

## **Family-Centered Education in Human Sexuality**

We are living in a world which is tempting its youth to break every natural law and to violate every traditional principle and moral value. So-called "sexual liberation" has become the number one article of consumption today. This is not real "love," but cheap exploitation of human instinct that sees men and women as soul-less bodies to be exploited at will. Never in the history of man have there been such scientifically destructive and politically vicious attacks on the family – methodically destroying our youth – designed to divert them from their natural desire to be challenged to be pure, chaste, modest, faithful, capable of a life-long commitment to their spouse.

The principal aim of this book is to impress upon parents what a profound impact they can make on their children. Their example is the *primary influence* in a child's life. Parents will understand that the love and affection they give their children is the greatest deterrent against promiscuous behavior, as well as other rebellious conduct often encountered in the adolescent years. They will realize that a strong and disciplined family produces more responsible citizens and, consequently, a better world. The parents' good or bad example will leave an indelible mark on the behavior of their children and will most likely determine the path they will follow in future years.

The Family of the Americas Foundation (FAF), a non-profit, educational organization, is dedicated to the promotion of family-centered values through the training of parents. The following graph represents its Fertility Appreciation for Families program, funded by a \$1.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from 1983-1987. This program for parents and adolescents promoted family-centered sexuality education, helping parents to assume their role as the principal educators of their children in matters of human sexuality.

By the end of the program, 478 parents and 3,678 adolescents had been reached. *FAF's program participants had a pregnancy rate of only 5 per 1,000. With the national rate at 111 per 1,000 adolescent females, this rate was approximately 22 times lower than the national average.* In a similar study by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, approximately 96 pregnancies per thousand were typical, while another Planned Parenthood program reported about 113 pregnancies per thousand teenage females. These numbers represent a marked difference in adolescent sexual activity. The data directly indicate that the number of adolescent pregnancies

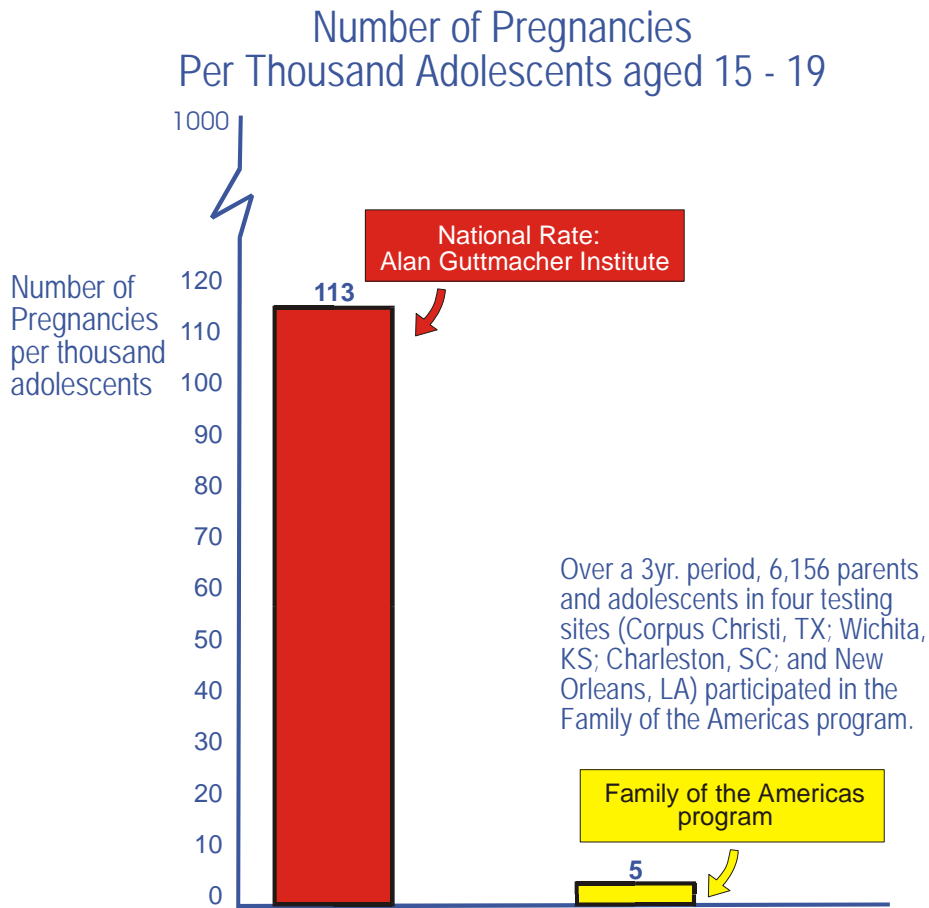
experienced by FAF participants was only a fraction (*less than 1/20*) of national and regional averages. The evaluators concluded that the FAF program was successful in reaching large numbers of participants of diverse ethnic origin, and that program benefits appeared to long-term in nature.<sup>1</sup> (Please see Figure 2.)

