



SIECUS PUBLIC POLICY OFFICE

# STATE PROFILE

## MASSACHUSETTS

***Massachusetts received \$2,010,501 in federal funds for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in Fiscal Year 2006.<sup>1</sup>***

### Massachusetts Sexuality Education Law and Policy

Massachusetts does not require sexuality education and instead allows local school boards to make such decisions. In 1990, the Massachusetts Board of Education approved a policy that:

[U]rges local school districts to create programs which make instruction about AIDS/HIV available to every Massachusetts student at every grade level. These programs should be developed in a manner which respects local control over education and involves parents and representatives of the community. The Board believes that AIDS/HIV prevention education is most effective when integrated into a comprehensive health education and human services program.

In addition, the *Massachusetts Comprehensive Health Framework* suggests curricula for schools.

If a community decides to implement sexuality education, it must develop standards with the guidance of community stakeholders, including parents, students, teachers, counseling professionals, health professionals, representatives of local religious groups, and representatives of local social service and health agencies. In addition, the program must be taught in kindergarten through twelfth grade; must discuss HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy, family violence, sound health practices; and must “define sexual orientation using the correct terminology (such as heterosexual and gay and lesbian).”

The school district must also ensure that parents and/or guardians receive notification about the sexuality education policy. Parents may remove their children from any or all of this instruction. This is referred to as an “opt-out” policy.

See General Laws of Massachusetts, Title XII, Chapter 69 Section 1L, Chapter 71, Section 1, Section 32A, and Section 38O; and *Massachusetts Comprehensive Health Framework*.

### Recent Legislation

#### *Legislation Bans Funding for Abstinence Programs*

House Bill 1172, introduced in January 2007, would ban any state agency or political subdivision of Massachusetts from applying for Title V or any other federal grant for abstinence-only education programs. The bill was recently discharged from the Joint Committee on Higher Education and was sent to the Joint Committee on Public Health on March 12, 2007.

**Events of Note***6<sup>th</sup> Grade Book Stirs Rethought**November 2006; Dover, MA*

The Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee is considering banning *So Far from the Bamboo Grove* from schools after parents complained that the book's content was sexually explicit, racist, and inappropriate for the sixth grade classroom.

A Korean-American parent felt that the explicit racist content of the book against Koreans resulted in her son's classmates teasing her son. Another parent thought that a rape scene in the book made it inappropriate reading for sixth graders.

An unofficial review committee including middle school librarians and English teachers has unanimously recommended removing the book from the curriculum. One committee member commented that there wasn't enough time in school to explore the issues raised by the book.<sup>2</sup>

The School Committee is responsible for reviewing the book and making a final decision. SIECUS will continue to monitor the situation.

*Dispute over Presentation of Same-Sex Marriage in Massachusetts Schools**June 2006; Lexington, MA*

Some parents at Joseph Estabrook Elementary School raised concerns after a second-grade teacher read *King and King*, a children's story about a prince who marries another prince and "lives happily ever after," to his students. After reading the book, the teacher told students that in Massachusetts same-sex marriage is now legal.

Parents complained that the students were too young to be exposed to such lessons, and other parents demanded that the school send notification letters home informing them when homosexuality will be discussed in the classroom. "My son is only seven years old," one Lexington parent complained. "By presenting this kind of issue at such a young age, they're trying to indoctrinate our children. They're intentionally presenting this as a norm, and it's not a value that our family supports."<sup>3</sup>

The Lexington School District Superintendent said that schools are committed to "teaching children about the world they live in."<sup>4</sup>

*Parents Sue School for Absence of Sex Education**February 2006; Boston, MA*

Parents of a former Milton Academy student expelled for statutory rape are suing the school for not providing its students with adequate and accurate information about appropriate sexual behavior. The parents claim that the school failed to carry out its role of supervising and protecting students *in loco parentis*, and as a result condoned an "anything goes" attitude towards sex. They fault Milton for failing to include specific rules and guidelines for student sexual behavior in the Upper School Handbook.

According to the parents' suit, underage sex happens "all over [Milton's] campus, day and night."<sup>5</sup> The student was also encouraged to sign incriminating statements without his parents or lawyer present. The parents are demanding that the expulsion be expunged from their son's transcript.

