

## RESPONSIBLE SEX EDUCATION

The Coalition for Responsible Sex Ed advocates for responsible sex ed policy in Minnesota. We believe that sex ed programs help young people be safe and healthy. These programs provide information that Minnesota youth need to become responsible adults.

The sex ed legislation creates standards for medically accurate, age appropriate sex education for public school students in grades 7-12.

### Minnesota Parents Support Sex Ed

- According to a survey conducted in 2007, 89% of Minnesota parents agree that young people should be taught in school how to prevent pregnancy and disease, while also being encouraged to delay sexual activity.<sup>1</sup>
- No matter how you group them, by geography, gender, age, race, religion or political orientation, Minnesota parents overwhelmingly support sex ed in schools.<sup>1</sup>
- Minnesota parents support inclusion of a broad range of topics in sex ed programs.<sup>1</sup>

### Responsible Sex Ed Programs Work

- Research shows that effective sex ed programs provide adolescents with the knowledge, attitude, skills, and values to make responsible choices.<sup>2</sup>
- Sex ed programs that discuss both abstinence and contraception, do not increase sexual activity among teens; rather, such programs often delay first intercourse, reduce the frequency of sex, and reduce the number of sexual partners.<sup>2</sup>

### Support Responsible Sex Ed!

- Contact your legislators today and tell them you support legislation that would establish standards for responsible sex ed programs in Minnesota public schools.
- Join the Coalition for Responsible Sex Ed. Visit [www.coalitionforsexed.org](http://www.coalitionforsexed.org) to find out how to get more involved.

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<sup>1</sup> Minnesota Parent Survey Fact Sheet, Healthy Youth Development Prevention Research Center, University of Minnesota, 2007.

<sup>2</sup> Kirby D. Emerging answers: research findings on programs to reduce teen pregnancy. Washington, D.C.: National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2007.

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The Coalition for Responsible Sex Ed is a coalition of education, faith, public health, social service, and advocacy organizations, as well as individual members, that advocates for policies on responsible sexuality education and access to confidential health care services.

For more information visit [www.coalitionforsexed.org](http://www.coalitionforsexed.org).