



EYESOPENIOWA: ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH

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EYESOPENIOWA: YOUR CONNECTION TO ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH

- Established in 1997
- Located in West Des Moines, Iowa
- EyesOpenIowa is designated by the federally funded agency Advocates for Youth as the *State Lead Agency* in Iowa for Teen Pregnancy Prevention.
- Mission: Leading Iowa communities in advocacy, education and collaboration to ensure adolescent sexual health.
- Programs:
 - Community Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (CAPP) Grant Program
 - WISE Iowa Project (Working to Institutionalize Sex Ed)
 - Talking Sex Together (TxTina)
 - Training and Capacity Building



ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH: THE FACTS

- 44% of Iowa High School students in 9th-12th grade report ever having sexual intercourse.
- By grade level the percentage increases: 21% of freshman, 40% of sophomores, 56% of juniors and 58% of seniors.
- 21% of seniors have had sexual intercourse with four or more persons in their lifetime.
- Among sexually active teens, 39% did not use a condom at the last sexual intercourse, and 63% did not use birth control pills or other long-acting reversible contraceptive.



ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH: THE FACTS

- Statewide, teens (15-19) account for 26% of chlamydia cases and 20% of gonorrhea cases.
- In 2013, there were 226 total cases of Syphilis in Iowa, 2012 this was 138 and in 2011 there were 70.
- In 2012 in Woodbury County 147 teens births to mothers under 20.
- In Woodbury County an estimated 1,840 young women aged 13-19 need publicly funded contraceptive services and supplies.
- The estimated cost of teen childbearing in Woodbury County is \$5.4 Million (2008 dollars).



ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH: THE FACTS

- Among teens (9th- 12th grade), 8% have been hit, slapped or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend during the past 12 months.
- Among Iowa teens in 9th- 12th grade, 10% of females and 4% of males have been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to.
- In 2011, victims of domestic violence included 467 teens aged 18-19 and 85 teens ages 13-17 years old.



THE LAW: IN IOWA

- Minors are allowed to purchase condoms.
- All minors are allowed to get a prescription for birth control without a parent's permission.
- Minors can get tested and treated for STDs without parents permission.
- Minors do not need a parents permission for a pregnancy test.



STATE MANDATE- IOWA CODE 279.50

Iowa Code section 279.50 requires public schools to provide age-appropriate and research-based instruction in human growth and development including instruction about human sexuality, self-esteem, stress management, interpersonal relationships, AIDS, HPV (Human Papilloma Virus), and the availability of the vaccine to prevent HPV in grades one through twelve.



WHY COMPREHENSIVE SEX ED IS IMPORTANT

Comprehensive sex education includes age-appropriate, medically accurate information on a broad set of topics related to sexuality including human development, relationships, decision making, abstinence, contraception, and disease prevention.

A survey conducted by the Kennedy School of Government, the Kaiser Family Foundation, and National Public Radio found that over 90% of parents of middle school and high school students believe it is very or somewhat important to have sexuality education as part of the school curriculum.



CSE- EVALUATION

Evaluations of comprehensive sex education programs help youth by:

delaying onset of sexual activity

reducing the number of sexual partners

reducing the frequency of sexual activity

increasing academic achievement and decreased dropout rates

Evidence shows youth who receive comprehensive sex education are **NOT** more likely to increase sexual activity.



CSE- EVALUATION

- Researchers studied the National Survey of Family Growth to determine the impact of sexuality education on youth sexual risk-taking for young people ages 15-19, and found that teens who received comprehensive sex education were 50 percent less likely to experience pregnancy than those who received abstinence-only education.
- Over the past 20 years, in survey after survey, local, state or national, 80 to 85 percent of parents indicate they want their children to receive comprehensive, medically accurate, age-appropriate sex education.



LGBTQ YOUTH

Iowa's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth experience greater victimization, with **95%** feeling left out/excluded, **88%** reporting rumors or lies told about them, and most experiencing some type of verbal (**83%**), electronic (**63%**), or physical (**46%**) harassment.

Even though nearly all (**97%**) of LGBT students could identify at least one supportive school staff member, **41%** of LGBT students who were harassed or assaulted in school NEVER reported it to school staff.



GLSEN, (2013). School Climate in Iowa (State Snapshot)

PREGNANT AND PARENTING TEENS

- Pregnancy and birth are significant contributors to high school drop out rates among girls. Only about 50% of teen mothers receive a high school diploma by 22 years of age, versus approximately 90% of women who had not given birth during adolescence.
- The children of teenage mothers are more likely to have lower school achievement and drop out of high school, have more health problems, be incarcerated at some time during adolescence, give birth as a teenager, and face unemployment as a young adult.
- 1 out of 5 teen pregnancies is a subsequent pregnancy.
- Pregnant and Parenting Teens need support and reliable services.



www.CDC.gov

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Get involved with your local CAPP Coalition
- Be an “askable” adult
- Be a supportive adult for pregnant and parenting teens
- Celebrate LTM with your agency
- Sign up for EyesOpenIowa Newsletters



RESOURCES



Professionals

GLSEN.org

Answer.Rutgers.edu

EyesOpenIowa.org

Parents

HealthyChildren.org

ParentFurther.org

Youth

StayTeen.org

SexEtc.org



If you can do nothing else, do whatever you can
to make the people you influence feel unashamed
of the people they were born to be.

~Sam Killermann



PRESENTATION RESOURCES

Sources:

EyesOpenIowa 2014 State Factsheet retrieved from www.EyesOpenIowa.org

EyesOpenIowa 2014 Woodbury County Factsheet retrieved from
www.EyesOpenIowa.org

Iowa Department of Public Health- Bureau of HIV, STD & Hepatitis retrieved from
www.idph.state.ia.us/hivstdhep

Advocates for Youth retrieved from www.advocatesforyouth.org



THANK YOU!

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