

TEACH IN 2022

Sex (Un)Education

Presented by the
GVSU Women's Commission

Session Agenda

Welcome & Introductions

Pop Quiz!

Sex Ed Models

Lit Review & Reflection

Voter Education

Resources



Introductions

Facilitator Introductions

Kristen Evans

Assistant Director, Housing & Residence Life

Emily Frigo (she/her/hers)

Head of Professional Programs, University Libraries

Jennifer Jameslyn

Director, Brooks College Advising

Table Introductions

Share your name, pronouns, major and what made you choose to attend this Teach-In session

Pop Quiz!

Sex Ed Mythbusting

AT YOUR TABLE SELECT A TEAM CAPTAIN TO SUBMIT YOUR
ANSWERS TO SEX ED TRIVIA VIA POLL EVERYWHERE

Sex Ed Models

Abstinence Only

- Sexual risk avoidance - teaches abstinence as only option for unmarried people, provides limited (if any) information about contraceptives and STDs

Abstinence Plus

- Sexual risk reduction - emphasizes abstinence but includes information about contraceptives and STDs

Comprehensive Sex Education

- Focus on information, values & decision-making - abstinence as best option to avoid pregnancy and STDs but also includes thorough education about contraceptives and STDs

https://www.uua.org/files/documents/advocatesyouth/sexed_definitions.pdf

<https://www.advocatesforyouth.org/resources/fact-sheets/sex-education-programs-definitions-and-point-by-point-comparison/>

Michigan Standards

- Michigan schools are **not required** to teach sex education. However, HIV/AIDS education is required.
- Curriculum is not required to be comprehensive.
- Curriculum must stress abstinence as a positive lifestyle.
- Curriculum is not required to include instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Curriculum is not required to include instruction on consent. However, curriculum must include instruction on refusal skills.
- Parents or guardians must receive written notice of any sex education class and can remove their children from any part of the instruction. This is referred to as an “opt-out” policy.
- HIV/AIDS education must be medically accurate. If a school chooses to teach sex education, curriculum cannot be medically inaccurate.

Your Experience

Did your K-12 sex ed curriculum include information about...

- Pregnancy Prevention?
- Sexually Transmitted Infections?
- Reproductive Anatomy?
- Healthy Relationships?
- Consent?
- Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation?
- Childbirth, Adoptions & Abortion?
- Human Trafficking?
- Youth Rights & Community Resources?

SEX ED TO-GO FOR PROFESSIONALS
by Planned Parenthood

Here in Allendale

"The city of Allendale received pushback in 2019 after parents advocated for sex education curriculum to be science-based and inclusive of topics related to sexual orientation and gender identity. After intense debate largely dominated by community members opposed to updating the curriculum, the school district removed all mention of sexual orientation and gender identity from course materials regardless of the subject."



The screenshot shows the top portion of an NPR article. At the top left is the NPR logo and the WGUV Public Media logo. To the right is a red 'DONATE' button. Below the logos is the section title 'Let's Talk About Sex'. The main article title is 'When The Conversation Doesn't Include You: LGBTQ+ Sex Ed In A Small Town'. Below the title is the date 'April 1, 2019 · 5:48 PM ET' and the text 'Heard on All Things Considered'. There are two author boxes: 'ALYSSA EDES' with a Twitter icon and 'AILSAS CHANG' with a Twitter icon. At the bottom is a blue '12-Minute Listen' button with a play icon and a three-dot menu icon.

Comprehensive Sex Ed

Comprehensive sex education refers to K-12 programs that cover a broad range of topics related to:

- Human development, including puberty, anatomy, sexual orientation, and gender identity
- Relationships, including self, family, friendships, romantic relationships, and health care providers
- Personal skills, including communication, boundary setting, negotiation, and decision-making
- Sexual behavior, including the full spectrum of ways people choose to be, or not be, sexual beings
- Sexual health, including sexually transmitted infections, birth control, pregnancy, and abortion
- Society and culture, including media literacy, shame and stigma, and how power, identity, and oppression impact sexual wellness and reproductive freedom

International Models

Sweden

- Required with little to no opposition since 1955
- Includes facts about anatomy, sexual orientation, STIs, abortion and contraceptives as well as discussion about attitudes, norms, and values about love, sex, and relationships