*Governor Changes Use of Title V Funds**2005; Boston, MA*

Former Governor Mitt Romney ignored a legislative veto in an effort to change the way that Massachusetts spends Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage funding. Since the funding began,

Massachusetts had used its Title V funds for a media campaign. Governor Romney's proposal, however, requires the Massachusetts Department of Health to fund in-classroom instruction.

Governor Romney initially proposed this change to the Massachusetts legislature, which overwhelmingly rejected it. The proposal was rejected 105 to 44 in the Massachusetts House and by a voice vote in the Senate.<sup>6</sup> The Governor vetoed that rejection, but the session ended without the legislature voting on his veto. The lack of a vote effectively killed the proposal. Nonetheless, the Governor disregarded this and changed the way the funds are used.

Many of the lawmakers who voted against the proposal were concerned that the funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage instruction would encourage schools to replace their existing comprehensive programs. Legislators were also concerned about the restrictive nature of the funding, including the emphasis placed on the failure rates of contraception.

According to the President/CEO of Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts, "Federal funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs is putting Massachusetts teens at risk. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts should have the flexibility to use its portion of these funds in ways that promote abstinence without discouraging condom use. It is disappointing that Governor Romney is putting ideology before the health of our state's young people by ignoring the scientific evidence and peer-reviewed studies that show these programs do not work."<sup>7</sup>

*Father Arrested at Elementary School in Protest Over Book on Diversity  
April 2005; Lexington, MA*

The father of a five-year-old at Joseph Estabrook School in Lexington, MA, was arrested after he refused to leave the school in protest of a book his son had brought home about diverse families. The book, *Who's In a Family?* by Robert Skutch, depicts different kinds of families, including same-sex couples with children.

The book was part of a bag of books on foreign cultures and traditions that the school sent home with students for them to read with their families. The co-president of the Estabrook Parent-Teacher Association said that parents received notice about the book bag at the beginning of the year and the bag's contents were displayed at a back-to-school night earlier in the school year.

However, the father said he and his wife were never told about the bag of books. When his son came home with the books, he became concerned and arranged a meeting with the school principal and district director of information, where he demanded that the school notify both him and his wife about any classroom discussions involving same-sex marriage and other "adult themes."<sup>8</sup> He asked that their son be removed from any such discussions, even if they arose spontaneously.<sup>9</sup> The father explained that he wanted to control "the timing and manner" in which his son learned about "adult themes." His wife explained, "We're not giving unfettered access to the psyche of our son when he enters the school."<sup>10</sup>

When the administration would not agree with his demands, the father refused to leave the school. After several hours, he was arrested for trespassing and spent the night in jail. He refused to post bail for himself, saying he wanted to stay in custody to prove a point. He was released and ordered to stay off Lexington school property until his court case.

After his release, the father explained that, "because of the same-sex [marriage] law, people are treating it as a mandate to teach the youngest children. It is not a mandate to teach the youngest of children, particularly if parents say, 'Hold on, I want to be the gatekeeper of the information.'"<sup>11</sup>

The Lexington School Committee chairman defended the school's policy. "We don't view telling a child that there is a family out there with two mommies as teaching about homosexuality, heterosexuality, or any kind of sexuality....We are teaching about the realities of where different children come from."<sup>12</sup>

*Condom Availability Program Comes Under Fire**October 2004; Holyoke, MA*

The Holyoke, MA school system came under fire from the Roman Catholic Bishop of Springfield for a decision to institute a program to make condoms available at school for sixth through twelfth grade students. The school committee decided to adopt the program in an effort to curb the city's high teen birth rates of 82 births per 1,000 teen girls. This is the highest in the state, which has a rate of 23 births per 1,000 teen girls.<sup>13</sup> The school committee first voted to revise its health education curriculum and give sexuality education a higher priority. More recently, the school decided to institute the condom availability program.

The program will be piloted in the high schools and will be extended to sixth through eighth grade if it is deemed successful. Students wishing to receive condoms will need to speak to a nurse who will explain pregnancy, AIDS, abstinence, and that condoms are not 100% effective.

