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A year ago, I received a letter from the Great Kreskin asking for my predictions about sexuality in the next millennium. It was a challenge. It’s hard to imagine what people in the year 1000 would have thought about birth control pills, Viagra, cybersex, the woman’s movement, and transsexual surgery.

Yogi Berra is credited with saying that “prediction is very hard, especially when it’s about the future.” Given the pace of change in our world, it seems futile to predict what will happen in 100 years much less 1,000. But, as I reviewed the articles for this issue, I felt that I could safely make some predictions for the next decade. Here are my top ten:

1. **The number of U.S. teenagers having sexual intercourse will level off to approximately 50 percent.** Birth rates among teens will continue to decline. According to current data, the percentage of high school age teenagers reporting ever having had intercourse has declined from a high of 54 percent in 1990 to a new low of 48 percent in 1997. These rates are still considerably higher than 1971 when only 30 percent of female high school aged students ever had intercourse. Despite abstinence-only-until-marriage programs, the rates of intercourse among high school teenagers are unlikely to continue to drop. Yet birth rates will continue to decline due to increased effective contraceptive use and an improved economy. Birth rates for 15- to 17-year-olds have declined 21 percent since 1991 and are now at their lowest level since 1986. Nevertheless, these birth rates are still considerably higher than other developed countries with similar teen intercourse rates.

2. **Evaluations will show that young virgins participating in abstinence-only-until-marriage programs will experience a modest delay of three to six months in having intercourse.** I am absolutely convinced that these abstinence-only-until-marriage programs will not increase the number of people who are virgins when they get married, their presumed objective. In addition, these programs will not change the sexual intercourse rates of teens who have already had intercourse. Unfortunately, both groups will likely not use contraception and condoms when they do become sexually experienced as compared to young people who have had a more comprehensive sexuality education program. There are only six studies in the professional literature that evaluate abstinence-only programs, and none of them have found consistent and significant program effects on delaying the onset of intercourse. It certainly seems possible that some of the new programs will report very modest changes in teens’ actual sexual behavior, but it is unlikely that such behavior will be sustained over time. At least one study suggests that teens who receive abstinence-only education may actually be more likely to have unprotected intercourse than young people who receive comprehensive sexuality education.

3. **The abstinence-only-until-marriage program will be reauthorized by Congress in 2002.** Politics, not science, will continue to guide this program. The abstinence-only-until-marriage program is popular in communities and in Congress despite the fact that 70 percent of adults object to its denying young people information about contraception and STD prevention. Texas Governor George W. Bush has spoken out in favor of more support for this program, and Congress has added $22 million for abstinence-only-until-marriage education in the Adolescent Family Life Program for fiscal year 2001. It seems highly likely that Congress will reauthorize the program in 2002 regardless of its evaluation. Advocates for sexuality education must work to remove some of the most damaging provisions of the law.

4. **Sexuality education programs in schools will be more prevalent, less controversial, and integrated into other topics.** Still, these programs will primarily focus on puberty, pregnancy, HIV, and STD prevention. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services conducted a study in 1997 that found that 96 percent of women 18 to 19 years old reported having had sexuality education, compared to 51 percent of women 40 to 44 years old who were teens in the early 1970s. The vast majority of the American public support sexuality education in schools: the SIECUS/Advocates for Youth study conducted this past year showed that 93 percent of adults favored sexuality education in high school and 84 percent in junior high/middle school. Even opponents of sexuality education now concede that schools have a role in teaching young people about puberty, STDs, HIV/AIDS, families, dating, sexual abuse, and decision-making. Nevertheless, teachers without special training will likely teach these subjects unless major changes are made in state certification policies. Community controversies will prevent many young people from receiving information about sexual behaviors beyond abstinence.

5. **People of all ages will increasingly turn to the Internet for information about sexuality issues.** Sex sites will continue to reproduce with abandon; and there will be a proliferation of
informational sites for teenagers. The Internet will not only be a place for the adventurous to seek out erotica, cybersex, and partners, but will, I hope, also be a source of tailored information and counseling for all those with questions. As a parent, I believe there is both a need and a market for a new filtering technology that will allow teens access to good information sites about sexuality while reducing their exposure to pornography.

6. Information about midlife and sexuality will increase as the baby boom generation ages. These individuals thought they discovered sex so they will not want to give it up as they age. We will see new medications for male and female sexual dysfunction and more media portrayals of sexually active older couples (imagine another version of the new television show Once and Again dealing with relationships in later life) as well as new books, Internet sites, and newsletters on these issues. Studies will find that baby boomers are having more sex than previous generations as they age.

7. Medical abortion and emergency contraception will change the abortion debate. Private physicians will increasingly handle first trimester abortions in their offices and prescribe emergency contraception. As a result, there will be a decrease in the number of clinics providing only abortions. Clinic protests will therefore wane. On the other hand, we will see more legislation against late term procedures, and they will become increasingly difficult to obtain. The next President will determine the future composition of the Supreme Court, which will affect many debates on this issue.

8. Several religious denominations will split over the issue of sexual orientation during the next decade. Nearly every mainstream denomination has an organized group working to open the church to gay and lesbian parishioners and clergy. Examples are the Oasis churches of the Episcopal Church; the More Light Presbyterian churches, and the Opening and Affirming Baptist Churches. Nevertheless, clergy who have married same-sex couples are currently facing charges in the Methodist church, the American Baptist Church, and the Presbyterian Church. I believe this issue is likely to become more volatile in the next ten years. Some denominations will likely become fractured. Even so, churches and synagogues will become more accepting of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered people as God’s children, and I believe that more denominations will offer same-sex unions. Only the Unitarian Universalist Association, the United Church of Christ, and the Reconstructionist Jews currently sanction the blessing of same-sex unions.

9. The HIV/AIDS epidemic will wane in the United States and Western Europe, but it will increasingly devastate the rest of the world. New drugs will continue to help people in the West with HIV live decades with this chronic but manageable disease. HIV will, however, continue to spread as a result of inadequate education and attention to prevention, especially among low-income populations and communities of color. More than 10 percent of all people are currently infected with HIV in some regions of Latin America, Africa, and Asia. In the next decades, AIDS is likely to become the major killer of young people around the world.

10. People in 2010, 2100, and even 3000 will still define sexuality in terms of relationships, intimacy, and pleasure. They will continue to fall in love, struggle with their sexual feelings and decisions, and seek pleasure and emotional connection through sexual relationships. My hope for us is that one day we will all be able to lead sexual lives that express love, justice, mutuality, consent, and pleasure.

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At the dawn of the third millennium, the world is undergoing the third sexual revolution of the twentieth century.

The first revolution—the Women’s Emancipation Movement—occurred in the 1920s and 1930s and brought about unparalleled equality in terms of women’s rights and forever changed the landscape of male-female relationships. It was fueled by the Industrial Revolution, the invention of the automobile, and other technological advances.

The second revolution—the so-called Sexual Revolution—occurred in the 1960s and 1970s after the country’s preoccupation with two World Wars. It extended in significant ways equality of the sexes, allowed for greater experimentation related to sexual mores, and institutionalized gay and lesbian rights, socially acceptable and legal divorce, and a growing tolerance of “alternative lifestyles.” It was fueled by medical advances and the invention of television. There was, however, a conservative backlash to this second revolution in the 1980s fueled by the outbreak of viruses immune to antibiotic cures such as the Herpes II genital virus, the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and the human papiloma virus (HPV).

THE FUEL OF CHANGE
Certainly, this third revolution builds upon the fundamental changes that occurred with the first two revolutions. But it is being fueled by incredible biological, social, economic, and scientific changes and advances.1 These changes have led to basic changes in life affecting infant morbidity, fertility, and longevity. They have also led to significant changes in societal attitudes about sexuality.

The HIV Epidemic
While the HIV epidemic in some ways marked the backlash to the second revolution, it also helped spur on the third one at the same time.

Although HIV is the plague of our times, it has provided unique opportunities for researchers to study sexual attitudes and behaviors in scientific and systematic ways as they developed prevention programming.2 This research has been as important and as revolutionary as the work of Kinsey and other groundbreaking researchers.3

Because HIV is easily transmitted through unprotected sexual intercourse, prevention programming has encouraged individuals to use condoms in much higher proportions than previous decades. This has transformed how sex is negotiated and carried out. Prevention has also encouraged refocusing on behaviors that are noncoital and nonpenetrative. People have been forced to discover new ways of being sexual and improve their sexual communication skills. This has provided an opportunity for people to integrate the basic ingredients of what has been described as sexual health.

HIV has also made a significant impact on gay and lesbian liberation. While the gay and lesbian movement of the 1960s and 1970s was revolutionary,4 the visibility and rights of these individuals have increased exponentially in the 1990s. HIV has forced many societies to recognize that same-sex sexual behavior occurs and that stigmatization and homophobic attitudes simply fuel the fire that spreads the virus. The fight against AIDS has empowered gay, lesbian, and bisexual individuals and has created much greater understanding and tolerance.

This epidemic has spurred the development of antiviral agents and most recently the protease inhibitors that have given people with AIDS a new lease on life. These new biomedical advances are as revolutionary as the development of antibiotics in the mid-century. Not only will they assist in treating people with AIDS, but they will also help individuals infected with a variety of viruses that have previously eluded treatment.

We end the millennium knowing that HIV continues to be highly virulent and evasive to eradication even though some people can keep it at bay through a variety of medication “cocktails.” Unfortunately, many at-risk individuals have begun to incorrectly assume that HIV and AIDS are “manageable.” This attitude has unfortunately led to increases in unsafe sex and new infections.

The Media
All the sexual revolutions of this century were mobilized by technological advances in communication: the invention of the radio, the television, the video player, and the Internet. As a result of cable and satellite technology, information is so freely available around the world that censorship is practically
impossible. This has profound implications on sexuality issues. Sexuality information is currently available to anyone with access to the Internet. Support groups and interactive therapy are also available for people with sexual concerns. The problem is with the vastness and quality of the information. Still, the potential for reaching people is astonishing and staggering.

The Internet has also opened up new ways of dating and mating. Individuals can find sexual partners and form relationships in virtual reality. People are having sex via the computer through both written and visual communication. This has opened up opportunities to develop relationships across time, space, and other boundaries.

The Internet has also opened up opportunities for people to engage in extra-relational sexual relations with greater anonymity and safety (less risk of STDs, unintended pregnancies, and violence associated with sexual activity). It has, however, also created relationship conflicts resulting from jealousy and different definitions of monogamy. Some people have developed obsessive relationships with cybersex and cyberchat which have caused intrapsychic and interpersonal problems.

Essentially, the Internet, like all new technologies, brings exciting opportunities as well as potential abuses. People must learn to grapple with the impact of this new technology on relationships, communities, and sexual health in the new millennium.

Reproductive Technology
The easy availability of effective contraceptives has allowed individuals to self-determine reproductive activity. The average birth rates around the world have dropped significantly since the beginning of the century. Despite these reductions, the world’s population continues to grow due to lower birth mortality rates and increased life spans. In the 1800s, one in five children died in childbirth. In 1940, one in 20 died. And in 1995, one in 200 died.5

Advances in the understanding and treatment of infertility have also helped individuals once considered unable to bear children. All of this means more self-directed reproductive sexual activity. People do not even have to have intercourse to reproduce. And they can have sexual activity without the fear or consequence of reproduction. While contraceptive technology fueled the second sexual revolution, these newer reproductive technologies make previous advances look primitive by comparison. Unfortunately, they have the potential to threaten the role of diversity in the social fabric. It is a social and ethical dilemma that we will have to resolve.

Increased Longevity
With advances in economic development, nutrition, medicine, and health care, people are living longer. Consequently, they are sexually active longer. This has created a demand to help older people function sexually. Science has responded with more research to understand the sexuality and aging process and to develop ways of keeping people sexually active through biomedical interventions.

People now have a better understanding of the menopause and andropause process. Hormone replacement therapy is common for menopausal women. In the past, menopause signaled the end of sexuality for some women (even though it simply meant the end of reproduction). Women now report that they not only have relief from the negative symptoms of menopause but that they are also more sexually virile. People are also now considering testosterone replacement and estrogen replacement for people complaining of low sexual desire.

Hormone changes are less dramatic for men than for women. People now know, however, that these subtle changes are often more profound than once thought. Doctors now more readily consider hormone replacement therapy for men in obvious hypogonadal states created by illness, surgery, or injury.

For men and women alike, aging will no longer signal the retirement of sexual behaviors. People will now be able to maintain virility and sexual activity much longer.

At the same time that individuals are living longer, adolescents are reaching puberty much sooner. They are also physically mature much longer. Some female children in the United States are starting puberty by the age of eight.6 Unfortunately, Americans are becoming increasingly reluctant to educate young people about sexuality issues. As a result, they have created many more problems related to unintended pregnancies and STDs.

