

Here's What You Get With Comprehensive Sex Education

Comprehensive sex education (CSE) advocates claim that sexual abstinence is the basis of CSE programs, which are often described as “abstinence-plus” or “abstinence-based.” But a 2004 study of nine popular CSE/abstinence-plus curricula found that they devote less than five percent of their page content to promoting abstinence, while nearly 30 percent of their content is spent describing contraception and encouraging adolescents to use it.¹ As the following examples will show, CSE promotes sexual freedom for adolescents, and then relies on condoms and other contraceptives to help negate the consequences. **Warning: the following examples contain sexually explicit information that some readers may find offensive!**

Here are several examples from *Reducing the Risk*, a CSE/abstinence-plus curriculum found in at least one school system in North Carolina:

- Students are instructed to act out the following scenario: “Tony and Dylan have been to a party and then go to Tony’s home to be alone. They start to kiss and undress each other. Dylan reaches into his jacket pocket, and realizes that he doesn’t have the condom he planned to use. He says, “I think somebody stole the rubber I had.” What can Tony and Dylan do to avoid unprotected sex?”²
- Students are instructed to write out a step-by-step plan for convincing their partner to use condoms and foam and for obtaining contraception, followed by an optional exercise that involves preparing a detailed plan for the couple to use protection, which includes answering the question: “What would be the most romantic way to use the condom and foam?”³
- “Teenagers can obtain birth control pills from family planning clinics and doctors without permission from a parent: Truth. You do not need a parent’s permission to get birth control at a clinic. No one needs to know...”⁴

Following are examples from *Be Proud! Be Responsible!*, another popular CSE/abstinence-plus curriculum:

- “proud and responsible behavior includes protecting yourself by using a condom during sexual intercourse; abstaining from sexual behavior when no condom is available; [and]...abstaining from sex altogether, if that is your choice.”⁵
- “Go to the store together. Buy lots of different brands and colors. Plan a special day when you can experiment. Just talking about how you’ll use all those condoms can be a turn on.”⁶
- Students are invited to “brainstorm ways” to “increase spontaneity and the likelihood they’ll use condoms,” including the following examples: “Eroticize condom use with a partner...Use condoms as a method of foreplay...Think up a sexual fantasy using condoms...Hide them on your body and ask your partner to find it...Tease each other manually while putting on the condom.”⁷

- “Q: If a man lost his erection after putting on a condom and before intercourse, what could the couple do? A: Continue stimulating one another, relax and enjoy the fun, wait a while and start playing again using the condom as part of the play.”⁸

Also from *Be Proud! Be Responsible!*:

- Teachers are advised: “These questions [concerning condom use] are geared toward heterosexual partners. Encourage participants to discuss these issues in the context of same-sex partners.”⁹

Another CSE curriculum, *Focus on Kids*, includes the following examples:

- “When discussing ‘Don’t have sex,’ be sure to help youth identify other options, such as finding fun ways to be together that don’t involve sex, or finding different ways to please a partner without sex (e.g., kissing, rubbing, mutual masturbation).”¹⁰
- Condom race: “Divide youth into two teams and give everyone a condom. Have the teams stand in two lines and give the first person in each line a dildo or cucumber. Each person on the team must put the condom on the dildo or cucumber and take it off....The team that finishes first wins.”¹¹
- Teachers are told to: “State that there are other ways to be close to a person without having sexual intercourse. Ask youth to brainstorm ways to be close. The list may include...body massage, bathing together, masturbation, sensuous feeding, fantasizing, watching erotic movies, reading erotic books and magazines....”¹²
- Group leaders are told: “You may need to describe anal intercourse. (When a man puts his penis into another person’s rectum or asshole. The person can be male or female).”¹³

- ¹ Martin, Shannon, et. al., *Comprehensive Sex Education vs. Authentic Abstinence: A Study of Competing Curricula*, The Heritage Foundation, 2004, pg.v.
- ² *Reducing the Risk*, pg. 149, cited in: Martin, Shannon, et. al., *Comprehensive Sex Education vs. Authentic Abstinence: A Study of Competing Curriculum*, The Heritage Foundation, 2004, pg. 28.
- ³ *Reducing the Risk*, pgs. 189-190, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 28-29.
- ⁴ *Reducing the Risk*, pg. 137, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 39.
- ⁵ *Be Proud! Be Responsible!*, pg. 24, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 29.
- ⁶ *Be Proud! Be Responsible!*, pg. 80, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 39.
- ⁷ *Be Proud! Be Responsible!*, pg. 78-79, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 35.
- ⁸ *Ibid.*, pg. 84, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 40.
- ⁹ *Ibid.*, pg. 84, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 42.
- ¹⁰ *Focus on Kids*, pg. 83, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 40.
- ¹¹ *Ibid.*, pg. 108, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 37.
- ¹² *Ibid.*, pg. 137, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 35.
- ¹³ *Ibid.*, pg. 55, as found in Heritage Foundation study, pg. 41.