A letter was sent home to parents, who will have the option of preventing their children from obtaining condoms. A school physician and interim director of health education for the Holyoke schools described the need for the program and said, "We had to do something to combat what we were seeing."<sup>14</sup>

Not everyone agrees with the school's new program, however. Several members of the school committee voiced opposition and voted to limit the program. The latest opposition comes from the Roman Catholic Bishop of Springfield, who argued that that the school system is "an endorser and an enabler of early adolescent sex."<sup>15</sup> In a statement, he said, "I am profoundly disappointed and disturbed" and that school officials are reducing sex to "meaningless self-gratification."<sup>16</sup> Despite the opposition, the school intends to go forward with the program.

**Massachusetts's Youth: Statistical Information of Note<sup>17</sup>**

- In 2005, 43% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students in Massachusetts reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 2% of female high school students and 8% of male high school students in Massachusetts reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 9% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 11% of female high school students and 15% of male high school students in Massachusetts reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 17% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 35% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students in Massachusetts reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 59% of females and 72% of males in Massachusetts reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 56% of females and 70% of males nationwide.

- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 30% of females and 19% of males in Massachusetts reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 15% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 20% of females and 26% of males in Massachusetts reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, 93% of high school students in Massachusetts reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.
- In 2000, Massachusetts's abortion rate was 26 per 1,000 women ages 15–19 compared to a teen abortion rate of 24 per 1,000 nationwide.<sup>18</sup>
- In 2004, Massachusetts's birth rate was 22 per 1,000 women ages 15–19 compared to a teen birth rate of 41 per 1,000 nationwide.<sup>19</sup>

*Boston, Massachusetts*

- In 2005, 46% of female high school students and 64% of male high school students in Boston, Massachusetts reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 4% of female high school students and 19% of male high school students in Boston, Massachusetts reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 9% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 11% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students in Boston, Massachusetts reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 17% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 35% of female high school students and 42% of male high school students in Boston, Massachusetts reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 68% of females and 81% of males in Boston, Massachusetts reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 56% of females and 70% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 16% of females and 10% of males in Boston, Massachusetts reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 15% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 15% of females and 18% of males in Boston, Massachusetts reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 28% of males nationwide.

- In 2005, 83% of high school students in Boston, Massachusetts reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.

### **Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding**

Massachusetts received \$712,241 in federal Title V funding in Fiscal Year 2006. The Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage grant requires states to provide three state-raised dollars or the equivalent in services for every four federal dollars received. The state match may be provided in part or in full by local groups. Massachusetts provides \$534,181 in matching funds.

Massachusetts funds two sub-grantees: A Woman's Concern and Geovision, Inc. In 2006, former Governor Mitt Romney announced that a portion of the Title V funding would be given to A Woman's Concern crisis pregnancy center for its abstinence-only-until-marriage program, *Healthy Futures*. Romney explained, "We teach sex education, but there's no portion of sex education which talks about the advantages of waiting."<sup>20</sup> Prior to this Title V funding in Massachusetts was only used for the state's abstinence media campaign. (See the CBAE and AFLA section for more information about A Woman's Concern.)

According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's (MDPH) website, from 1998–2004 MDPH used the money to run a media campaign with the main message of "You don't have to do it." This media campaign targeted males and females ages 10–14, males ages 15–17, and parents of teenagers. The goals of the campaign were to increase parent-child communication, encourage youth to delay the onset of sexual activity, and educate young men about the risks of early sexual activity. It is unclear if the campaign is on-going.

### **Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE) and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees**

There are two CBAE grantees in Massachusetts: Catholic Social Services of Fall River and A Women's Concern (which receives two grants) with locations throughout Massachusetts. There is one AFLA grantee in Massachusetts: Boston Medical Center.

A Woman's Concern runs several crisis pregnancy centers that use misleading information to pressure women into choosing not to have abortions. For example, in its *Abortion Health and Safety Checklist* the organization states that "Up to 50% of post-abortive women report experiencing emotional and psychological disturbances..."<sup>21</sup> However, there is no sound scientific evidence linking abortion to subsequent mental health problems, termed "post-abortion stress syndrome" by anti-abortion groups. Neither the American Psychological Association nor the American Psychiatric Association recognize "post-abortion stress syndrome" as a legitimate medical condition.<sup>22</sup> Nonetheless, abortion opponents often refer to studies that have been found to have severe methodological flaws or that cite anecdotal evidence of this condition in an effort to scare women out of exercising their right to choose.