These changes have had a revolutionary impact on the nature of relationships, on social and sexual ethics, and on the legal system, and they are currently fueling this third sexual revolution. It is hard to imagine their full impact in the coming decades.

Mobility, Affluence, and Leisure
Another force responsible for rapid changes in our social lives and our relationships is our increasing mobility, affluence, and leisure time.

Improved transportation has given people the freedom to travel and live beyond the constraints of immediate family ties. They can form relationships—brief, anonymous or otherwise—inconceivable decades ago.
This has allowed more people to divorce. Marriage is still considered a lifelong union, but, in reality, half of today’s marriages in the United States end in divorce. This is no longer a stigma. Marriage has become less a mandate. In fact, many individuals are opting to cohabit without religious or legal sanction. With increases in economic and physical mobility, many couples are maintaining relationships while living apart. Many other people are choosing to live alone without any relationship. Essentially, the women’s movement has revolutionized the family structure.

As pair-bonding human beings, people will probably continue to have structures that support relationships. With greater economic freedoms, they will separate these social pressures from their biological needs. They will retain the ideals of lifelong monogamy while recognizing that other options are available in relationships. They will define fidelity more broadly and will distinguish emotional fidelity from sexual fidelity. The role of blood kinships will decline. People will define families by cutting across time, space, blood relations, gender, and gender orientations. They will intentionally reproduce based on desire rather than fate. Gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and intersexed individuals will become involved in parenting on an equal par with heterosexual individuals and couples. People will increasingly base sexual morality not on procreation and marriage but on such qualities as mutual responsibility, growth, love, joy, and honesty.8

**Declining Influence of Religion**

Also fueling social and economic changes is the declining influence of religion on sexuality and sexual relationships. Religious institutions have traditionally taught sexual morality and have had great influence on the nature of these relationships.9 Perhaps caught off guard by rapid and revolutionary changes, these institutions have had difficulty finding socially and culturally relevant messages. As a result, many people simply ignore traditional messages that they consider irrelevant. For example, most American Roman Catholics today ignore Pope John Paul’s proscriptions relating to premarital sexual activity, divorce, contraceptives, abortion, and homosexuality. Religions are undergoing upheaval and conflict trying to find a new sexual morality that fits the current socio-economic climate. This climate will force them to more fully incorporate pluralistic beliefs into their ethical systems.10

**Advances in the Study of Sexuality**

The study of sexuality is going through its own individual revolution. With the synergy of the sexual revolution of the 1960s and 1970s, advances in sexual science, and increased communication among scholars around the world, the field of sexology has mushroomed.

This growth has resulted in advances in modern sexology beyond the biomedical perspective. Research now considers sexual behavior from a humanities perspective.11 Research has also been mobilized by increased scholarship in the disciplines of women’s as well as gay and lesbian studies. Feminist and queer theories have challenged simplistic biomedical and deterministic viewpoints.12

**New Pharmacotherapies**

This third sexual revolution is also being driven by incredible scientific advances such as Viagra and other pharmacotherapies designed to address sexual dysfunction. Parallel advances in psychiatry have also resulted in even more pharmacotherapies for sexual disorders that share a high incidence of psychiatric co-morbidity. It is also hard to measure the full impact of advances in infertility treatment and hormonal replacement therapy for women and men. They are, however, revolutionary and have tremendous social, economic, and legal implications.

The development of treatments for erectile dysfunction have created the Viagra revolution.13 These agents have greatly improved clinicians’ ability to treat these problems through biomedical means or to identify psychosocial factors and utilize psychotherapeutic methods to resolve problems. It is anticipated that pharmaceutical companies will soon introduce treatments directed toward similar sexual problems faced by women. The most significant aspect of the development of these treatments is the further legitimation and increase in sex research. They have also created the opportunity for greater self-directed control over sexual functioning.

**New Pharmacologies**

Beyond the development of agents to enhance sexual functioning are developments in the treatment of sexual disorders such as paraphilias and sexual offenders. The medical profession now has a pharmacopia of medications which allow many individuals to live more productive lives. Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors have replaced antiandrogens as frontline treatments of paraphilias.14 There are now also better treatments utilizing a biopsychosocial approach and international standards for the treatment of sexual offenders.15

**Understanding Sexual Abuse**

There have also been important developments in the treatments of victims of sexual abuse. The second sexual revolution made it easier for individuals to talk about sexuality and related subjects such as sexual abuse.
Americans have created a sexual abuse industry separate from traditional disciplines of therapy. Sexuality educator and therapist John Money labeled this movement “victimology.” This hysteria spread to other parts of the world despite warnings from him and other sexologists. Sexual abuse is now discussed at every turn. It has become the root of all causes of psychological distress with the solution being the uprooting of all memories and acknowledging the victimization process. Therapists have become obsessed with finding abuse in every patient’s background, and some therapists have become experts in recovering repressed memories through such means as hypnotherapy.

As the twentieth century ends, therapists have a more balanced perspective and recognize that memories can be implanted by “over-vigilant” doctors. Current therapy focuses more on resiliency, self-determination, and personal responsibility than on acknowledgment of a victim status. And sexual abuse survivors now have therapies which recognize the importance of treatment within the context of mental disorders not associated with sexual abuse.

**Understanding Sex and Gender**

Many people are finally understanding and appreciating the complexity of sexual identity. Chromosomal sex is not always the same as natal sex—or the sex assigned at birth. People’s gender identity varies and is not always consistent with their chromosomal or natal sex. People’s sex role identity is, to some degree, independent from other aspects of their sexual identity. People’s sexual orientation is yet another separate component of sexual identity.

The nearly infinite variety of combinations and permutations of these various components make up the mosaic of an individual’s sexual identity. People now recognize and validate many of these permutations as what makes individuals wonderfully unique as human beings.

Through research on other cultures that do not define sex in dichotomous ways as well as through the recognition of transgenders and intersexed individuals, people are recognizing that there are multiple genders. The old male/female dichotomy is being challenged through an understanding of the equality of the sexes in many dimensions, by recognizing and validating the spectrum of sexual identities, and by recognizing the separation between biological sex and gender identity and role.

The transgender and intersexed political movements of the 1990s are challenging the oversimplistic male/female dichotomy. These movements—along with continued strides in the feminist, gay, and lesbian movements—will further increase fluidity in gender role behaviors. This new revolution will recognize the nearly infinite spectrum of masculine, androgynous, and feminine regardless of sexual or gender identity.

**New Freedoms—New Responsibilities**

While this sexual revolution, like other sexual revolutions, is bringing about more choices, opportunities, and freedoms, it is also bringing about new responsibilities.

To a much greater degree than before, individuals must now make choices and use these new opportunities and freedoms in socially responsible and healthy ways. With less well-defined social scripts, people will have to write their own. This is liberating for many while overwhelming and confusing for others. Social institutions must provide education, guidance, and assistance to help individuals caught in the whirlwind of this revolution come out healthier rather than scarred.

These social and economic changes have been translated into changes in laws governing sexual and reproductive behavior as well as intimate relationships. There are now many laws legalizing contraception and abortion, and prohibiting discrimination based upon gender and sexual orientation. There are also new laws governing child abuse, incest, sexual harassment, and rape (including marital and date rape). Some of these basic and fundamental rights have been written into new laws and, in some cases, rewritten into national constitutions. Yet, we still have a long way to go to keep up with the incredible changes resulting from this revolution.

**Promoting Sexual Health**

The new sexual revolution is spawning a sexually healthier society based upon increased freedoms. We all have a responsibility to harness these changes to create a healthier society in the next millennium. We are challenged to define sexual health and provide mechanisms for making that a basic and fundamental human right.

Sexual health is more than freedom from sexual diseases or disorders. Sexual health involves the capacity to derive pleasure from sexual activity and intimate relationships. Sexual health is non-exploitative and respectful of self and others. Sexual health should be rewarding and joyous. Sexual health is dependent upon an individual’s well-being and sense of self-esteem. Sexual health requires trust, honesty, and communication between partners.

To promote sexual health, we all need to promote fundamental and universal sexual rights. The 13th World Congress of Sexology adopted a *Declaration of Sexual Rights* in 1997.

As President of the World Association for Sexology (WAS), I formed a commission at this World Congress to study this *Declaration* and to gain input and support from member societies around the world. This commission completed its work and the General Assembly unanimously adopted a new *Declaration of Sexual Rights* at the 14th World Congress of Sexuality this past August. (The *SIECUS Report* will cover the *Declaration of Sexual Rights* in its April–May 2000 issue on “Sexuality Education Worldwide.”)
CONCLUSION

Despite continued violations of sexual rights around the world, there have been revolutionary changes where sexual rights have resulted in legal changes and social interactions. As a result, there is a greater demand for sexual health as a basic human right.

In addition to the medical and scientific advances, the struggle for sexual rights for sexual minorities, equal rights for women, and a tolerance for diversity and pluralism have made revolutionary changes in our social and sexual ethics. It will be the greater tolerance of diversities that will open up vistas and greater sexual health for all.

As we enter the third millennium, sexuality educators and sexual rights advocates must continue to promote sexology, sexual health, and sexual rights throughout the world. Capitalizing on the wings of the new sexual revolution, sexology will play an even more important and different role in the promotion of sexually healthy societies.

The HIV epidemic has driven home the need to understand human sexuality in its complexity—from the interdisciplinary perspective of sexology. Now, we are being asked to come to the table and help direct public policy by sharing our knowledge, research, and expertise. This is our opportunity, our responsibility, and our duty.

There are rights and there are duties. It is not sufficient to be a sexuality educator, a sexuality therapist, or a sexuality researcher. If we are going to promote sexual health and sexual rights, we have to become more politically active. We cannot say this is the responsibility of others. We all have to accept this responsibility.

As sexuality educators, we share with many people our dreams of a sexually healthy world with protection for everyone regarding sexual rights. We can dream together. We can work together. We can create a sexually healthy world together in the next millennium.

This article is based on Dr. Coleman’s Presidential Address at the 14th World Congress of Sexology in Hong Kong, China on August 27, 1999. He is the current president of the World Association for Sexology (1997–2001). SIECUS Report readers can contact him at the University of Minnesota, 1300 S. 2nd Street, Suite 180, Minneapolis, MN 55454. –Editor

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have you heard? The world is changing. An aging population, increasing cultural diversity, the centrality of pharmaceutical companies and HMOs in health care, and technological developments including the Internet are some of the key influences shaping our 21st-century world. Since no one can predict the future, here is a look at the questions that will shape the issues at the heart of SIECUS’s mission.

SEXUALITY EDUCATION
The big news in sexuality education this past decade was the institutionalization of abstinence-only-until-marriage programs. The 1996 reform of welfare allocated $50 million annually for such chastity programs and required that states match three dollars for every four federal dollars if they wanted a share of it.

This is part of what shifted the national discussion about the content of sexuality education. Whereas abstinence-only programs used to be considered one of several options, they are becoming the norm, whose assumptions are rarely questioned. Will this continue to be the case?

If economics and administrative comfort continue to be top considerations, the answer will be yes. When curricula, guest speakers, books, and other materials are offered as a complete unit, schools are loath to reject them and reinvent the wheel. When a pedagogical package claims it offers “proven results” in this potentially controversial arena, its defensibility is attractive to administrators. In some communities, the federal money and its state match are the only funds available for sexuality education. For them, the real choice is between an abstinence-only program and no program. Whether out of ignorance, cynicism, or legislative mandate, many communities will choose abstinence.

Given this trend in sexuality education, will various abstinence-only curricula depend on shame, fear, and ignorance—or will they simply urge abstinence? Pathetically, the forces of sexual literacy may find themselves promoting a particular abstinence-only program simply because it is the least objectionable alternative.

Another aspect of programming to consider is the interface between sexuality education and sexual abuse prevention programs. How much will these two subjects be paired in the future? To what extent will sexuality education be designed to support the sex-negative vision of abuse prevention programs? If sexual danger is the social theory, sexual fear—i.e., abstinence—is the logical individual policy.

The context in which future sexuality education programs operate will be shaped by demographics. The ethnic and religious makeup of the country will continue to change, as Hispanics solidify their position as the largest ethnic group. Hispanic and other immigrant communities will continue to flood elementary and middle schools. What kind of sexuality education will their families consider appropriate? What kind of funding will they consider appropriate for their overburdened schools and teachers? And will the African-American community respond to its enormous rate of unwed teen births by demanding relevant school-based sexuality education?

Another social trend involves non-public schools. Private, parochial, and charter schools will continue to grow both in absolute numbers and as a percentage of the educational system. For the first time, for example, many middle-class Jewish families are abandoning public education for the rapidly expanding private system of Jewish schools.

If the voucher system, barely kept at bay this past decade, is finally instituted on a large-scale basis, it will dramatically change the position of public schools in the nation’s education and consciousness. At that point, questions about sexuality education will transcend the public domain, as they also become the purview of non-governmental institutions. Whether these institutions have an ideological agenda or not, their policies will be mandated differently than today’s public schools’ are. The decision-making process will not be open. How will this affect comprehensive sexuality education?

