

Honorable Ron Highland and Members of House Education Committee:

My name is Shirley Koehn. I reside in Wichita, Kansas I speak for myself, as a parent, grandmother, former middle school and high school teacher. I read completely the National Sex Education Curriculum. Starting in Section A.P.2.CC.1, with “by the end of 2nd grade, students should be able to use proper names to identify body parts, including male and female anatomy” the curriculum continues each year with more and more explicit information. I find it difficult to picture teachers covering this curriculum.

There are topics which may tread on parents values. The implication is the school is right & their parents just do not know the right information. More and more we see this happening. Parents have the right, to not only know, but to choose whether their child may participate. But these lessons are woven into the fabric of education, not given as an elective, where parents may opt in their child, and have opportunity to examine the curriculum.

There is no question teen pregnancy and sexually related diseases are a serious problem. I offer that our current culture encourages behavior that fosters self-destructive behavior. There is ample anecdotal evidence that Teen age pregnancy is rewarded and seen as a financial benefit.

A National Sex Ed Curriculum is not going to solve the cultural problem. Like many Big Government policies that take away family and local responsibilities, Odds are it will actually make the problems worse.

Why should sex education be a National educational responsibility to be done in the public schools? At the very most, it should be a local responsibility. At best, it should be the job of a responsible family structure.

I encourage you to vote against HB2199.