The agency also uses ultrasound "photos and models of babies in utero, giving the woman a way to picture her own unborn child" in order to help women "to reconsider elective abortions."<sup>23</sup> The American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM), Society for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS), American College of Radiology (ACR) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) all discourage the use of ultrasound machines for the non-medical, non-diagnostic purpose of manipulating a patient's decision.<sup>24</sup>

In 2006, the former medical director of A Woman's Concern, Eric Keroack, was appointed to the Office of Population Affairs in Health and Human Services as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population

Affairs in 2006. This appointment put Dr. Keroack in charge of \$283 million in annual family-planning grants that are “designed to provide access to contraceptive supplies and information.”<sup>25</sup> However, under Dr. Keroack’s leadership, A Woman’s Concern did not believe that women should have access to birth control. It has stated that “the crass commercialization and distribution of birth control is demeaning to women, degrading of human sexuality and adverse to human health and happiness.”<sup>26</sup> In April 2007, Dr. Keroack resigned from his position at the Office of Population Affairs following notification by the Massachusetts Medicaid office that it had launched an investigation into Keroack’s private practice.<sup>27</sup> The Board of Registration in Medicine also issued warnings to Keroack based on a complaint that he had overmedicated a patient, prescribing her powerful psychotherapeutic drugs, and had “brainwashed” the patient into believing she was “severely depressed.”<sup>28</sup>

A Woman’s Concern has a website with a “Questions” section. The answer to the question, “If you aren’t religious, why wouldn’t you have sex before you’re married?” states, “Regardless of their spiritual beliefs, the healthiest choice for anyone is to wait until they are in a faithful, lifelong relationship to have sex. Outside of that relationship, there are risks associated with sex, including STDs, unplanned pregnancy, and intense emotions that can make it hard when the relationship ends. Without a formal commitment like marriage, relationships have some level of insecurity because either person can leave at any time.”<sup>29</sup>

A Woman’s Concern created its abstinence program, *Healthy Futures*, in 2002 and currently offers it free to schools. *Healthy Futures* is the largest abstinence-only-until-marriage program in Massachusetts.<sup>30</sup> Governor Mitt Romney announced in 2006 that almost \$1 million dollars would go to A Woman’s Concern’s *Healthy Futures*.<sup>31</sup> According to its website, *Healthy Futures* has conducted the program in more than 30 Massachusetts schools.<sup>32</sup>

Before receiving this grant, A Woman’s Concern’s abstinence-only-until-marriage program was privately funded by the Gerard Health Foundation. Ray Neary, director of education for the Gerard Health Foundation and former director of Massachusetts Citizens for Life, told *Massachusetts News* that his job was to introduce abstinence-only-until-marriage programs to Massachusetts schools and “help rid the state of those sex education courses that really promote unbridled sex.”<sup>33</sup>

#### Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs in FY 2006

<b>Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee</b>	<b>Amount of Grant</b>	<b>Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, AFLA, and other funds)</b>
Length of Grant Massachusetts Department of Public Health <a href="http://www.mass.gov/dph">www.mass.gov/dph</a>	\$712,241 federal \$534,181 state	Title V

**MASSACHUSETTS**

<b>Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee</b>	<b>Amount of Grant</b>	<b>Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, AFLA, and other funds)</b>
<b>Length of Grant</b>		
A Woman's Concern  TRIPLE GRANTEE  2003–2006  TRIPLE GRANTEE  2006–2011  <a href="http://www.awomansconcern.org">www.awomansconcern.org</a>	\$138,067  \$488,434  \$600,000	Title V sub-grantee  CBAE  CBAE
Geovision, Inc.  <a href="http://www.geovisiononline.com">www.geovisiononline.com</a>	\$50,000	Title V sub-grantee
Boston Medical Center  2004–2009  <a href="http://www.bmc.org">www.bmc.org</a>	\$209,826	AFLA

**Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Coordinator**

Samuel Louis, MPH  
 Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
 250 Washington St.  
 Boston, MA 02108  
 Phone: (617) 624-5905

**Massachusetts Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

ACLU of Massachusetts 211 Congress St., 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02110 Phone: (617) 482-3170 <a href="http://www.aclu-mass.org">www.aclu-mass.org</a>	AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts 294 Washington St., 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02108 Phone: (617) 437-6200 <a href="http://www.aac.org">www.aac.org</a>
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## MASSACHUSETTS