The Far Right has been wildly successful in its stated program to take over, or at least shape the agenda of, the nation’s local school boards—specifically to influence sexuality education policy. Will they make further inroads in this direction? Will groups who are particularly affected by this—for example, growing immigrant groups from such non-Western cultures as India, Vietnam, and Korea—attempt to reverse this takeover? How will this affect local sexuality education policies?

Finally, how will the Internet affect sexuality education? The Internet presents more sexuality information (and, of course, misinformation) than has ever been available before. Young people can access Web sites from SIECUS and Planned Parenthood, from sex therapists like me, and
from teen groups such as SXetc. Will this render the battle over school sexuality education obsolete? Or will it shift the “sex ed” mission into addressing all the esoteric information young people expose themselves to—like bisexuality and spiritual practices?

In the late 1980s, CNN showed Chinese students and Solidarity workers an outside world, helping them understand what was being withheld from them. With contraceptive facts, information on non-normative practices, and words that describe sex accurately, will the Net do the same for a sexually oppressed adolescent population in the future?

**HIV/AIDS**

As it was in the 1990s, HIV/AIDS will be one of the defining features of sexual consciousness in the next decade. It will continue to raise familiar questions about sexuality, intimacy, and our culture, along with several new ones.

While in the long run AIDS is still frequently fatal, it is no longer considered a death sentence for healthy people who become infected. Ironically, HIV/AIDS has become another modern chronic disease. Should it, therefore, be considered just another sexually transmitted disease (STD), like gonorrhea? Should it perhaps be categorized an infectious disease, like hepatitis? Just as we have struggled to redefine AIDS as not a “gay disease,” will 21st-century public health officials try to redefine it as not a “sex disease”? If this had been done 20 years ago, the diagnosis, treatment, and politics of AIDS might be very different today.

How will Americans, especially young people, relate to the change in HIV/AIDS from a lethal to a chronic disease? Many educators fear that young people are becoming blasé about AIDS, which now “just happens to some people.” As with recreational drugs in a previous youth generation, they have been bombarded with fear-based messages about HIV, with a “don't be sexual” kicker. And was true 30 years ago, most young people feel invulnerable and mistrust adults.

Will these factors lead to young people taking fewer and fewer precautions about HIV? And will young people continue to drink so heavily that it is difficult for them to make sensible sexual decisions? Policies governing alcohol industry advertising and alcohol use on college campuses may determine the level of safer sex behaviors among young people.

How will the change from “AIDS as lethal” to “HIV as chronic” affect the issue of partner notification? Sincere people will continue to differ on whether newly diagnosed people should be required to notify partners they may have infected. There are good arguments on both sides, and different states’ experiments with varying approaches have not yielded conclusive data. These experiments will, presumably, continue. And as long as AIDS is tainted by sex and homosexuality, and, therefore, moral implications, issues like confidentiality will affect good public health policy.

Latex condoms have proven to be exceptionally effective in preventing the spread of HIV. It is hard to imagine the use of condoms decreasing in the coming decade. Will this use, however, increase? Will condoms become more socially acceptable, even sexy? We must lament that very, very few entertainment figures have used their influence with young people to encourage condom use. Will communities or non-governmental organizations (NGOs) somehow get these highly visible figures more involved, leading to greater condom use and reduced spread of HIV?

Will an effective alternative to latex condoms be developed and become popular? The so-called female condom (Reality) has not been wildly popular. Neither have polyurethane condoms. Minimally intrusive barrier methods are an essential tool in fighting HIV. It's a good bet that a microbicide or cure is not going to grace the next decade.

Ten years ago we saw the gay community mobilize against AIDS—once it seemed that everyone had a friend or lover who was dying. Statistically, this lesson has not been forgotten by older gay men. But as HIV increasingly seems like something that “other people” get or got, younger gay men have headed back toward high-risk sexual behaviors. This troubling trend will probably continue until, once again, a large enough number of gay people personally know someone who is dead or dying.

The incidence of HIV among heterosexual white men and women will probably remain low in the 21st century, meaning that most heterosexuals will not be face-to-face with AIDS-related death in their personal lives very often. If this changes, however, expect another cultural mobilization. In this respect, what will happen in about five years, when tens of millions of central Africans die of AIDS? With the increasing globalization of news coverage, it will be hard to ignore the second-largest fatal epidemic in recorded history. On the other hand, it will not be white middle-class people—so we don’t know to what extent this will impact American consciousness.

The new treatment options available for those with HIV raise large social issues. The protease inhibitors are dreadfully expensive—currently $20,000 per year per person. Using them is an enormous logistical hassle, with legendary side effects. People from different social classes will continue to have differential access to these drugs, as well as to the personal support system that make effective use of these drugs possible.

Will some people start stealing to afford this regimen, as others steal to afford heroin? Will our culture continue to see these drugs as a privilege rather than a right? Where will insurance company coverage of HIV go? Will the government get involved in insurance company policies? Will people have to compromise their rights to confidentiality in order to get diagnosis or treatment covered?
Finally, will new HIV education programs be developed to keep up with the biological and social changes that surround AIDS? What will educators have to do to get the attention of young people who have become blasé about a disease that has existed all of their lives?

Will HIV education and STD education be integrated or be separated? How much will the government get involved in mandating or creating these programs? Will these programs be combined with sexuality education, thus restricting the kinds of prevention and protection strategies discussed? Or, for that matter, will they be combined with STD education, thus maintaining the taint of sexual immorality?

**REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

Thirty years ago, few would have predicted the backward state of reproductive rights Americans face at the end of this century. A decrease in abortion training and the number of abortion providers, conflict over school-based contraception programs, mandatory parental notification for services to minors, and limited insurance coverage, not to mention the criminalizing of certain kinds of abortion, threaten the reproductive rights that do remain. As this situation unfolds in the near future, a wide range of factors will be relevant.

Legal access to contraceptive and abortion services are, of course, the central question. Simply put, which Americans will continue to have access to abortion, and under what circumstances? Until recently, anti-choice forces focused primarily on criminalizing abortion; with abortion still legal, their strategy now emphasizes making it as difficult as possible to actually get one. They have done this by segmenting both consumers and abortion procedures into various categories. Thus, young people—those on public assistance and those whose pregnancies did not result from coercion—have fewer rights than others. Similarly, late-term abortions are more likely to be criminalized than early-term ones. Since this strategy apparently fits more comfortably with Americans’ ambivalence—or the wish to make the whole subject go away—we can expect to see more of it in the future.

Thus, “late term” will be defined as earlier and earlier, and “elective” will be defined to include more and more things. Additionally, “elective” may become increasingly identified as self-indulgent or immoral. In the attempt to appear compassionate or fair, some anti-choice people will tolerate exceptions for pregnancies that result from rape or incest; the insidious part of this strategy is that it transforms abortion from a right that everyone has into a rare remedy to be withheld except in extreme emergencies.

Whether they like it or not, insurance companies will continue to be key players in the battle for reproductive rights. Insurance coverage of abortion, contraception, and other reproductive services has both a symbolic and a tangible value. What will insurance companies do? Will any of them see their coverage of such services as a competitive advantage, highlighting it in their bids to companies shopping for employee coverage? For that matter, will groups of employees mobilize to demand that their employers select health insurance that covers reproductive services?

Hospitals will also have increased visibility in the reproductive rights struggle, as national corporate chains continue purchasing local hospitals. Catholic Healthcare West, for example, is now the largest hospital chain in the San Francisco Bay Area. It refuses to provide certain reproductive services, including abortion and sterilization. Thus, many women who want to give birth in their own community cannot have their tubes tied at the same time. They face an awful choice: going through a second procedure soon after, or delivering their babies far from home.

Pharmaceutical companies will be even more involved in the next decade’s reproductive rights battle than they were in the 1990s. RU486, long-delayed, will be available in this country sooner rather than later. A “morning after” pill already exists and is featured on its own Web site. These two products blur the distinction between abortion and contraception. Ultimately, it is this very blurring that may end the abortion controversy once and for all.

Any discussion of reproductive rights must now include mention of new fertility technologies and their implications. Sperm- and egg-donation, fertility drugs (with the accompanying astronomical increase in multiple embryos), surrogate motherhood, and even cloning are just a few of the options that will become increasingly available in this next century. These will pose even more complex legal and ethical issues than contraception and abortion do now. New companies are continually entering this field, and their combined financial and political clout means that their products (and new product development) will not be curtailed without a serious fight. Will reproductive choice gain serendipitous allies from this industry’s self-interested efforts? Will anti-choice forces be distracted or splintered by their desire to take on this emerging behemoth?

These new technologies will continue to force us to face difficult questions: is reproduction a privilege or a right? How much should society, in the form of insurance, welfare, and legal coverage, be required to support someone’s quixotic desire to reproduce? The answers to “who has the right to reproduce?” will have an important impact on the question “who has the right not to reproduce?”

Finally, Roman Catholics will eventually get a new Pope. The new pontiff may very well come from Africa or South America, where population pressure continues to create poverty and disease. His position on reproductive rights will affect us all.
SEXUAL ORIENTATION

The biggest change in the issue of sexual orientation in the 1990s was the simple recognition of the existence of millions of non-heterosexuals, and the fact that they inhabit pretty much every aspect of American life. President Clinton may have fumbled his attempt to get gays accepted in the military, but he did bring the reality of homosexuality into America’s newspapers and living rooms. It is this simple recognition that has led to both the gains and the challenges faced by gays and those who identify with their struggle.

In fact, the recent legislative and social opposition faced by gays, odious as it is, provides tangible proof of how far the movement for equality has come. People don’t fight something that they don’t see, or oppose what doesn’t seem real. Violence that targets gays, for example, is now considered newsworthy, whether people wish to excuse it or not. And the fact that the public discourse now includes controversies like whether or not gays should be covered by hate crime laws or anti-discrimination laws reflects a dramatic move forward in public consciousness that no one predicted a mere 30 years ago. Clearly, non-heterosexuals are being seen by mainstream America, and their fight for dignity and rights is apparently successful enough to threaten many people.

The outlook for the civil rights of gay people in the coming century is mixed. On the one hand, there will be more openly gay officials at all levels (e.g., top mayoral candidates in both San Francisco and Los Angeles in 1999 were openly gay); more nondiscrimination laws that apply to sexual orientation; and more ordinary gay people who will demand and get such rights as the right to keep a job or apartment after “coming out.” Whether because of their sheer numbers, economic clout, the familiarity-breeds-acceptance factor, or grudging moral development of the citizenry, public institutions such as corporations and graduate schools will continue to become increasingly accepting of gays.

Because the coming decade will still be part of this transition stage, however, we will also see periodic initiatives in various states to deny gays so-called “special rights”—that is, to roll back or prevent them from acquiring rights. Similarly, various institutions will use whatever means necessary to maintain a discriminatory stance. Groups like the Boy Scouts will continue to claim they are private organizations to deny membership to openly gay individuals; private employers and landlords will claim that they have the right to express their religious beliefs by not hiring or renting to gays.

Part of the reason homosexuality is becoming more acceptable to non-gay individuals is because, as more gays come out, and gay culture becomes more familiar, homosexuality appears less and less remarkable—the way ethnicity has become in many parts of America. Gay culture is flooding the mainstream media (for example, in advertising, fashion, personal erotic scripts, and music). And through the Internet, television, and movies, everyone can know gay people or culture even if they don’t know any gays personally.

Many American churches are hurting for membership. The gay community cannot be ignored as a potential market, particularly when it is so economically vibrant. Similarly, applications for the clergy are declining in many denominations. Ordination of women and gays is an obvious solution that more and more denominations will take. Even Jerry Falwell now says there is room for gays in his religious movement, and he claims he strongly believes in gay civil rights. While it should not be blindly trusted, this kind of cooptation does insure a certain increase in gay legitimacy and visibility.

On the other hand, the Catholic Church and evangelical Christian churches will not condone many aspects of gay sexuality and lifestyle. In addition to doctrinal problems, doing so would also invite other constituents to expect change—including women, those wanting to intermarry, and political activists. The Church will, presumably, continue to turn a blind eye to the high number of gay priests, and it will continue to accept them as long as they don’t demand too much attention or visibility. The Church will presumably crack down on gay activist priests as it has before with other heretical challenges. This will discourage priests from speaking out, as they will want to retain their ability to minister to parishioners.

One of the largest conflicts within organized religion involves the ordination of gays and clergy who bless gay unions. This issue is threatening both the Methodist Church and Conservative Judaism. Will new denominations split from mainstream traditions over this issue? Will women’s groups and gay groups work cooperatively or competitively to advance their agendas in this arena?

Backlash is a well-known feature of cultural change. It is in full swing against gay rights today, and it will continue for many years. So, as Hawaii and other states take steps toward institutionalizing gay marriage, the federal government and other states pursue Defense of Marriage legislation that prevents the recognition of gay marriage. In 2000, for example, Californians will vote on the Knight Initiative, prohibiting the state from recognizing gay marriage legally performed in other states.

