving formal comprehensive sex education,¹⁰ and

25 **WHEREAS**, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child affirms the right of all children and adolescents
26 to receive sexual and reproductive health information, education, and services in accordance with their specific
27 needs¹¹; now, therefore, be it

28 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians support and encourage the inclusion and dissemination of
29 comprehensive, evidence-based sexual education resources within Michigan's school sex education curriculum
30 beyond abstinence.

31 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians support and encourage the inclusion and dissemination of
32 comprehensive, evidence-based sexual education resources within Michigan's school-based clinics beyond
33 abstinence.

⁸ NCHHSTP AtlasPlus. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Published 2019. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/atlas/index.htm>. Accessed on September 20, 2020.

⁹ Chin HB, Sipe TA, Elder R, Mercer SL, Chattopadhyay SK, Jacob V, Wethington HR, Kirby D, Elliston DB, Griffith M, Chuke SO, Briss SC, Ericksen I, Galbraith JS, Herbst JH, Johnson RL, Kraft JM, Noar SM, Romero LM, Santelli J. The Effectiveness of Group-Based Comprehensive Risk-Reduction and Abstinence Education Interventions to Prevent or Reduce the Risk of Adolescent Pregnancy, Human Immunodeficiency Virus, and Sexually Transmitted Infections. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amepre.2011.11.006>. Published March 1, 2012. Accessed May 16, 2021.

¹⁰ United Nations Youth: Youth and Comprehensive Sexuality Education. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Published 2013. <https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/documents/youth/fact-sheets/youth-sexuality-education.pdf>. Accessed May 16, 2021.

¹¹ Lindberg LD, Maddow-Zimet I, Boonstra H. Changes in Adolescents' Receipt of Sex Education, 2006-2013. *J Adolesc Health*. 2016 Jun;58(6):621-7. doi: 10.1016/j.jadohealth.2016.02.004. Epub 2016 Mar 29. PMID: 27032487; PMCID: PMC4976485.