



## SOUTH DAKOTA

*South Dakota received \$659,257 in federal funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in Fiscal Year 2004.<sup>1</sup>*

### **South Dakota Sexuality Education Law**

South Dakota law does not require schools to teach sexuality education. Instead, the decision is left up to local school boards. However, schools are required to teach “character development instruction,” which includes sexual abstinence.

South Dakota does not have a policy by which parents or guardians are notified or can remove their children from sexuality education classes.

See South Dakota Statute 13-33-6.1.

### **Recent Legislation**

*Bill Would Require Health Education to be Medically Accurate and Objective*

Introduced in January 2005 and referred to the Senate Committee on Education, Senate Bill 166 would require that all school districts that provide health education ensure that the information is “factual and medically accurate and objective.” Medically accurate and objective are defined as “verified or supported by research conducted in compliance with scientific methods and published in peer-reviewed journals, if appropriate, and recognized as accurate and objective by leading professional medical organizations and agencies with expertise in the relevant fields.”

### **Events of Note**

SIECUS is not aware of any recent events related to sexuality education in South Dakota.

### **South Dakota’s Youth: Statistical Information of Note<sup>2</sup>**

- In 2003, 43% of female high school students and 40% of male high school students in South Dakota reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 45% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 3% of female high school students and 6% of male high school students in South Dakota reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.

- In 2003, 9% of female high school students and 14% of male high school students in South Dakota reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 11% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 32% of female high school students and 28% of male high school students in South Dakota reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of females and 34% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 32% of females and 36% of males in South Dakota reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 30% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 55% of females and 70% of males in South Dakota reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 57% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 31% of females and 17% of males in South Dakota reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, 2% of female high school students and 3% of male high school students in South Dakota reported ever having been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant compared to 5% of female high school students and 4% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 88% of high school students in South Dakota reported having been taught about HIV/AIDS in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, teens ages 15-19 accounted for 39% of the 2,606 total cases of Chlamydia reported in South Dakota.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2003, teens ages 15-19 accounted for 28% of the 226 total cases of gonorrhea reported in South Dakota.<sup>4</sup>
- In 2000, South Dakota's abortion rate was 7 per 1,000 women ages 15-19 compared to a teen abortion rate of 24 per 1,000 nationwide.<sup>5</sup>
- In 2002, South Dakota's birth rate was 38 per 1,000 women ages 15-19 compared to a teen birth rate of 43 per 1,000 nationwide.<sup>6</sup>

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

South Dakota received \$139,295 in federal Title V funding in Fiscal Year 2004. 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 can be provided in part or in full by local groups. In South Dakota, the federal funding is matched by approximately

\$25,000 in state funds. The remainder of the match comes from sub-grantees. The South Dakota Department of Health oversees the funding.

In 2004, South Dakota granted Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage funding to five groups: the Minn-la-Kota Girl Scouts Council in Sioux Falls, the Northern Hills Pregnancy Care Center in Spearfish, the Abstinence Clearinghouse in Sioux Falls, Youth and Family Services in Rapid City, and Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA) in Mitchell.

The Abstinence Clearinghouse uses its Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage funding to provide its *Truth for Youth* program in 25 schools or communities in the eastern half of South Dakota. This program focuses on youth ages 15-17.

The Northern Hill Pregnancy Center is a crisis pregnancy center. Its website includes biased information such as the following list of the physical and emotional “aftermath” of abortion<sup>7</sup>:

Physical:

- Excessive bleeding, may require blood transfusions
- Perforated uterus or damage to other organs
- Chronic and acute infections
- Intense pain
- Incomplete removal of baby or placenta
- High fever, convulsions, shock, coma
- Increase in miscarriages, ectopic (tubal) pregnancies, premature births, and stillbirths
- Irregular pap smears; breast cancer
- Infertility
- Death

Emotional:

- Inability to tolerate the sound of a vacuum cleaner or dentist’s drill, because it sounds like the suction machine
- Depression; mental breakdown
- Fear of punishment from God
- Thoughts of suicide<sup>8</sup>

**Special Projects of Regional and National Significance–Community Based Abstinence Education (SPRANS–CBAE)<sup>9</sup> and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees**

South Dakota has one SPRANS–CBAE grantee: the Alpha Center. South Dakota has one AFLA grantee: Rural American Initiative.

The Alpha Center was founded and is run by Leslee Unruh, the founder of the Abstinence Clearinghouse. The Alpha Center’s website includes misleading information about emergency contraception and abortion. Among other things, the website states that if a woman has a medical abortion, “The resulting emotional distress may have even more impact. Rather than being ‘over with’ in a few minutes (as in a surgical abortion) this abortion could last for over a week. Then, when the woman finally does abort, she will expel a tiny dead baby.”<sup>10</sup> According to the National Abortion Federation, at the gestational age at which medical abortions are performed, an embryo is the size of a grain of rice. The website also states that emergency contraception can cause infertility. There is no medical evidence supporting this statement.