Such initiatives should be no surprise—although since gay people do not want heterosexual marriages, it raises the question of what Assemblyman Knight and his people want to defend marriage from. If it’s anything more than simple copyright infringement (“we thought of the marriage thing first, go get your own legal institution”), the Initiative is simply a classic expression of the irrational fear and anger of straights toward gays.

We also need to look at the very definitions of the gay rights movement and of sexual orientation. The issue used
to be simply about homosexuality. Some years ago it was enlarged to include bisexuality. Now there is a growing transsexual and transgender community, who want their voices heard, too. Will there be room for them in the gay movement, or will they have to develop a separate movement of their own? This is a practical as well as philosophical question: will these people make “regular” homosexuals seem more moderate and less scary, or will they color the entire sexual orientation movement and scare away a liberal audience? Will “mainstream” gay organizations and culture accept the transgendered as partners in oppression and liberation, or distance themselves and solidify their gains without gambling on these relative newcomers?

As the century closes, there is still very little public conversation about why the issue of sexual orientation is important for non-gays. As usual, the media paints gay rights as a gay person’s issue, the same way it has described abortion as a women’s issue or racial equality as a black issue.

Other than moral rightness, why should heterosexuals care about gay rights or matters of sexual orientation? Until the public gets a better sense of the importance of this issue, it will primarily be gay people who will be advancing “their” agenda—doing the citizenry a favor, whether citizens realize it or not.

**CENSORSHIP**

Censorship of all kinds is on the rise in the United States—and we can expect this to continue.

The desire to censor is a desire to address a decreasing sense of control over one’s immediate environment. It’s a response to the genuine discomfort some people feel with modern changes in the rules of acceptable public discourse that have been imposed on them (for example, you can now use sexual slang on basic cable TV; sexual enhancement videos are now being advertised in mainstream magazines).

Censorship is some people’s response to the increased cultural diversity that has been imposed on them. Censorship is a weapon in today’s (and tomorrow’s) full-scale culture war: people intuitively and correctly understand that whatever they want to censor (say, contraceptive advertising) is part of a bigger cultural phenomenon that they want to oppose or influence (say, intercourse in high school). Finally, censorship will continue because public officials know that by pandering to fear and anger they will gain more power than they will lose.

Thus, we can expect to see continued censorship in a wide range of contexts, such as libraries, strip clubs, erotica sales, school curricula, nude beaches, and museum exhibits. Censorship is the obvious, psychologically necessary instru-

ment of a society that decries the popularity of profane sex while building cultural monuments to its popularity.

That said, there is a new and still-evolving aspect of the censorship issue: the Internet. By changing the meaning of community, and destroying old realities about geography, the Internet has changed many of the rules of censorship; indeed, it has made some forms of censorship impossible. At this moment, the Net is in the process of becoming the most comprehensive storage and delivery system of sexually oriented and status quo—challenging material in the history of the world. It operates 24 hours per day, has an infinitely expandable capacity, does not exist in a physical location, and, unlike x-rated theaters or art museums, has the complete participation and political endorsement of American business. And here’s the best part: nobody controls it. In Communist Romania, you needed a license to own a modem. Here in America, companies compete to sell modems.

Predictably, it is this very democratized nature of the Internet that upsets some people, as it appears to “prove” the danger of free expression. Thus we now hear the newest version of the old cry, “we must protect the children,” used throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries to justify limits on free expression.

“Protecting children” is a common argument for limiting access to the Internet—whether it’s lawsuits attempting to regulate content, regulations requiring filtering software on non-private computers, or assertions by employers and others of the right to monitor or shape constituents’ use of the Net.

Ironically, because the Internet is now part of virtually all adult activities, it is far too late to make it appropriate only for children; doing so would simply reduce this most central part of the adult world to the level of childhood. The only alternative for would-be censors, therefore, would be to limit the growth and reduce the use of the Internet, which is clearly impossible. The Net is the biggest blow to censorship since moveable type.

Since children’s use of the Internet is rapidly expanding, a second strategy for censorship involves “filtering software.” We can expect to see increasing demands for mandatory use of filtering software in public and other semi-regulated environments such as schools and workplaces. All states, for example, are now being pressured to make library funding contingent on the installation of content filters on the computers used by the public.

The filtering software companies themselves now form a very powerful lobby, arguing for the use of such filters: the technology exists, therefore it should be used as the obvious solution. While they portray themselves as a terrific alternative to censorship (“don’t shut it down, just make it safe”), the reality is that they are being used to
further censorship (“let’s keep people away from bad things”).

Filtering software companies do not employ sexologists or sex-positive educators in their programming or screening. Their products are not designed to support children’s mental health—they simply screen out sexual words (and sometimes other things as well) so they can market an allegedly non-sexual Internet environment to frightened or angry adults. Filtering programs prevent people from accessing an enormously wide range of information. They protect no one. They simply impose a sex-negative worldview on hapless consumers, frequently young ones.

Unfortunately, most Americans still do not understand the importance of the censorship/free expression battle, particularly when it comes to unsavory, extreme, or lusty depictions. At best, most people write these things off as “just” First Amendment quarrels, the equivalent of a know-it-all cousin they wish would just go away. There is no reason to think that Americans’ ignorance about this issue will change. Neither will their desire to use public policy to make their fear of sexuality go away.

Until Americans understand the central importance of the issue of censorship to their everyday lives, they will, at best, barely tolerate a small group of people such as the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) making a dignified fuss over what appears to be a never-ending series of small sleazy issues.

Thus, the twenty-first century will start where the twentieth century ended: with sexual expression under siege from all directions. As ACLU President Nadine Strossen says, “Why do we keep defending sex? Because it keeps being attacked.”*

**CONCLUSION**

While predicting the future is always a challenging enterprise, it is particularly difficult in the area of sexuality. Historically, changes in sexual behavior, attitudes, norms, and laws most often come from unexpected directions.

The unanticipated consequences of new technology are a prime example. Electric lights led to “nightlife” downtown and unchaperoned dating; the bicycle led to a radical decrease in the amount of clothes “decent” women had to wear outside the house; VCRs led to an explosion of home consumption of sexually explicit materials. What technology will arise in the near future that will, unexpectedly, guide American sexual habits soon after?

And what about phenomena that are already familiar—how will the following affect sexuality in the new century? Low-fat diets. New pain medications. The normalization of female masturbation. E-commerce. Virtual sex. Tattoos and piercings. Pharmaceuticals that facilitate desire, arousal, and orgasm. People entering college in their twenties and thirties.

How are these things shaping our sexual future? And what else is currently shaping our sexual future—today—in ways we don’t realize?

According to The Institute for the Future, one of three babies born in the year 2000 will live to be 100. SIECUS founder Mary Calderone often said that “we are sexual from the womb to the tomb.” The twenty-first-century generation will give new meaning to these twentieth-century words.

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* Personal communication to the author.

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**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

The SIECUS Report welcomes articles, reviews, or critical analyses from interested individuals. Upcoming issues of the SIECUS Report will have the following themes:

**“Sexuality Education Worldwide”**  
April/May 2000 issue.  
Deadline for final copy: February 1, 2000

**“Sexuality and Pop Culture”**  
June/July 2000 issue.  
Deadline for final copy: April 1, 2000

**“Sexuality Education in the United States”**  
August/September 2000 issue.  
Deadline for final copy: June 1, 2000

**“Sexual Abuse”**  
October/November 2000 issue.  
Deadline for final copy: August 1, 2000
Researchers looking for materials on sexuality at the beginning of the twentieth century would have found very little.

The Comstock laws—in effect since 1873—prohibited the mailing of information or advertisements about sexuality, including information on contraception or abortion. Any public expression of sexuality was considered obscene and any literature that contended sexuality had purposes other than procreation was attacked and its authors punished. Even medical professionals were fined for publishing discussions about sexuality or contraception.

Ida Craddock, a social purity writer associated with the free love movement, published one of the first American marriage manuals at the turn of the century titled The Wedding Night. She was subsequently arrested and prosecuted in federal court. On the day of her sentencing, she took her life. This was a not uncommon ending for those who challenged the Comstock laws.

1900s

PROGRESSIVE REFORM

At the start of the twentieth century, Americans were dealing with the economic, technological, and social effects of the Industrial Revolution. A reform movement designed to help the nation deal with the problems brought on by industrialization also called for government intervention in social issues. This included the development of a “social-hygiene” initiative to stop the spread of syphilis and gonorrhea.

The Society of Sanitary and Moral Prophylaxis, the forerunner of the American Social Health Association, administered the initiative. Together with the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, the Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA), state boards of health, school superintendents, and teachers’ organizations, the Society launched an unrelenting “campaign of education.”

The Society won an ally in the National Education Association, which took the initiative a step further in 1912 and endorsed the concept of sex education. The Fourth International Congress on School Hygiene subsequently promoted publicly funded sexuality education for parents with the intent of garnering support for school-based sexuality education. Even so, it wasn’t until the early 1920s that such education was integrated into America’s school curricula.

1910s

NEW SEXUAL THEORIES

A new era dominated by social and feminist theorists emerged during the second decade of the century.

The psychologist Sigmund Freud best symbolized this new direction. He made his first visit to America to lecture at Clark University in Worcester, MA, where he introduced intellectuals and professionals to his idea that sexuality was a central part of life and identity. By the middle of the decade, America had begun to reevaluate the meaning of sexuality beyond the procreative framework.

As the meaning of sex and sexuality broadened, American society became increasingly open to information about birth control. Margaret Sanger, a former nurse and mother of three, started her work on this subject by lecturing and writing on female sexuality. She filled her newsletter, The Woman Rebel, with information about birth control and was immediately charged with multiple violations of the Comstock laws. She fled to Europe to escape a 45-year prison sentence. Before she left, however, she published a pamphlet titled Family Limitation that contained a detailed, straightforward account of everything she knew about birth control—from condoms to spermicidal suppositories.

In Sanger’s absence, Americans called for more birth control information as well as community sexuality education. The atmosphere had changed so significantly that the charges against Sanger were dismissed upon her return to the United States in 1915.

As America entered World War I, women emerged from their Victorian homes to participate in the war effort and work in the factories. Shorter skirts and hair styles were viewed as patriotic fashion and gave women more freedom. While serving overseas, American soldiers encountered the more relaxed sexual mores of France and Europe.

1920s

EXPERIENCE AS EDUCATION

A major shift in both sexual behaviors and attitudes began in the early 1920s. Dating, necking, and petting became part of growing up as well as a very real form of sexuality education.

These “Roarin’ Twenties” were marked by the mobility of Henry Ford’s affordable automobiles, new leisure and affluence, the advent of movies with female vamp stars and
irresistible sex idols, and the appearance of the “flapper” and check-to-cheek, body-clutching dancing.

The landscape of this decade was saturated with sex. Newspapers published sexual advice columns. Advertisements used sex to sell everything from Listerine to cars. A journal of the time charted the emerging sexual freedom by the yards of cloth it took to clothe a woman. In 1913, it took 19.5 yards. In 1928, it took seven. One historian deemed the 1920s “a revolution in manners and morals.”

It was during this era that the U.S. Public Health Services conducted 50 regional conferences on sexuality in high schools and colleges. The agency also published the Manual on Sex Education in High Schools.

1930s

THE GREAT DEPRESSION

As Americans grappled with the hardships brought on by the Great Depression of 1929, the sexuality issues that had punctuated the “Roarin’ Twenties” seemed less important. This is not to say, however, that the advances of sexual liberalism came to a halt.

Young Americans continued to enjoy and express their newfound freedom. Margaret Sanger formed the National Committee on Federal Legislation for Birth Control and used the economic crisis to bolster her argument for family planning. Condoms were available almost anywhere—from gas stations to restaurants to barber shops.

By the middle of the decade, a federal appeals court had overturned the anti-contraception provisions of the Comstock Law. Increased demand and accessibility to birth control confirmed the diminished association of sex with reproduction.

In general terms, however, the Great Depression brought a return to more conservative values. The consumerism and commercialized amusements that gave play to sexual adventure temporarily withered. Sobriety and gloom replaced the buoyant exuberance of the previous decade.

1940s

ROSIE, PINUP GIRLS, AND SEX

World War II pulled the United States out of its economic malaise. It also helped to change the sexual landscape.

Over 12 million men filled the ranks of the United States armed services as wives took jobs on the assembly line back home. Rosie the Riveter was born. And so was the pinup girl. At the Army’s request, a new magazine titled Yank was created to boost the morale of its enlisted men. Photographs of minimally clad girl circulated overseas. An estimated two million servicemen kept a glossy photograph of Hollywood actress Betty Grable taped to their locker doors. In it, she wore a bathing suit and glanced seductively over her shoulder.