Netherlands

- Sexuality education including information about health, tolerance, and assertiveness required starting at age 4



<https://www.rfsu.se/om-rfsu/om-oss/in-english/national-work/sexuality-education/about-swedish-sexuality-education/>
<https://www.studyinternational.com/news/sex-education>
<https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2018/08/the-benefits-of-starting-sex-ed-at-age-4/568225/>
<https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2016/03/comprehensive-sexuality-education/>

Knowledge as power

Books

THEN & NOW

WOMEN and THEIR BODIES

a course



Published 1970

Cost 75 cents

Boston Women's
Health Collective

<https://www.ourbodiesourselves.org/about-us/our-history/>

“

"The purpose of this paper is then to help use learn more about our anatomy and physiology, to begin to conquer the ignorance ... when we felt we didn't know what's happening to us. **The information is a weapon without which we cannot begin the collective struggle for control over our own bodies and lives.**"

Boston Women's Health Collective as cited in Wells, S. P. D. (2010). *Our Bodies, Ourselves and the Work of Writing*. Stanford University Press.

“

"It was the first time, for many of these women, to learn about their bodies, their desires, their choices, without a gatekeeper withholding information or framing possibilities or judging; to understand the possibilities of the body, and to make choices about what is best for that body. For a woman? In that time and place? Revolutionary."

“Our Bodies, Ourselves: Agency, Autonomy, and Embodiment.” (2022, July 6). The Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies, University of Mississippi.

<https://sarahisomcenter.org/isom-news/2022/7/6/our-bodies-ourselves-agency-autonomy-and-embodiment>

A RESOURCE BY AND FOR TRANSGENDER COMMUNITIES



TRANS BODIES, TRANS SELVES

EDITED BY LAURA ERICKSON-SCHROTH

FOREWORD BY KAI CHENG THOM

SECOND EDITION

First published in 2014

2nd edition 2022

Written by and for
transgender and gender
nonconforming people

<http://transbodies.com/>

Book Titles: what is in a name?

- **Human Reproductive Biology**
- **New Joy of Sex**
- **Girl Sex 101**
- **Let's Talk about S-E-X**
- **Angry Birds, Killer Bees**
- **Our Bodies, Ourselves**
- **Trans Bodies, Trans Selves**



"An interesting, plus picture they will enjoy." — ANN LANDERS

CHANGING BODIES, GROWING UP.

SEX & SEXUAL HEALTH



It's Perfectly Normal



ROBIE H. HARRIS illustrated by MICHAEL EMBERLEY

First published in 1994

Most recent edition
2021

10 years older and up

Accurate information,
drawings

THE TRAVELS OF THE EGG: Menstruation



At puberty the brain tells the ovaries to produce oestrogen, which tells the eggs to mature.



And then, about once a month, an egg leaves an ovary and pops into a Fallopian tube.



“

"How can we not write about those very experiences that have meaning for our children? How can we not write honestly? How can we hold back writing about powerful feelings, or not include certain information children crave and have the right to know, simply because we are afraid? If we do that, children will sense that we are not being honest and they will not read or listen to the books we write. But if we are honest, our books may be banned."

<https://pen.org/robie-harris-on-the-banning-of-her-books/>

Reflecci²ion

Roundi²ables

You have until 3:30pm to rotate through three reflection exercises in your own time.

Literature Review

Browse the books,
taking care to notice:

- Book title
- Cover art
- Table of Contents
- Year Published

Reflection Notes

Use the sticky notes
to respond to the
prompts:

- What you learned
in K-12 sex ed
- What you didn't
learn

Resource Review

Click on the QR code
or visit

www.gvsu.edu/wcommission
mission and click on
the "Events" menu to
review resources and
curriculum examples

Individual Reflection

Voter Education

Michigan codified reproductive rights on Election Day.

- *How is voter education impacted by K-12 sex education models and standards?*
- *Who has access to accurate and relevant information?*
- *Who is silenced or invisible?*

Resources

[Women's Commission Teach-In Page](#)

HAVE A RECOMMENDED ADDITION?

Contact us at wcommission@gvsu.edu



Thank you
for joining
us today.

**Please complete the
session evaluation**