



JUST THE FACTS

February 2021
School Newsletter

IN THE NEWS

Teaching Sex Education to Young People with Disabilities

*Terence Hodges-Health Educator
Candor Health Education*



There are many common myths associated with sexuality and disability such as people with disabilities are asexual, have more important things to do than sex, and people with physical disabilities are unable to have sex.¹ However, people with disabilities are sexual beings and their desire for sex does not differ from the general population.

In 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau found that there were approximately 2.8 million people under the age of 15 who had a physical, intellectual, or emotional disability.² People with disabilities are often excluded from sex education programs in schools but should have access to these programs.

Nevertheless, below are some general guidelines sexual health educators can follow for teaching sex education:

GRANT FUNDED SCIENCE BEHIND DRUGS

Due to grant assistance we are able to offer our Online Interactive [drug education programs to your school at no cost](#). Our asynchronous, online delivery allows the flexibility you need during these uncertain times. Watch this short video for more information on our drug education programs:



Again, the best part is FLEXIBILITY! The program will be delivered with our [asynchronous, Online Interactive delivery option](#). Your school and students will have access to the program for 30 days! Contact us to take advantage of this limited time offer!

[GET FREE DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAMS >](#)

IN THE NEWS



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It's Time to Support Science-Based Sex Ed

The Hill

Biden's nominee for assistant secretary of health at HHS, Dr. Rachel Levine, is historic. If confirmed by the Senate, Dr. Levine will become the highest-ranking openly transgender government official in U.S. history. As one of the key officials tackling the COVID-19 pandemic, she will have her hands full as she works to roll back harmful Trump-era health

policies.

Among the Herculean tasks she faces is rebuilding sex education. Currently only 30 states require any sex education at all. Of those states that do, policies vary widely regarding what critical information should be included. Incredibly, only 17 states require that the program content be medically accurate. Only 20 require providing information on contraception.

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DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS



How Sex Education (or the lack of) Translates to College Campuses

Maggie Lane - Candor Health Education Intern

During my years at Illinois State, I have been building my knowledge on various topics related to health, wellness, and sex education. My passion for these topics drew me into joining ISU's Student Wellness Ambassador Team (SWAT), which is comprised of student volunteers (from diverse backgrounds/majors) who receive continual training from Health Promotion and Wellness staff on different topics related to one's well-being.

Our training prepares us to act as credible resources for faculty and fellow students as we aim to promote healthy behaviors and lifestyles through assisting with campus and community outreach projects, staffing the "G Spot" – a portable wellness gazebo that provides information related to sexual health, and facilitating interactive educational workshops.

I have noticed the sexual health programs presented by Candor Health Education are very similar to sexual health workshops presented by SWAT, in terms of catering the curriculum to be age appropriate and also in the overall goals.

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IN THE NEWS

TV host Laura Berman says her son died of an overdose after a drug dealer connected with him on Snapchat

CNN

Relationship therapist and TV host Laura Berman is grieving her teen son who she says died of an overdose from drugs he purchased from someone he connected with on Snapchat, according to her post on social



media.

"My beautiful boy is gone. 16 years old," Berman posted on Instagram about Samuel Berman Chapman's death. "Sheltering at home. A drug dealer connected with him on Snapchat and gave him fentanyl (sic) laced Xanax or Percocet (toxicology will tell) and he overdosed in his room. They do this because it hooks people even more and is good for business but it causes overdose and the kids don't know what they are taking."

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HAVE YOU SCHEDULED YOUR SPRING PROGRAMS?

Space is running out! Don't wait to schedule your programs today. We have three delivery options:

- LIVE VIRTUAL
- ONLINE INTERACTIVE
- IN-PERSON



[SCHEDULE NOW >](#)

ILLINOIS YOUTH SURVEY FINDINGS & STATISTICS



What did the most current Illinois Youth Survey research find? The IYS helps provide some very important data about young people, their activities and perceptions. Take a look!

[SEE THE REPORT >](#)

MEET THE TEAM

Betty Barsley-Marra - Senior Health Educator



Betty began her career as an Early Childhood Development Specialist with the University of Missouri initiating a statewide system for the early identification of children with special needs. Upon returning to Illinois, she joined the faculty of Roosevelt University teaching psychology and education courses. She has taught and mentored countless students, teachers, counselors, youth development professionals, parents and community members regarding physical and mental health related issues through her work at Roosevelt, Merrillville High School and as a family life educator with

University of Illinois Extension. She considers it a great privilege to have worked across the lifespan with infants through seniors.

Betty earned her undergraduate degree at Northern Illinois University in Family

Development and Early Childhood Education and her MS Ed from University of Illinois Chicago in Educational Studies with a specialization in Human Sexuality Education and Counseling and post Masters work in Clinical Psychology. In her free time, she enjoys long distance cycling and indulging her love for the arts including pop culture. Her claims of “I saw him/her when” can be attributed to her habit of frequenting obscure venues to see bands, plays, performances and exhibits.



**Empowering young people
to make informed decisions**



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