Betty Grable was soon competing with the VD poster girl. The war marked a turning point in America’s approach to venereal disease. Education and prevention tools emerged. Hollywood produced VD training films. Cartoons, comic strips, and magazine articles quickly appeared on the subject. A medical official noted: “We cannot stifle the instincts of man, we cannot legislate his appetite. We can only educate him to caution, watchfulness, and the perpetual hazards of promiscuous intercourse and furnish him with adequate preventative measures.”

Education was soon complemented by medicine. Antibiotics were discovered and, with them, cures for some sexually transmitted diseases. A celebration surrounding the discovery was not, however, unanimous. The purveyors of purity argued that access to a “VD magic bullet” would encourage promiscuity. The advent of penicillin flared the moral argument for abstinence even more.

The U.S. Public Health Service came out strongly in favor of school-based sexuality education. Many national organizations quickly followed suit. Schools slowly implemented programs and colleges started offering courses on marriage, family, and sexual hygiene. Manuals reflecting the modern meaning of sexuality were major education tools of the time. Advice literature emphasized expression and pleasure, a distinct break from the previous focus on reproduction and control.

When World War II ended, hundreds of thousands of men were discharged each day. Soldiers, shaped by the overseas war experience, returned to a changed America—particularly when it came to the role of women. The war of the sexes had begun.

In 1948, the landmark Alfred Kinsey study Sexual Behavior in the Human Male was published. It stayed on The New York Times best-seller list for 27 weeks. When the corresponding Sexual Behavior in the Human Female was published, it caused a similar sensation. Known together as The Kinsey Report, these publications brought sex out of the bedroom and into the public discourse. Look Magazine editorialized: “For the first time, data on human sex behavior is entirely separated from questions of philosophy, moral values, and social customs.”

1950s

McCARTHY, HEFNER, AND TV

The fifties were the pop culture decade. Television entered American homes and became a member of the family. The nation celebrated its affluence, and, on the surface at least, it was a time of social conformity.

But in the sphere of sexuality, two individuals—U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy and publisher Hugh Hefner—attacked the status quo. Each created controversy and sparked public debates on sexual ethics.
At the start of the decade, McCarthy claimed the State Department was infiltrated with Communists. Panic ensued. The Congressional hearings that followed became an inquisition against many minority groups, particularly homosexuals. Gay men and lesbians suffered severe discrimination, harassment, and violence.

Near the middle of the decade, entrepreneur Hugh Heffner published the first issue of Playboy, a glossy monthly magazine with photographic layouts of nude women and articles that rejected sexual limits. The magazine suggested that males should “enjoy the pleasures a female has to offer without becoming emotionally involved.” Its circulation quickly rose to a record one million readers.

Sexuality education acquired significant advocates in the mid-fifties. The American Medical Association (AMA) and the NEA published five pamphlets on sexuality for young adults: Parents’ Privilege, A Story about You, Finding Yourself, Learning About Love, and Facts Aren’t Enough. This series was widely used across the nation.

From Alfred Kinsey to Hugh Heffner to James Joyce to Henry Miller, literature dealing with sexuality issues proliferated. Obscenity charges forced the Supreme Court to examine dated laws. The Court resolved in the 1957 Roth Decision that “sex and obscenity are not synonymous.” Over the next ten years, Court justices heard a number of obscenity cases. In the celebrated Fanny Hill case, the Court determined that “a book cannot be proscribed unless it is found to be utterly without redeeming social value.” The content of books, magazines, and films soon became more explicit. Sex was on display for all to see.

1960s

SCIENTIFIC, SEXUAL REVOLUTIONS

Scientific research dramatically affected female sexuality in the 1960s.

Early in the decade, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a hormonal contraceptive pill. Inexpensive, effective, and easy, “The Pill” (as it was known) was revolutionary. Women were able to pursue sexual pleasure without risk of pregnancy.

In 1966, Dr. William Masters and Virginia Johnson published the results of their scientific research on male and female sexuality. Their best seller, Human Sexual Response, emphasized that women’s sexual desires and responses were equal to those of men.

Apart from these scientific findings, the 1960s were also known as the decade when the personal became political and the sexual revolution was born. Sex emerged as an axis around which new social movements—including the feminist and the gay liberation movements—were organized.

Two groups were formed in the 1960s to respond to the need for sexuality information and education. First, the Sex Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS) was created to affirm sexuality as a natural and healthy part of life and advocate for the sexual rights of all persons to sexuality information. Second, the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT), was formed to bring together professionals working in the field.

Responding to the same forces that engendered the new social movements, the U.S. government bolstered its own support of sexuality education. The U.S. Office of Education encouraged family-life and sex education programs as well as teacher-training programs in America’s schools.

As the decade ended, opposition groups formed to stop sexuality education. The John Birch Society, the Christian Crusade, Parents Opposed to Sex and Sensitivity Education, Sanity on Sex, and Mothers Organized for Moral Stability were well organized and vocal, and their effects were far-reaching. As a result, many states restricted or abolished sexuality education by 1970.

1970s

INSTITUTIONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

The decade of the seventies saw one institutional breakthrough after another.

In 1970, the White House Commission on Pornography and Obscenity stated that erotica was a valid and harmless form of literature. President Nixon, however, refused to sign the report. In 1972, a major U.S. church ordained an openly gay individual into its ministry. In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion. In 1974, the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from the list of mental illnesses. In 1976, Sony Corporation introduced the first videocassette recorder (VCR) and the erotica business erupted. And then, in 1979, the Moral Majority was founded.

A new goal for sexuality education also emerged during the decade: the promotion of sexual health. The World Health Organization (WHO) defined sexual health as “the integration of the physical, emotional, intellectual, and social aspects of sexual being in ways that are positively enriching and that enhance personality, communication, and love…. Every person has a right to receive sexual information and to consider accepting relationships for pleasure as well as for procreation.”

Two popular books reflected and affected the climate and culture of the decade. Our Bodies, Ourselves, a collective health and sex manual, highlighted the seventies feminist ideology. The Joy of Sex, also inarguably a sex manual, highlighted a newfound openness about sexual behaviors.
1980s
AIDS, POLITICAL EXTREMISTS
Early in the decade, the first AIDS cases were diagnosed. A headline in *The New York Times* announced a “Rare Cancer Seen in 41 Homosexuals.” The disease was diagnosed only in gay men, Haitians, and IV drug users. Many people believed AIDS was not relevant to their lives. The paucity of information, research, and answers regarding the disease created an atmosphere of fear and intense homophobia. *New York* and *Us* magazines called AIDS the “gay plague.”

As the medical community learned more about HIV and AIDS, myths and misinformation were slowly dismantled. Interest in sexuality education swelled as a result of the public recognition of the dangers of the epidemic. In 1986, U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop proclaimed: “There is now no doubt that we need sex education in schools and that it must include information on heterosexual and homosexual relationships.”

Religious political extremists used AIDS to forward their anti-homosexuality agenda. Political activist Pat Buchanan saw the disease as a tool of revenge. He said: “The poor homosexuals—they have declared war on nature, and nature is exacting an awful retribution.”

The religious political extremists also used the epidemic to push abstinence education in schools. They condemned safe-sex campaigns that stressed condom use. Their campaign slogans included: “Just Say No,” “Control your urgin’, be a virgin,” “Don’t be a louse, wait for your spouse,” and “Sleep around and you could wind up with more than a good time.”

1990s
SEX, POLITICS, AND THE INTERNET
The nation took a collective course on “Sex in the Workplace” in the 1990s as it witnessed live on television two separate sexuality-related cases involving top government officials.

Near the start of the decade, federal government employee Anita Hill accused Clarence Thomas, her boss, of sexual harassment at work and put into jeopardy his nomination for a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court. Hill supporters argued that Thomas’ sexual character made him an unacceptable candidate for that high office. After numerous intimate disclosures at a Judiciary Committee hearing, Thomas was confirmed by a 52 to 48 vote of the full Senate.

Near the end of the decade, President Clinton faced similar criticisms when he was accused of lying about an extramarital relationship with White House intern Monica Lewinsky. After months of televised debate and testimony involving the sexual encounters, Clinton was impeached by the U.S. House of Representatives and eventually acquitted by the U.S. Senate.

Americans were introduced to the Internet in the middle of the decade. It would subsequently become a major force in communicating sexuality information around the world. It also became a major force in bringing cybersex and erotica into the home. In the process, it challenged the boundaries of free speech and censorship.

The availability of comprehensive sexuality education in America’s schools was the subject of controversies in over 700 communities nationwide from 1992 to the end of the decade. Abstinence became the subject of federal legislation when President Clinton signed a law in 1996 that would provide states with funds to teach students sexual abstinence before marriage. The legislation limited the focus and effectiveness of school-based sexuality education throughout the nation by the end of the decade.

This second decade of the HIV/AIDS epidemic also saw major shifts in the public’s understanding and perception of the virus. The public no longer saw it as a “gay disease” but as one with the potential to affect everyone. The government announced that AIDS deaths had dropped by more than half due to improved treatment that had prevented or delayed the onset of infection and death.

Unfortunately, the good news gave many at-risk individuals the signal to resume unsafe sexual activities.

Researchers looking for materials on sexuality at the end of the twentieth century would find endless information: school-based sexuality education programs, HIV/AIDS-prevention resources, abortion and contraceptive services, gay and lesbian literature, Web sites and much more.

What a difference a century makes.

REFERENCES
IECUS’ Community Advocacy Project has tracked over 700 attacks on sexuality education since 1992. Parents, teachers, and school boards have battled over the amount of information to give students, the appropriate age to teach students, and the underlying messages that a program should convey.

Opponents of sexuality education take many forms—from large, nonprofit organizations with the broad mission of promoting conservative values to small for-profit distributors of abstinence-only-until-marriage curricula and materials.

Over the past few years the abstinence-only-until-marriage message and its supporters have received media attention and have developed a presence on the Internet. Existing organizations have become more visible and new organizations have formed to focus on abstinence only until marriage.

This Fact Sheet on Opponents of Comprehensive Sexuality Education contains a list of diverse national organizations that oppose comprehensive sexuality education and/or promote strict abstinence-only-until-marriage programs. It is designed to provide a brief overview of the mission of each organization, the position it takes on sexuality education, and the resources it provides to the public.

All quotations are from the organizations’ own published materials or Internet sites.

This fact sheet was developed and compiled by Martha Kemper, SIECUS education coordinator, and Dana Arnberg and Amy Bracksmajer, SIECUS interns.

**ORGANIZATIONS**

**AMERICAN LIFE LEAGUE (ALL)**

910 17th Street, N.W., 5th Floor
Washington, DC 20006
Phone: 202/266-3800
Fax: 202/466-3801
Web site: http://www.all.org

**Mission Statement**

“The philosophy of the American Life League is based on the truth that each and every preborn child, from fertilization on, is a human being who is entitled to both social and legal protection. The ultimate goal of the pro-life movement is to amend the U.S. Constitution.”

**Key People**

Judie Brown, president

**Sexuality Education Position**

“ALL will support only educational programs that teach sexual morality in the context of leading children toward the practice of virtue and that avoid examining the subject of sex in any concrete, detailed, or descriptive way in the classroom or any other public setting.”

**CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA**

1015 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: 202/488-7000
Fax: 202/488-0806
Web site: http://www.cwfa.org

**Mission Statement**

“The mission of the CWA is to protect and promote Biblical values among all citizens—first through prayer, then education, and finally by influencing our society—thereby reversing the decline of moral values in our nation.”

**Key People**

Beverly LaHaye, founder and chairman
Carmen Pate, president

**Sexuality Education Position**

“The liberal philosophy has always been that students are going to have sex anyway so we need to make sure they know how and are protected when they make that choice. Though condoms are handed out like candy, kids are never told that condoms are not 100 percent effective against pregnancy, STDs, or AIDS. Abstinence-only-based education is the only reliable form of sex education.”
Publications/Resources
Family Voice radio program with Beverly LaHaye; E-mail and fax alerts

Sexuality Education Resources/Activities
• Articles Online
  “Abstinence Education”; “Sex Education—Is It Working?”; “Abstinence Education—Gaining Ground”; “Kids and Sex—The Kinsey Connection”
• Booklet
  Sex Education in American Schools

EAGLE FORUM
P. O. Box 618
Alton, IL 62002
Phone: 618/462-5415
Fax: 618/462-8909
316 Pennsylvania Avenue S.E., Suite 203
Washington, DC 20003
Phone: 202/544-0353
Fax: 202/547-6996
Web site: http://www.eagleforum.org

Mission Statement
“Eagle Forum stands for the fundamental right of parents to guide the education of their own children.”

Key People
Phyllis Schlafly, president

History
Founded 1972

Sexuality Education Position
“Schools should not deprive children of their free-exercise-of-religion rights, or impose on children courses in explicit sex or alternate lifestyles, profane and immoral fiction or videos, New Age practices, anti-Biblical materials, or ‘Politically Correct’ liberal attitudes about social and economic issues.”