SOUTH DAKOTA

**Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs in FY 2004**

<b>Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee</b>  <b>Length of Grant</b>	<b>Amount of Grant</b>	<b>Type of Grant</b> <b>(includes SPRANS–CBAE, Title V, and AFLA)</b>
South Dakota Department of Health  <a href="http://www.state.sd.us/doh/Abstinence/index.htm">www.state.sd.us/doh/Abstinence/index.htm</a>	\$139,295 federal \$25,000 state	Title V
Abstinence Clearinghouse  <a href="http://www.abstinence.net">www.abstinence.net</a>	\$38,619	Title V sub-grantee
Girl Scouts of Nyoda Council	\$20,000	Title V sub-grantee
Growing Up Together	\$25,061	Title V sub-grantee
Minn-la-Kota Girl Scouts  <a href="http://www.gsmik.org/html/outreach.html">www.gsmik.org/html/outreach.html</a>	\$11,731	Title V sub-grantee
Northern Hills Pregnancy Center  <a href="http://www.pregnancy-center.org">www.pregnancy-center.org</a>	\$26,513	Title V sub-grantee
Youth and Family Services	\$45,946	Title V sub-grantee
Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA)	\$5,218	Title V sub-grantee
Alpha Center  2004-2007	\$294,962	SPRANS–CBAE (Implementation Grant)
Rural American Initiatives  2004-2005	\$225,000	AFLA

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

Sherrie Fines  
South Dakota Department of Health  
615 4th St.  
Pierre, SD 57501  
Phone: (605) 773-3737

**South Dakota Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

ACLU of the Dakotas  
Manchester Building  
112 N. University Dr., Suite 301  
Fargo, ND 58102  
Phone: (701) 461-7290

NARAL Pro-Choice South Dakota  
401 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 330G  
Sioux Falls, SD 57103  
Phone: (605) 334-5065  
[www.sdnaral.org](http://www.sdnaral.org)

Planned Parenthood of Minnesota/  
South Dakota  
1200 Lagoon Ave. South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
Phone: (612) 825-2777  
[www.ppmsd.org](http://www.ppmsd.org)

**South Dakota Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

Abstinence Clearinghouse  
801 E. 41<sup>st</sup> St.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
Phone: (888) 577-2966  
[www.abstinence.net](http://www.abstinence.net)

Catholic Social Services  
(Crisis Pregnancy Services)  
918 Fifth St.  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
Phone: (605) 348-6086

South Dakota Family Policy Council  
PO Box 88007  
Sioux Falls, SD 57109  
Phone: (605) 335-8100  
[www.sdfamily.org](http://www.sdfamily.org)

South Dakota Right to Life  
PO Box 1032  
Pierre, SD 57501  
Phone: (605) 224-9181

**Newspapers in South Dakota**

*Aberdeen American News*  
Jeff Bahr  
Medical/Health Editor  
124 S. 2nd St.  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
Phone: (605) 622-2320

*Argus Leader*  
Kevin Dobbs  
Medical/Health Reporter  
200 S. Minnesota Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
Phone: (605) 331-3924

*Black Hills Pioneer*  
Wendy Pitlick  
Community News Reporter  
315 Seaton Cir.  
Spearfish, SD 57783  
Phone: (605) 642-2761

*Brookings Register*  
Assignment Editor  
312 5th St.  
Brookings, SD 57006  
Phone: (605) 692-6271

*Capital Journal*  
Assignment Editor  
333 W. Dakota Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501  
Phone: (605) 224-7301

*The Daily Republic*  
Assignment Editor  
120 S. Lawler St.  
Mitchell, SD 57301  
Phone: (605) 996-5514

*Huron Plainsman*  
Roger Kasa  
Community News Reporter  
49 3rd St. SE  
Huron, SD 57350  
Phone: (605) 352-4942

*Rapid City Journal*  
Barbara Tomovick  
Community News Editor  
507 Main St.  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
Phone: (605) 394-8403

*Watertown Public Opinion*  
Assignment Editor  
120 3rd Ave. NW  
Watertown, SD 57200  
Phone: (605) 886-6901

*Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan*  
Assignment Editor  
319 Walnut St.  
Yankton, SD 57078  
Phone: (605) 665-7811

<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 2004 begins on October 1, 2003 and ends on September 30, 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Jo Anne Grunbaum, et. al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2003," *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 53.SS-2 (21 May 2004): 1-95, accessed 28 January 2005, <<http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbs/>>.

<sup>3</sup> *Sexually Transmitted Disease Statistics: Chlamydia by Age and Gender, 2003*, South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Disease Prevention (3 February 2005), accessed 7 February 2005, <<http://www.state.sd.us/doh/Disease/stdstats.htm>>.

<sup>4</sup> *Sexually Transmitted Disease Statistics: Gonorrhea by Age and Gender, 2003*, South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Disease Prevention (3 February 2005), accessed 7 February 2005, <<http://www.state.sd.us/doh/Disease/stdstats.htm>>.

<sup>5</sup> *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics: Overall Trends, Trends by Race and Ethnicity and State-by-State Information* (New York: Alan Guttmacher Institute, February, 2004), accessed 28 January 2005, <[www.guttmacher.org](http://www.guttmacher.org)>.

<sup>6</sup> *National Vital Statistics Reports 52.10* (Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, 2003), 48, accessed 4 February 2005, <<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/births.htm#stat%20tables>>.

<sup>7</sup> *About the Aftermath*, The Pregnancy Center (2004), accessed 18 February 2005, <<http://www.pregnancy-center.org/help.htm>>.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> In FY 2004 SPRANS–CBAE was administered within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. In FY 2005 this funding stream was moved to HHS' Administration for Children and Families and is now referred to simply as Community Based Abstinence Education (CBAE).

<sup>10</sup> *Abortion Procedure*, The Alpha Center, accessed 9 February 2005, <<http://www.alphacenter.org/answers/abortions.php>>.