

Response to the California Department of Education 2010 Sexual Health Curricula Evaluation of Teen Talk, Middle School

TTSE is honored to have our two Teen Talk curricula be chosen for the CDE and California Healthy Kids Resource Center sexual health curricula evaluation. We have taken the feedback given in the report as an opportunity to make both curricula even stronger. Since the reports findings, we have made the following changes to the Teen Talk, Middle School Curricula. If you choose to purchase a curriculum from us, your curriculum would include these updates.

I. Accuracy and Appropriateness	
1. Instruction and materials are age-appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All non-age-appropriate statements in “What are my Values?” have been removed. • “Am I Really Ready?” has been updated to be more age-appropriate. • How Teen Talk meets the California Health Education Content Standards have been realigned. • More attention to the influence of drug and alcohol use on sexual behavior has been made throughout the curriculum, including teacher prompts. • Sources to help with internet exploitation have been added to the Youth Health Resource List, “I Just Wanna Be Me,” and “My Body, My Boundaries.”
2. Instruction is medically accurate and current.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Elizabeth Lee from Palo Alto Medical Foundation has conducted a medical review this curriculum. All necessary corrections have been made. • Proper citation on school release has been added. • Pre and Post Test have been updated to include more detail on California reproductive health laws. • Information on Hepatitis B has been added throughout Lesson 8. • More information about the HPV vaccine has been added in prominent places in Lesson 8. • Anatomy definitions in Lesson 3 have been updated with clearer medically accurate information. • More information on the risk of HIV with concurrent infections has been added to Lesson 8. • Attention to drug and alcohol use on sexual behavior has been made in Lesson 4 and Lesson 6. • Additional information about use of sterile needles for tattoos, piercing and not sharing needles has been added to Lesson 8. • An updated description of dental dams and protective barriers for oral sex on a woman has been added to the teacher prompts on “STD PowerPoint.”

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated information on how nonoxynol-9 with condoms increases the risk of STD transmission has been added to Lesson 6. • An updated explanation of withdrawal has been made to “Birth Control Brainstorm.”
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II. Accessibility	
1. Instruction and materials are appropriate for use with pupils of all races and ethnic and cultural backgrounds.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
2. Instruction and materials are appropriate for use with pupils of all genders and sexual orientations.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same-sex couple scenarios were added to “Am I Really Ready?” and “My Body, My Boundaries.”
3. Instruction and materials are appropriate for use with pupils with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources for teachers serving this population have been added, however modification of each activity to properly serve this population is not possible to do at this time.
4. Instruction is available to English learners.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
5. Instruction is culturally and linguistically appropriate for its targeted population.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET

III. Objectivity	
1. All factual information is objective.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
2. Instruction and materials do not teach or promote religious doctrine.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
3. Instruction and materials do not reflect or promote bias against any person on the basis of sex, gender, or sexual orientation.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
4. Instruction and materials do not reflect or promote bias against any person on the basis of ethnic group, race, national origin, color, or ancestry.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
5. Instruction and materials do not reflect or promote bias against any person on the basis of religion.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
6. Instruction and materials do not reflect or promote bias against any person on the basis of mental or physical disability.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
7. Instruction and materials	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET

do not reflect or promote bias against any person on the basis of actual or perceived association with any of the groups listed in numbers 1-6 above.	
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IV. Content: Knowledge/Information	
1. Instruction and materials provide the information that abstinence is the only certain way to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease (STD), and present information about the value of abstinence, while also providing medically accurate information about other methods to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease (STD).	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
2. Instruction provides information about STDs including how they are and are not transmitted.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
3. Instruction provides medically accurate information on methods of preventing pregnancy and STDs.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
4. Instruction provides information about local resources for testing and medical care for STDs.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
5. Instruction provides information about the effectiveness and safety of ALL contraceptive methods in preventing pregnancy, including emergency contraception approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diaphragm and cervical cap have been added to Lesson 6.
6. Instruction provides information about the effectiveness and safety of AT LEAST ONE OR MORE drug or device approved by the FDA for preventing pregnancy.	ALL CRITERIA WERE MET
7. Instruction provides information about the	Please see comments under Accuracy and Appropriateness.

effectiveness and safety of ALL FDA-approved methods of reducing risk of contracting STDs.	
8. Instruction provides information about the effectiveness and safety of AT LEAST ONE OR MORE drug or device approved by the FDA for reducing the risk of contracting STDs.	Please see comments under Accuracy and Appropriateness.
9. Instruction provides information on the law on surrendering physical custody of a minor child 72 hours or younger.	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL CRITERIA WERE MET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional information on the safe surrender law has been added to Lesson 6.

V. Content: Knowledge/Information HIV/AIDS	
1. Instruction includes information on the nature of HIV/AIDS and its effects on the human body.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More information has been added to assist teachers in facilitating discussions, answering questions and providing facts on HIV/AIDS in Lesson 8. A fact sheet entitled “Quick HIV Facts” for students and instructors has been added to Lesson 8.
2. Instruction includes information on the manner in which HIV is and is not transmitted, including information on activities that present the highest risk of HIV infection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information between low and high risk behaviors for HIV transmission has been added to the “STD Chart” in Lesson 8.
<p>3. Instruction includes discussion of methods to reduce the risk of HIV infection, emphasizing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> sexual abstinence monogamy avoidance of multiple sexual partners abstinence from intravenous (IV) drug use <p>Instruction also teaches:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> statistics based on the latest medical information citing the success and failure rates of condoms and other contraceptives in preventing sexually transmitted HIV infection information on other methods that may reduce 	<p>Please see comments under Accuracy and Appropriateness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The “STD PowerPoint” now emphasizes abstinence from IV drug use to prevent HIV as well as other risk reduction methods. Success and failure rates of HIV prevention with condoms has been added to the “Birth Control Brainstorm” and “STD Brainstorm.” Additional information about use of sterile needles for tattoos, piercing and not sharing needles to reduce the risk of HIV transmission has been added to the “STD PowerPoint”. A fact sheet entitled “Quick HIV Facts” for students and instructors has been added to Lesson 8.

the risk of HIV transmission from IV drug use	
4. Instruction includes discussion of the public health issues associated with HIV/AIDS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A fact sheet entitled "Quick HIV Facts" for students and instructors has been added to Lesson 8.
5. Instruction includes information on local resources for HIV testing and medical care.	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL CRITERIA WERE MET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statistic about San Mateo County in the "STD PowerPoint" has been changed to a statistic on California.
6. Instruction includes discussion about societal views on HIV/AIDS, including stereotypes and myths regarding persons with HIV/AIDS.	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL CRITERIA WERE MET</p> <p>Please see comments under Accuracy and Appropriateness.</p>

VI. Content: Attitudes	
1. Instruction and materials teach respect for marriage and committed relationships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The terms marriage and committed relationship have been added to Lesson 5.
2. Instruction emphasizes compassion for persons living with HIV/AIDS.	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL CRITERIA WERE MET</p> <p>Please see comments under Accuracy and Appropriateness.</p>

VII. Content: Skills	
1. Instruction and materials encourage students to communicate with parents or guardians about human sexuality.	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL CRITERIA WERE MET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The discussion section of "Back in the Day Homework" has been revised by adding a teacher prompt about not violating confidentiality and removing some discussion questions.
2. Instruction provides skills for making and implementing responsible decisions about sexuality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An activity covering Delay and Refusal Skills has been added to Lesson 11.
3. Instruction includes development of refusal skills for overcoming peer pressure and using effective decision-making skills to avoid high-risk activities.	<p>Please see comments under Accuracy and Appropriateness.</p>