Publications/Resources
Phyllis Schlafly Report, Education Reporter

Sexuality Education Resources/Activities
• Video
  Crisis in the Classroom: The Hidden Agendas and Grassroots Opposition
• Articles in Education Reporter
• Local Activities
  Local chapters often participate in school board elections and sexuality education controversies

FAMILY RESEARCH COUNCIL
801 G Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: 202/393-2100
Fax: 202/393-2134 fax
Web site: http://www.frc.org

Mission Statement
“In Washington, DC, a city often estranged from heart and home, the Family Research Council is an unparalleled organization which focuses its efforts solely on defending the interests of America’s families. FRC provides an alternative voice in the media—a voice for the family and family values.”

Key People
Gary Bauer, president*
Chuck Donovan, executive vice president
Janet Parshall, national advocate and spokeswoman

History
“The Family Research Council is a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization. It was originally founded in 1983, merged with Focus on the Family from 1988–1992, then reorganized as a separate 501(c)3 and incorporated as such in the District of Columbia in October 1992.”

Sexuality Education Position
“Unfortunately, the broad reach of organizations such as Planned Parenthood and SIECUS has left many school boards and parents thinking that there is no alternative except to teach ‘safe sex.’ But there is an alternative that has shown to be even more effective than ‘safe sex’ in reducing teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases—abstinence.”

Publications/Resources
Washington Watch, Ed Facts

Sexuality Education Resources/Activities
• Booklets
  Making Your School Family Friendly
• Packets
  Teen Sex and Save Sex (posters, flyers, fact sheets, and articles)
• Articles, Speeches, and Papers Online
  “Sex Education: What Works?”; “SIECUS Sex Education Guidelines”; “Suffer the Children: Title X’s Family Planning Failure”; “If Condoms Are So Safe, Then Why Am I…”; “Abstinence Programs Show Promise in Reducing Sexual Activity and Pregnancy Among Teens”; “Promoting Premarital Sexual Abstinence and Responsible Sex Education”; “School Days; Sex Daze”

* Mr. Bauer is currently on leave to run for President of the United States in 2000.
FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

Mission Statement
“[...]

Key People
James Dobson, Ph.D., president

History
Founded 1977

Sexuality Education Position
“The need for alternatives to the amoral sex education taught in schools today has never been greater. Growing up in a society that tosses sexual messages into virtually every sales pitch and pop song, teenagers are finding it more and more difficult to resist these temptations. Young people need to be taught more than just how to have intercourse without getting pregnant or contracting a disease.”

“[...]

Publications/Resources
Focus on the Family Magazine; Citizen Magazine; Citizen Issues Alert; Heartlink Newsletter; daily radio broadcasts

HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Mission Statement
“The Heritage Foundation is a research and education institute—a think tank—whose mission is to formulate and promote conservative public policies based on the principles of free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense.”

Key People
Edwin J. Fuelner, president
Robert Rector, senior policy analyst

History
Founded 1973

Sexuality Education Position
Regarding the federal money for abstinence education, Rector was quoted as saying that he “hopes the government's promotion of abstinence until marriage will be broadened to include unmarried adults, gradually changing American sexual behavior.”

Publications/Resources
Policy Review: The Journal for American Citizenship

HUMAN LIFE INTERNATIONAL (HLI)

Mission Statement
“[...]

Key People
Edwin J. Fuelner, president
Robert Rector, senior policy analyst

History
Founded 1973

Sexuality Education Position
Regarding the federal money for abstinence education, Rector was quoted as saying that he “hopes the government's promotion of abstinence until marriage will be broadened to include unmarried adults, gradually changing American sexual behavior.”

Publications/Resources
Policy Review: The Journal for American Citizenship
Mission Statement
“Human Life International exists to fight these evils—to restore respect for the sanctity of life from the moment of conception through natural death, and to restore the preeminence of the traditional family as paramount in God’s plan. We work to save babies from abortion, to tell women the truth about contraception, to teach chastity to teens, and to fight the insidious onslaught of the population control movement that promotes euthanasia initiatives and worldwide ‘family planning.’”16

Key People
Father Richard Welch, president
Father Richard Marx, founder

History
Founded 1972

Sexuality Education Position
“HLI stands firmly in opposition to classroom sex education. Although children need some prudent instruction in the biology and physiology of human reproduction, it must take place within the context of the entire body. The reproductive system should receive no more emphasis than the respiratory, nervous, or digestive system. The student doesn’t need reproductive information repeated throughout 12 years of schooling.”17

Publications/Resources
HLI Report, Deacon’s Circle, and Seminarians for Life

Sexuality Education Resources/Activities
• Audio Tapes
  Chastity In and Out of Marriage; Fighting Sex Education in Schools; Sex Ed & Contemporary Moral Decadence; Sex Education: for Good or for Evil?; The Scourge of Sex Education; The Truth and Meaning of Sex Education
• Booklets
  Are Virgins Out of Date?; Educating in Chastity; Exposing SIECUS; Sex and the Education of Our Children; The Evils of Sex Education
• Books
  No! No! It Is a Sin!; Sex Education in the Schools: Tried but Untested; Sex Education the Final Plague; What’s Wrong with Sex Education?
• Pamphlet
  Their Plans for Your Children
• Articles Online
  “Condom Nation: Government Sex Education Promotes Teen Pregnancy”; “Education Before the Age of Reason”; “Education in Love and Sexuality”; “Promiscuity and Socialist Eugenics”; “Questions and Answers about School-Based Clinics”; “Sanity, Sex Ed and Chastity”

MEDICAL INSTITUTE FOR SEXUAL HEALTH (MISH)
P. O. Box 4919
Austin, TX 78765
Phone: 800/892 9484
Fax: 512/ 328-6269
Web site: http://www.med institute.org

Mission Statement
“Driven by medical, educational, and other scientific data, The Medical Institute informs, educates, and provides solutions to medical professionals, educators, government officials, parents, and the media about problems associated with sexual transmitted disease and nonmarital pregnancy.”18

Key People
Joe S. McIlhaney, Jr., M.D., founder and president

History
Founded 1992

Sexuality Education Position
“The only 100 percent effective way to avoid nonmarital pregnancy and STD infection is to avoid sexual activity outside of a mutually faithful lifelong relationship—marriage. The Medical Institute believes there is a new sexual revolution underway—one based on science, built on character, and bridged through education.”19

Resources/Publications
Sexual Health Update (quarterly newsletter)

Sexuality Education Resources/Activities
• Slide Show
  Sexual Health Today
• Video
  Just Thought You Oughta Know
• Booklets
  National Guidelines for Sexuality and Character Education; Abstinence Because; Abstinence vs. “Safer Sex” Sexuality Education: A Comparison; Condom Sense; Express Yourself; Sex: Been There Done That, Now What?; STDs: The Facts; Stretching the Truth

NATIONAL ABSTINENCE CLEARINGHOUSE
801 East 41st Street
Sioux Falls, SD 51705-6027
Phone: 888/577-2966
Fax: 605/335-0629
Web site: http://www.abstinence.net

Mission Statement
“The National Abstinence Clearinghouse is an alliance of nationally known educators formed to promote the appreciation and practice of sexual abstinence. The NAC
provides a resource center that distributes information on abstinence programs, curriculums, and speakers.”

Key People
Leslee J. Unruh, president

History
Founded 1997

Sexuality Education Position
“Sex Education Teaches Sex. Abstinence Education Teaches Love.”

Resources/Publications
National Abstinence Clearinghouse Newsletter

Sexuality Education Resources/Activities
Directory of Abstinence Resources (available in Christian or public school versions)

Activities
The National Abstinence Clearinghouse provides technical assistance to members interested in more information about abstinence programs, products, and speakers.

Sexuality Education Position
“NCAE’s membership consists of over 60 independent national, state, and local organizations with a long-standing commitment to the abstinence-centered education message and the abstinence-only ideal.”

Sexuality Education Resources/Activities
- Fact Sheet
  SIECUS Title V Survey Report Will Provide False Information to Policy Makers
- Report Cards
  “NCAE graded each state’s compliance relative to congressional intent and sound abstinence education principles in 12 different categories. A subsequent report card will grade actual program expenditures.”

NATIONAL COALITION FOR ABSTINENCE EDUCATION (NCAE)

c/o Focus on the Family Public Policy Department
P. O. Box 536
Colorado Springs, CO 80901-0536
Phone: 719/548-4537
Fax: 719/531-3338

Mission Statement
“The role of NCAE is to:
• Serve as a spokesman for the abstinence-education community with major media outlets regarding the compliance of states with Title V
• Facilitate the formation of state abstinence coalitions
• Distribute pertinent information about Title V and related abstinence education topics to abstinence advocates throughout the U.S.
• Make available factual information to state and national government officials to counter attempts by the comprehensive safe-sex education industry to sabotage Title V.”

Key People
Peter Brandt, director (Mr. Brandt is also manager of the Issue Response Department of the Public Policy Division of Focus on the Family.)

History
“The National Coalition for Abstinence Education (NCAE) was formed in early 1997 as an ad hoc coalition dedicated to insuring that the Title V abstinence education program is implemented consistent with the letter and spirit of the law.”

Sexuality Education Position
“NCAE’s membership consists of over 60 independent national, state, and local organizations with a long-standing commitment to the abstinence-centered education message and the abstinence-only ideal.”

Sexuality Education Resources/Activities
- Fact Sheet
  SIECUS Title V Survey Report Will Provide False Information to Policy Makers
- Report Cards
  “NCAE graded each state’s compliance relative to congressional intent and sound abstinence education principles in 12 different categories. A subsequent report card will grade actual program expenditures.”

NATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF STATE PHYSICIAN’S RESOURCE COUNCILS

c/o New Jersey Physician’s Resource Council
P.O. Box 131
Fanwood, NJ 07023
Phone: 877/236-5772
Fax: 908/322-4293

In February 1999, the National Consortium of State Physician’s Resource Councils released and widely distributed a research report entitled “The Declines in Adolescent Pregnancy, Abortion and Birth Rates in the 1990s: What Factors Are Responsible.” According to the report: “Programs in safer sex education and condom distribution have not reduced the out-of-wedlock birthrates among sexually experienced teens. It appears possible that programs aimed at producing abstinent behavior have been more successful than programs aimed at increasing safer-sex practices in reducing unintended births to adolescents.” This report has been discredited by several prominent researchers.

The National Consortium of State Physician’s Resource Council is described as “a network of the 13 state organizations” and “an association of more than 2,000 health professionals who are dedicated to bringing accurate medical data to public health officials and policy makers.”

SIECUS was unable to find any more information about the Consortium such as national office location, contact information, or personnel. Physician’s Resource Councils do exist in several states including Alabama and New Jersey. The New Jersey Physician’s Resource Council was responsible for distributing the report. Information that SIECUS has received suggests that there may be some relationship between these state Physician’s Resource Councils and the Physician’s Resource Council sponsored by Focus on the Family.
STOPP is a division of the American Life League that has "led the fight" since 1994.30

Sexuality Education Position
“STOPP endorses all nonviolent activity which is in accord with the laws of God. We support the no exception legislation position of ALL. We believe all these activities are necessary and must be joined with an all-out assault on the failed sex ed programs of Planned Parenthood if we are to restore the family to its true place and protect our children."31

Sexuality Education Resources
1999 Summary and Analysis of Planned Parenthood’s Operation in the United States; A Study of the Contraceptive Business at Planned Parenthood; Defeating Planned Parenthood’s Public School Sex Education Programs; Countering Planned Parenthood’s Plans for Your Community; Defeating Government’s Funds for Planned Parenthood; Parent Power

AMERICAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION
Suffer the Children is a video tape produced by the American Family Association. It is a direct counter to It’s Elementary; Talking About Gay Issues in School, a film by Debra Chasnoff and Helen Cohen. The American Family Association says about It’s Elementary: “A pro-homosexual bombshell has been fired into our children’s elementary schools. It’s designed to accomplish three goals: (1) subvert our children’s innocence; (2) turn them from beliefs and values you hold dear; and (3) indoctrinate them with false moral teachings.”32 Order video from American Family Association, P. O. Drawer 2440, Tupelo, MS 38803; Phone: 603/844-5036; Web site: http://wwwafa.net

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST
Why Wait; Right From Wrong; The Secret of Loving; Skeptics Who Demanded a Verdict; The Teenage Q and A Book; Josh McDowell’s One Year Book of Family Devotions; Josh McDowell’s One Year of Youth Devotions

THE NATIONAL COALITION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS/CITIZENS FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
This organization offers assistance to parents who wish to have an “opt-out” policy implemented in their schools. Opt-out policies allow parents to remove their children from sexuality education if they feel the information is inappropriate. P. O. Box 3200, Costa Mesa, CA 92628; Phone: 714/251-9333; Web site: http://wwwnace-cee.org

FEAR-BASED ABSTINENCE EDUCATION PROVIDERS

FRIENDS FIRST
P. O. Box 356
Longmont, CO 80502-0356
Phone: 800/909-WAIT
Fax: 303/776-0715
http://www.friendsfirst.org

Mission Statement
“The Colorado Coalition for Abstinence Education, Inc. dba [doing business as] FRIENDS FIRST supports youth and families in making healthy life choices based on a community model of relationship education and abstinence until marriage.”33

Curricula Produced/Distributed
WAIT Training (Why Am I Tempted) is a curriculum for fifth- through twelfth-grade students with between two and 35 classroom sessions.