Greater Boston National Organization for  
Women  
1105 Commonwealth Ave.  
Boston, MA 02215  
Phone: (617) 254-9130  
[www.bostonnow.org](http://www.bostonnow.org)

Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political  
Caucus  
P.O. Box 246, State House  
Boston, MA 02133  
Phone: (617) 248-0776  
[www.mglpc.org](http://www.mglpc.org)

Planned Parenthood League of  
Massachusetts  
1055 Commonwealth Ave.  
Boston, MA 02215  
Phone: (617) 616-1660  
[www.plannedparenthood.org/ma/](http://www.plannedparenthood.org/ma/)

Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy  
105 Chauncy St., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02111  
Phone: (617) 482-9122  
[www.massteenpregnancy.org](http://www.massteenpregnancy.org)

NARAL Pro-Choice Massachusetts  
41 Winter St., Suite 65  
Boston, MA 02108  
Phone: (617) 556-8800  
[www.prochoicemass.org](http://www.prochoicemass.org)

Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice  
Massachusetts  
P.O. Box 1129  
Brookline, MA 02446  
Phone: (617) 522-2964  
[www.rcrcofma.org](http://www.rcrcofma.org)

### **Massachusetts Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

MA Family Institute  
381 Elliot St.  
Newton, MA 02464  
Phone: (617) 928-0800  
[www.mafamily.org](http://www.mafamily.org)

Operation Rescue: Boston  
P.O. Box 870037  
Milton Village, MA 02187  
Phone: (781) 849-6026  
[www.orboston.org](http://www.orboston.org)

MA Citizens for Life  
The Schrafft Center  
529 Main St.  
Boston, MA 02129  
Phone: (617) 242-4199  
[www.masscitizensforlife.org](http://www.masscitizensforlife.org)

### **Newspapers in Massachusetts**

*The Atlantic Monthly*  
James Fallows  
National News Correspondent  
77 N. Washington St.  
Boston, MA 02114  
Phone: (202) 333-9211

*Boston Globe*  
Beth Daley  
Health & Medicine Reporter  
135 William T. Morrissey Blvd.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: (617) 929-3043

M A S S A C H U S E T T S

*Boston Globe*  
Judy Foreman  
Health & Medicine Columnist  
4 Brattle St., Suite 301  
Cambridge, MA 21388  
Phone: (617) 234-4433

*Boston Globe*  
Gideon Gil  
Health & Medicine Editor  
135 William T. Morrissey Blvd.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: (617) 929-3242

*Boston Globe*  
Liz Kowalczyk  
Health & Medicine Reporter  
135 William T. Morrissey Blvd.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: (617) 929-7850

*Boston Globe*  
Susan Milligan  
Congress Reporter  
1130 Connecticut Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 857-5143

*Boston Herald*  
Kimberly Atkins  
Education Reporter  
300 Harrison Ave.  
Boston, MA 02118  
Phone: (617) 619-6469

*Boston Metro*  
Education Editor  
320 Congress St.  
Boston, MA 02210  
Phone: (617) 210-7905

*Cape Cod Times*  
George Brennan  
Education Reporter  
319 Main St.  
Hyannis, MA 02601  
Phone: (508) 888-5454

*Boston Globe*  
Marie Franklin  
Education Reporter  
135 William T. Morrissey Blvd.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: (617) 929-2949

*Boston Globe*  
Carey Goldberg  
Health & Medicine Reporter  
135 William T. Morrissey Blvd.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: (617) 929-3077

*Boston Globe*  
Barbara Meltz  
Family & Parenting Columnist  
135 William T. Morrissey Blvd.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: (617) 929-3006

*Boston Globe*  
Michael Paulson  
Religion Editor  
P.O. Box 55819  
Boston, MA 02205  
Phone: (617) 929-3050

*Boston Herald*  
Michael Lasalandra  
Medical/Health Writer  
300 Harrison Ave.  
Boston, MA 02118  
Phone: (617) 619-6613

*The Boston Phoenix*  
Education Editor  
126 Brookline Ave.  
Boston, MA 02215  
Phone: (617) 536-5390

*The Eagle-Tribune*  
Shawn Boburg  
Education Reporter  
100 Turnpike St.  
North Andover, MA 01845  
Phone: (978) 946-2209