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<sup>1</sup> Peggy C. Kirby and Louis V. Paradise; Evaluation Consultants, University of New Orleans, 1987.

Figure 2 Comparison of Sex Education Programs To Reduce Teen Pregnancy

## Comparison of Sex Education Programs To Reduce Teen Pregnancy



Evaluations based on:

Weed & Olsen, 1986 evaluation for Planned Parenthood;

Alan Guttmacher Institute Study, Statistics and the National Center for Health Statistics 1980 national rate;

Kirby, Peggy C. and Paradise, Louis V., "Fertility Appreciation for Families: Prevention Services Demonstration

Project: Evaluation Report," Evaluation by the University of New Orleans for Family of the Americas program, October 1, 1987.

There are two basic reasons why “safe sex” is not what it is thought to be. First, as Planned Parenthood's own data show, educating teens about sexuality and contraceptives does not lead to increased contraceptive use.<sup>2</sup> Currently, less than half of sexually active teens use condoms.<sup>3</sup> For those who do use condoms, the device often fails. One third of teenage pregnancies occur while a contraceptive is being used. Condoms have an annual failure rate of 18.4 percent for girls under 18 years of age.<sup>4</sup> This means that in a one year period, the chances of getting pregnant while using a condom are one in six. A study of married couples in which one partner was infected with HIV found that 17 percent of the partners who used condoms for protection still contracted the virus within 18 months. In another study that would almost be laughable if the AIDS epidemic were not so deadly, the United States Food and Drug Administration tested the “Effectiveness of Latex Condoms as a Barrier to Human Immunodeficiency Virus-sized Particles Under Conditions of Simulated Use.” The study found that “leakage of HIV-sized particles through latex condoms was detectable . . . for as many as 29 of the 89 condoms tested.” (That's about one out of three!) However, “This test did not incorporate motion.” As Dr. Lorraine Day writes, “Can you believe it? Their simulated-use condition is SEX WITHOUT MOTION!” Dr. Day asks, if 30 percent of condoms allow leakage of the AIDS virus during “use,” then what is the leakage rate during sex if the participants *do* move?<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Marion Howard and Judith Blarney McCabe, “Helping Teenagers Postpone Sexual Involvement,” *Family Planning Perspectives*, January/February 1990, Vol. 22, No. 1, p.21, as cited in “Quick Facts on Safe-Sex,” published by Focus on the Family

<sup>3</sup> “Sexual Behavior Among High School Students -- United States, 1990”, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 40, Nos. 51 and 52, January 3, 1992, p. 886. Also cited in “Quick Facts.”

<sup>4</sup> Hayward and Yogi, op cit

<sup>5</sup> Lorraine Day, M.D., “Condoms Don't Work!” (Palm Desert, CA: Rockford Press , 1992), p.4. Cites Carey, Herman, et. al., USDA Rockville, Maryland.