Videos Produced/Distributed
Me, Myself & I; Just Do It?; Get On Line; Virtual Relationships; From Here to There (Order by calling 800/349-6884.)

Additional Materials
“The FRIENDS FIRST® peer support network is a collaborative effort between the school and the community to offer ongoing support for sexual abstinence to preadolescents and teens. As a peer mentoring model, the STARS (Self Control, Trust, Abstinence, Responsibility, and Self Respect) mentor younger teens in the art of relationships that avoid drug and alcohol abuse, and sexual intimacy.”34

PROJECT REALITY*
P. O. Box 97
Golf, IL 60029
Phone: 847/729-3298
Fax: 847/729-9744
Web site: http://www.project-reality.pair.com

Order these books from Campus Crusade for Christ, 100 Sunport Lane, Orlando, FL, 32809; Phone: 407/826-2000; Web site: http://www.ccci.org
Mission Statement
“Project Reality has been a pioneer in the national field of adolescent health education, teaching, and evaluating abstinence-centered programs in public schools since 1985. This 501(C)3 not-for-profit education organization offers curricula, teacher training workshops, seminars, and materials promoting abstinence until marriage.”

Key People
Kathleen Sullivan, executive director

Curricula Produced/Distributed
Choosing the Best, seventh through ninth grade, five sessions; Facing Reality, ninth through twelfth grade, five sessions; I Can Do That, fifth through eighth grade, currently being written.

Videos Produced/Distributed
First Comes Love, Everyone Is NOT Doing It, Masquerade, No Second Chance, Earliest Days of Life, Windows to the Womb, If You Love Me, Show Me (in English and Spanish)

Additional Materials
Series of booklets by George B. Eager including: Understanding Your Sex Drive and Love and Dating

**“The original name of Project Reality was Project Respect, which was a subsidiary of the Committee on the Status of Women run by [Kathleen] Sullivan. Project Respect originally promoted Sex Respect, an abstinence-only curriculum now handled by Respect, Inc.” Respect, Inc. is now a separate organization. (From Activists Resource Kit, Political Research Associates, 1998.)

** Order Choosing the Best from Choosing the Best, 2470 Windy Hill Road, Suite 300, Marietta, GA 30067; Phone: 770/618-3014. 35

RESPECT, INC.
P. O. Box 349
Bradley, IL 60915
Phone: 815/932-8389; 815/932-8389
Fax: 815/933-9919
Web site: http://www.sexrespect.com

Mission Statement
“As in all other areas of health education, the Sex Respect program provides a direction toward good health. Just as our drug programs, nutrition lessons, and smoking units are clear in their objectives for influencing healthy behavior, so is the Sex Respect program directional. Teens need a consistent clear message from all responsible adults proclaiming, ‘Sex should be saved for marriage.’ ”36

Key People
Colleen Kelly Mast

Curricula Produced/Distributed
Sex Respect, seventh through tenth grade, three to 10 weeks

Videos Produced/Distributed
Done That—Changed My Ways; Not Doing It; Dating Predator or Partner; But You Can’t Hide; Why I Waited

Additional Materials
Novelty Items including: T-shirts, pins and posters with such slogans as “Pet Your Dog Not Your Date” and “Don’t be Drips, Stop at the Lips”

TEEN AID
723 East Jackson
Spokane, WA 99207
Phone: 509/466-8679
Fax: 509/482-7994
Web site: http://www.teen-aid.org

Mission Statement
“Teen-Aid Inc. is a nonsectarian, not-for-profit corporation. The purpose is to promote premarital abstinence and character in schools, through parent teen communication, and now on the Internet! Effective directive abstinence education is a form of family life, or sex education that uses skills and information to reinforce character and family values.”37

Key People
LeAnna Benn and Nancy Roache

Curricula Produced/Distributed
HIV You Can Live Without It, fifth through twelfth grade, two to four hours each year; Sexuality, Commitment & Family, twelfth grade, 15 to 20 hours; Mr, My World, My Future, sixth through eighth grade, 15 to 20 hours; AEGIS—Character Education, fifth through sixth grades, seven hours.

Videos Produced/Distributed
None

Additional Materials
“Writing An Abstinence Grant for the Novice” by LeAnna Benn

PERSONAL ABSTINENCE PLEDGE ORGANIZATIONS

PASSION 4 PURITY
1327 Englewood Drive
Slidell, LA 70458
Phone: 504/649-6894
Fax: 504/781-3180
Web site: http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Meadows

Mission Statement
“Passion 4 Purity is a group of young adults who are learning how to live God’s standard of purity and real love. We are pursuing purity as a lifestyle and choosing to wait for God’s best.”38
Key People
Cindy Collins

Activities
Local Passion 4 Purity Peer Groups; “Passion 4 Purity members have meetings twice a month which provide a ‘refuge’ as together we understand the awesome gift of God’s ‘real love,’ help each other with our commitment to live a lifestyle of purity, apply truths found in the Bible, reach out to our peers and make a difference in our generation.”

Resources
- Novelty Items
  Covenant ring and bumper stickers with the slogan, “Bod 4 God, Bought With A Price”
- Web Site
  Message board for members to post and read items

**PURE LOVE ALLIANCE**

305 Madison Avenue
Suite 1166
New York, NY 10165
Phone: 212/382-1634
Fax: 212/382-2005
Web site: http://www.purelove.org

Mission Statement
“Working in two areas—public awareness and education—the Pure Love Alliance is working to raise human sexuality to its rightful place as the most sacred expression of love between a man and a woman within the bonds of marriage. Our undivided focus is to promote abstinence before and fidelity in marriage.”

Affiliations
Pure Love Alliance is a project of the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity also known as the Unification Church, a religious movement founded by Reverend Sun Myung Moon in 1954.

Key People
Robert S. Kittle

Personal Abstinence Pledge
“The pure relationship between a man and a woman is a sacred gift from God, to be cherished and honored for the sake of building a true family, healthy society, and a world of peace for future generations. Once that love is consummated it should never be broken. Therefore, from this day forward, I commit myself to:

1. Respect and honor the ideal of purity in myself and others.
2. Practice pure love as a child, friend, spouse, and parent.
3. Refrain from all sexual relationships before marriage.
4. Dedicate myself to absolute fidelity within marriage.
5. Encourage others to do the same.”

**TRUE LOVE WAITS**

127 Ninth Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37234-0152
Phone: 800/458-2772
Fax: 615/251-5933
Web site: http://www.truelovewaits.com

Mission Statement
“True Love Waits is an international campaign designed to challenge students to remain sexually abstinent until marriage.”

Affiliations
True Love Waits is sponsored by LifeWay Christian Resources which is owned and operated by the Southern Baptist Convention.

Key People
Richard Ross, president

Personal Abstinence Pledge
“Believing that true love waits, I make a commitment to God, myself, my family, my friends, my future mate, and my future children to be sexually abstinent from this day until the day I enter a biblical marriage relationship.”

Activities
True Love Waits sponsors rallies in communities across the country. They are often hosted by local faith communities. Some rallies do, however, take place in secular settings including a 1994 rally and display of 210,000 pledge cards on the National Mall in Washington, DC, and a 1999 rally on the steps of the Texas Capitol.

Resources
- Books
  Christian Sex Education Series Set; Sex! What’s That?; Sexuality: God’s Gift; Until You Say I Do; Holding Out for True Love
- Videos
  Gospel of Sex Video Pack; Pamela’s Prayer
- Novelty Items
  T-shirts, jewelry, music, and pledge cards
REFERENCES

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2. Ibid.
3. “About CWA,” cwfa.org/about
6. Ibid.
8. Ibid.
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20. What Is the National Abstinence Clearinghouse? www.abstinence.net/2.htm
23. Ibid.
24. Ibid.
25. Ibid.
27. Ibid.
28. Personal conversations with confidential sources.
30. Ibid.
31. Ibid.
32. Suffer the Children Video, www.afa.net/homosexuality/stc.htm
39. Ibid.
42. Sign Pledge, www.purelove.org/sign_pledge.html
44. Home Page, www.truelovewaits.com
This bibliography is designed to help professionals develop a core sexuality library. There are many publications that address sexuality issues. This list includes a select number of books that address both general and specific subject areas. SIECUS offers many annotated bibliographies on sexuality issues. They are available on our Web site.

This bibliography is an abridged version of a more comprehensive bibliography titled Resources for Professionals: A SIECUS Annotated Bibliography that includes information on books, reports, and organizations. It is available free of charge on the SIECUS Web site. All of the books in this bibliography are a permanent part of the Mary S. Calderone Library collection. Individuals interested in purchasing the books, should check the contact and price information in each annotation (which doesn’t include shipping and handling).

This abridged bibliography is available free of charge on the SIECUS Web site or for $2 per copy by ordering it from the SIECUS Publications Department, 130 West 42nd Street, Suite 350, New York, NY 10036-7802; Phone: 212/819-9770; Fax: 212/819-9776; E-mail: siecus@siecus.org; Web site: http://www.siecus.org

This bibliography was compiled by Amy Levine, M.A., SIECUS librarian.

### Books for Professionals

#### The Best Intentions: Unintended Pregnancy and the Well-Being of Children and Families

**Sarah S. Brown and Leon Eisenberg, Editors**

This book examines the causes and consequences of unintended pregnancy in the United States. It then suggests and evaluates prevention strategies. The authors propose a national campaign to reduce unintended pregnancies through education, research, increased access to contraception, and emphasis on the important role that feelings and interpersonal relationships play in prevention.


#### Contraceptive Technology: Seventeenth Revised Edition

**Robert A. Hatcher, M.D., M.P.H. et al**

This book provides clear information about sexual anatomy and physiology, sexually transmitted diseases, contraceptive methods, and women's reproductive health problems. The authors emphasize the need for education and counseling. The book includes relevant statistics and strategies. It also includes a list of family planning resources as well as a glossary and index.

1998; $39.95; ISBN 0-9664902-0-7; American Book Center, Brooklyn Navy Yard, Brooklyn, NY 11205; Phone: 800/218-1535; Fax: 718/935-9647.

#### A Descriptive Dictionary and Atlas of Sexology

**Robert T. Francoeur, Editor-in-Chief**

This book provides comprehensive definitions for sexual terms. It also includes charts and diagrams to illustrate psychosexual development, sexual anatomy and physiology, and reproduction.

1991; out of print; Continuum Publishing Company, P.O. Box 605, Herndon, VA 20172; Phone: 800/561-7704; Fax: 703/661-1501; Web site: http://www.continuum-books.com

#### Dubious Conceptions: The Politics of Teenage Pregnancy

**Kristin Luker**

This book contains the results of over 400 interviews of adolescent girls conducted from 1978 to 1986. The narratives touch on many aspects of their sexuality, including romantic expectations, sexual decision-making, teen motherhood, relationships, and sexual orientation.

1995; $13; ISBN 0809015994; VHPS, 16365 James Madison Highway, Gordonsville, VA 22942; Phone: 888/330-8477; Fax: 800/672-2054; Web site: http://www.vhpsba.com

#### For Sex Education, See Librarian: A Guide to Issues and Resources

**Martha Cornog and Timothy Perper**

This is a guide to sexuality materials available in libraries. The book covers the history of sexuality education and sexuality materials in libraries. It also provides guidelines for accessing, collecting, cataloging, and programming the information. There are annotated bibliographies on “Sexuality and Behavior,” “Homosexuality and Gender Issues,” “Life Cycle Issues,” “Sex and Society,” and “Sexual Problems.”

1996; $45; ISBN 0-313-29022-9; Greenwood Publishing Group, P.O. Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881-5007; Phone: 800/225-5800; Fax: 203/222-1502; Web site: http://www.greenwood.com

#### Going All The Way: Teenage Girls’ Tales of Sex, Romance and Pregnancy

**Sharon Thompson**

This book contains the results of over 400 interviews of adolescent girls conducted from 1978 to 1986. The narratives touch on many aspects of their sexuality, including romantic expectations, sexual decision-making, teen motherhood, relationships, and sexual orientation.