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*MetroWest Daily News*  
Charlie Breitrose  
Education Reporter  
33 New York Ave.  
Framingham, MA 01701  
Phone: (617) 626-4407

*The Patriot Ledger*  
Ken Johnson  
City Editor  
400 Crown Colony Dr.  
Quincy, MA 02169  
Phone: (617) 786-7074

*The Republican*  
James Gillen  
City Editor  
1860 Main St.  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Phone: (413) 788-1303

*Telegram & Gazette*  
Jacqueline Reis  
Education Reporter  
20 Franklin St.  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Phone: (508) 793-9292

*Telegram & Gazette*  
Karen Webber  
Health & Medicine Editor  
20 Franklin St.  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Phone: (508) 793-9232

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<sup>1</sup> This refers to the fiscal year for the federal government which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The fiscal year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends; for example, Fiscal Year 2006 begins on October 1, 2005 and ends on September 30, 2006.

<sup>2</sup> Lisa Kocijan, “6<sup>th</sup>-Grade Book Stirs Rethinking,” *The Boston Globe*, 12 November 2006, accessed 14 November 2006, <[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/11/12/6th\\_grade\\_book\\_stirs\\_rethinking?mode=PF](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/11/12/6th_grade_book_stirs_rethinking?mode=PF)>.

<sup>3</sup> Michael Foust, “Massachusetts 2<sup>nd</sup>-Grade Teacher Reads Class ‘Gay Marriage’ Book; Administrator Backs Her,” *Baptist Press*, 20 April 2006, accessed 24 April 2006, <<http://www.sbcbpypress.org/bpnews.asp?ID=23077>>.

<sup>4</sup> Margo Williams, “New Disputes Over Gay Books Erupts at Massachusetts School,” *365Gay.com*, 20 April 2006, accessed 21 April 2006, <<http://www.365gay.com/Newscon06/04/042006book.htm>>.

<sup>5</sup> Eileen McNamara, “Talk Sense About Sex,” *Boston Globe*, 1 February 2006, accessed 1 February 2006, <[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/02/01/talk\\_sense\\_about\\_sex](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/02/01/talk_sense_about_sex/)>.

<sup>6</sup> Michael Levenson, “Proposal to Use Abstinence Funds in Schools Fails,” *Boston Globe*, 10 March 2005, accessed 11 March 2005, <[http://www.boston.com/news/globe](http://www.boston.com/news/globe/)>.

<sup>7</sup> Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts, “Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts Criticizes Romney Decision That Will Put Massachusetts Teens At Risk,” Press Release published 25 February 2005, accessed 11 March 2005, <[http://www.pplm.org/Facts/rf\\_fact/pr\\_2005\\_02\\_25.htm](http://www.pplm.org/Facts/rf_fact/pr_2005_02_25.htm)>.

<sup>8</sup> Maria Cramer and Ralph Ranalli, “Arrested Father Had Point to Make; Disputed School’s Lessons on Diversity,” *Boston Globe*, 29 April 2005, B1.

<sup>9</sup> Laura Crimaldi, “Lexington School Calls Cops on Dad Irate Over Gay Book,” *Boston Herald*, 28 April 2005, 4.

<sup>10</sup> Cramer and Ranalli.

<sup>11</sup> “Man Arrested After Dispute Over Gay Lifestyle Teachings Pleads Innocent,” *Associated Press*, 28 April 2005, accessed on Lexis-Nexis, 1 May 2006.

<sup>12</sup> Cramer and Ranalli.

<sup>13</sup> “N.E. Editorial Roundup,” *Associated Press*, 9 October 2004, accessed on Lexis-Nexis, 26 November 2004.

<sup>14</sup> David Abel, “Bishop Attacks School Condom Plan,” *Boston Globe*, 26 October 2004, accessed 26 November 2004, <[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2004/10/26/bishop\\_attacks\\_school\\_condom\\_plan](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2004/10/26/bishop_attacks_school_condom_plan/)>.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

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<sup>17</sup> Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2005," *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 55, no. SS-5 (9 June 2006): 1-108, accessed 26 January 2007, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>.

<sup>18</sup> *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics: Overall Trends, Trends by Race and Ethnicity and State-by-State Information* (New York: The Guttmacher Institute, February 2004), accessed 26 January 2007, <<http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/2006/09/12/USTPstats.pdf>>.

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