1995; $13; ISBN 0809015994; VHPS, 16365 James Madison Highway, Gordonsville, VA 22942; Phone: 888/330-8477; Fax: 800/672-2054; Web site: http://www.vhpsba.com

#### A SIECUS Annotated Bibliography

This bibliography is designed to help professionals develop a core sexuality library. There are many publications that address sexuality issues. This list includes a select number of books that address both general and specific subject areas. SIECUS offers many annotated bibliographies on sexuality issues. They are available on our Web site.
Handbook of Sexuality-Related Measures
Clive M. Davis, et al, Editors
This handbook consists of over 180 instruments—inventories, questionnaires, and scales—covering 50 topics including abortion, contraception, education, homosexuality, orgasm, rape, and sexually transmitted diseases. Each chapter describes the development and appropriate use of each instrument as well as information on timing, scoring, and interpretation.

The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting Sexually Transmitted Diseases
Thomas Eng and William T. Butler, Editors
Institute of Medicine
This book examines the scope of sexually transmitted diseases in the United States and provides a critical assessment of the nation’s response to this public health crisis. It identifies the components of an effective national STD prevention and control strategy, provides direction for an appropriate response to the epidemic, offers recommendations for improving public awareness and education, and documents the economic costs of STDs.

The HIV Challenge: Prevention Education for Young People, 2nd Edition
Marcia Quackenbush, Kay Clark, and Mary Nelson, Editors
This book is intended to design, implement, and evaluate successful HIV prevention education programs. Topics include “Real People, the Real World and a Real Disease,” “Real Learning: What Works?,” “The Youth Connection: Where Does It Happen?,” “In the Classroom: Students Need to Know,” “Facing the Issues: Controversy and HIV Education,” “Many Cultures, One Goal: HIV Prevention,” “Exceptional Circumstances, Additional Risks.”
1995; $29.95; ISBN 1-56071-363-1; ETR Associates, P. O. Box 1830, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1830; Phone: 800/321-4407; Fax: 800/435-8433; Web site: http://www.etr.org

Learning About Sexuality: A Practical Beginning
Sondra Zeidenstein and Kirsten Moore, Editors
This book examines ways in which sexuality, gender roles, and power imbalances in intimate relationships influence family planning and reproductive health choices. It is a compilation of essays detailing sexuality research and programs from a variety of cultures. It is divided into three sections: “Approaches to Understanding the Experience of Sexuality,” “Understanding and Acting on the Links among Sexuality, Contraception, and Reproductive Health,” and “Challenging Entrenched Attitudes and Behavior Related to Sexuality.”

The International Encyclopedia of Sexuality
Robert T. Francoeur, Editor
This three-volume set provides straightforward, comprehensive information about sexual beliefs, norms, and activities in 32 countries. Each chapter follows the same content outline which enables the reader to easily compare specific sexual issues in different countries. A list of international resources and an index are included.
1999; $225, three-volume set; ISBN 0-8264-0841-9; Continuum Publishing Company, P.O. Box 605, Herndon, VA 20172; Phone: 800/561-7704; Fax: 703/661-1501; Web site: http://www.continuum-books.com

Reproductive Health in Developing Countries: Expanding Dimensions, Building Solutions
Amy O. Tsui, Judith N. Wasserheit, and John G. Haaga, Editors
This book provides information about the magnitude of reproductive health problems in developing countries, and what is known...
about the effectiveness of interventions in these areas. The topics covered in this collection of essays include infection-free sexual relationships, intended pregnancies and births, healthy pregnancy and delivery, and healthy sexuality.

National Academy Press, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20055; Phone: 800/624-6242; Fax: 202/334-2451; Web site: http://www.nap.edu

**The Scapegoat Generation: America’s War on Adolescents**

*Mike A. Males*

This book is a review of statistics and findings that debunk myths of the sexual and other behaviors of adolescents. The author maintains that adolescents are the scapegoats for a society that is not dealing with issues that need to be addressed.

Common Courage Press, P.O. Box 702, Monroe, ME 04951; Phone: 800/497-3207; Fax: 207/525-3068; Web site: http://www.commoncouragepress.com

**Sexuality and the Curriculum: The Politics and Practices of Sexuality Education**

*James T. Sears, Editor*

This book is a collection of 15 essays that challenge conventional assumptions about sexuality and sexuality curricula from kindergarten through college. It explores both explicit and hidden sexuality curricula and proposes specific strategies and alternatives to implementing curricula. A resource list and index are included.

1994; $39.95; ISBN 1-56071-130-2; ETR Associates, P.O. Box 1830, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1830; Phone: 800/321-4407; Fax: 800/435-8433; Web site: http://www.ett.org

**Sexuality Education Across Cultures**

*Janice M. Irvine*

Written for professionals who teach about sexuality issues or counsel parents about sexuality issues, this book explores the ways in which cultural differences shape beliefs about gender and sexual thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. It also shows how a better understanding of cultural diversity will improve communication and create more effective sexuality education programs.


**The Sexuality Education Challenge: Promoting Healthy Sexuality in Young People**

*Judy C. Drole and Kay Clark, Editors*

This book consists of 35 chapters written by sexuality educators. Topics include the history of sexuality education, challenges to sexuality education in schools and conservative communities, teacher training for sexuality education, and the role of the media in sexuality education. It also evaluates sexuality education programs. A list of resources and an index are included.

1994; $39.95; ISBN 1-56071-130-2; ETR Associates, P.O. Box 1830, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1830; Phone: 800/321-4407; Fax: 800/435-8433; Web site: http://www.ett.org

**Sexuality Education in Postsecondary and Professional Training Settings**

*James W. Maddock, Ph.D., Editor*

This volume was written by and geared toward sexuality educators of young adults. The essays cover sexuality education in undergraduate courses, seminars and theological schools, and medical schools.

The Haworth Press, Inc., 10 Alice Street, Binghamton, NY 13904-5857; Phone: 800/429-6784; Fax: 800/895-0582; Web site: http://www.haworthpressinc.com

**Sexual Pharmacology: Drugs That Affect Sexual Functioning**

*Theresa L. Crenshaw, M.D. and James P. Goldberg, Ph.D.*

Intended for medical professionals, this book is a user-friendly reference on the positive and negative effects of drugs on sexual function.


**The Social Organization of Sexuality: Sexual Practices in the United States**

*Edward O. Laumann, et al*

This book for professionals contains the findings of the National Health and Social Life Survey (NHSLS) designed to determine the incidence and prevalence of sexual practices and to place them in their social contexts. Topics include early sexual experiences, masturbation, contraception and fertility, abortion, gay and lesbian sexuality, sexual abuse and coercion, sexual health, sexual satisfaction, and sexual dysfunction. The authors also published *Sex in America: A Definitive Survey* (1994; CSG Enterprises, Inc.; ISBN 0-316-07524-8) with findings on the same survey for the lay person.

1994; $49.95; ISBN 0-226-46957-3; University of Chicago Press, 11030 South Langley Avenue, Chicago, IL 60628; Phone: 800/621-2736; Fax: 800/621-8476; Web site: http://www.press.uchicago.edu
Suzanne G. Frayser and Thomas J. Whitby

This book is a comprehensive bibliographic guide on human sexuality. It includes over 1,000 abstracts covering such general areas as medicine, psychology, anthropology, sociology, religion, law, education, history, literature, and the arts. It also highlights such specific issues as abortion, AIDS, prostitution, sexuality education, sexual abuse, sexuality and the media, and gay and lesbian sexuality.

1995; $85; ISBN 1-56308-131-8; Libraries Unlimited, P.O. Box 6633, Englewood, CO 80155-6633; Phone: 800/237-6124; Fax: 303/220-8843; Web site: http://www.lc.com

Teaching About Sexuality and HIV: Principles and Methods for Effective Education
Evonne Hedgepeth and Joan Helmich

This comprehensive book for teachers and community health educators focuses on the "how" and "why" of effective sexuality and HIV education rather than on the "what." It includes discussions on the creation of a productive learning environment. It also provides interactive and practical methods educators can use to review principles and address concerns about sexuality and HIV education.


BOOKS FOR PROFESSIONALS

SIECUS SURVEY FINDS RADIO PROGRAM ENCOURAGES PARENT-CHILD COMMUNICATION

SIECUS and CRN International, Inc., aired a series of one-minute weekly radio programs titled A Minute to Talk About Sexuality With Your Children from April 18 through July 7, 1999, on WMLI (Soft Rock 96.3) in Madison, WI, and on WQGN (Q 105) in New London, CT.

SIECUS contracted with Peggy Gallup, Ph.D., and Michelle Vancour, M.P.H., faculty members at Southern Connecticut State University, to conduct an evaluation of the radio programs. It included a phone survey of 129 parents with children aged three to 17 who had heard the program (listeners) and a comparison group of 111 parents who had not heard the program (nonlisteners) to determine if listeners had more positive viewpoints about discussing sexuality than nonlisteners and to find out what the listeners thought about the programs.

Both were asked to reply to these questions or statements:
1. How soon do you think you will talk with any of your children about sexuality?
2. At what age do you think parents should begin to talk to their children about sexuality?
3. Parents should only talk to their child about sexuality when the child asks questions.
4. I know enough to talk about many important sexuality issues with my children.
5. I feel embarrassed talking with my children about sexuality.

SURVEY FINDINGS

The most striking finding showed that 38.9 percent of listeners—compared to 28.4 percent of nonlisteners—planned to talk with their children about sexuality “within the next week.” Slightly fewer listeners (27.6 percent) than nonlisteners (30.9 percent) felt embarrassed by these discussions. Listeners thought such discussions should begin a bit younger than did nonlisteners (7.1 versus 7.4 years). Very few respondents (11.8 percent) agreed that “parents should only talk about sexuality when the child asks questions.” Most (93.2 percent) believed they knew enough to talk with their children.

The listeners had very favorable opinions about the programs. Almost all (92.2 percent) considered them helpful. Approximately three-quarters (73.2 percent) felt the topics were relevant. More than four out of five felt the programs had made them more aware of the importance of the topic (86.7 percent) and had provided them with new information (84.3 percent). A majority (64 percent) said the programs had made them more comfortable with these discussions. Overall, 81.3 percent stated the programs had made them more comfortable with these discussions. Most participants commented that the programs should be broadcast more frequently. One parent said they gave “ideas about what to talk about.” Another said she thought the program on listening and being open to questions was “a great reminder.” The program made 86.7 percent of listeners more aware of the importance of communication.

The program listeners were selected from a listener database in Madison and from the phone book in New London. Eligible parents were invited to listen to the programs and participate in the survey. Those who agreed to listen were interviewed approximately two weeks later. A comparison group of parents who did not hear the programs was obtained by calling numbers at random from area phone books.

The radio spots can be heard on the SIECUS Web site (www.siecus.org).
Strip in SIECUS ad, which you will set from Mac Edwards’ disk
Each issue of the SIECUS Report features ground-breaking articles and commentary by leaders and front-line professionals in the field of sexuality and education, along with news, special bibliographies on varied topics, book and audiovisual reviews, recommended resources, and advocacy updates. All of this comes to members and other subscribers six times each year.

Manuscripts are read with the understanding that they are not under consideration elsewhere and have not been published previously. Manuscripts not accepted for publication will not be returned. Upon acceptance, all manuscripts will be edited for grammar, conciseness, organization, and clarity.

To expedite production, submissions should adhere to the following guidelines:

**PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPTS**

Feature articles are usually 2,000–4,000 words. Book and audiovisual reviews are typically 200–600 words.

Manuscripts should be submitted on 8 1⁄2 x 11 inch paper, double-spaced, with paragraphs indented. Authors should also send a computer disk containing their submission.

All disks should be clearly labeled with the title of submission, author’s name, type of computer or word processor used, and type of software used.

The following guidelines summarize the information that should appear in all manuscripts. Authors should refer to the current issue of the SIECUS Report as a guide to our style for punctuation, capitalization, and reference format.

**Articles**

The beginning of an article should include the title, subtitle, author’s name and professional degrees, and author’s title and professional affiliation.

Articles may incorporate sidebars, lists of special resources, and other supplementary information of interest. Charts should be included only if necessary and should be submitted in camera-ready form. References should be numbered consecutively throughout the manuscript and listed at the end.

**Book Reviews**

The beginning of a book review should include the title of the book, author’s or editor’s name, place of publication (city and state), publisher’s name, copyright date, number of pages, and price for hardcover and paperback editions.

**Audiovisual Reviews**

The beginning of an audiovisual review should include the title of the work, producer’s name, year, running time, name and address of distributor, and price.

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**COMPLIMENTARY COPIES/BULK RATE**

On request, authors of articles receive three copies of the issue in which their article appears, and reviewers receive two copies. Larger quantities are available to authors and reviewers at half price if requested prior to printing.

**INQUIRIES AND SUBMISSIONS**

All questions and submissions should be addressed to the editor, by telephone, at 212/819-9770, by E-mail to medwards@siecus.org, or by mail to SIECUS Report, SIECUS, 130 West 42nd Street, Suite 350, New York, NY 10036-7802.
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Mission

SIECUS affirms that sexuality is a natural and healthy part of living. SIECUS develops, collects, and disseminates information; promotes comprehensive education about sexuality; and advocates the right of individuals to make responsible sexual choices.