Sex Education

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[Institutional Affiliation(s)]

Author Note

Assignment: Sex Education – Sex-positive vs. Sex negative

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**Question 1**

In your opinion, what would be the ideal approach to educating the youth of America, about sex and related topics? (3 – 4 sentences). Some suggested points to address: Should it be a community effort or only the responsibility of parents and guardians or health care providers? When should it start?

**Answer**

In my opinion, the best way to educate the youth of America about sex and related topics is the practices of Comprehensive sex education. This framework of education has several different methods which ultimately promote the practices of Sexual Abstinence. However, the teachers of this method are required to tell students about topics related to future sexual activities like safe sex, age of consent, birth control, safe sex, abortion, contraception and the use of condoms. There should be a community effort regarding the practices of comprehensive education as it respects the diversity of beliefs and values in the society as a whole, as many traditions, such as the Muslim tradition, believes in sexual abstinence before marriage. I think that we should start the efforts to practice from our classrooms. This is important since the number of single mothers in the US is alarmingly high, and it could be awkward for boys to discuss matters of sex education with their mothers. Also, classroom environments provide the required atmosphere to have a serious discussion that may lead to fruitful results for the community as a whole. However, individual sessions are recommended as they are helpful in serious discussions among the generally non-serious youth.

**Question 2**

Summarize aspects of both sex-negative and sex-positive approaches to discussing or educating on topics of sex. Describe the pros and cons of both the sex-negative approach and sex-positive approach in discussing sex with teenagers. It is possible that you may not agree with an approach, but you should still be able to identify some drawbacks with each approach, or potential drawbacks, or what others might view as drawbacks.

**Answer**

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| --- | --- |
| Sex Negative | Sex Positive |
| Summary of sex-negative:  It is the behavior that promotes negativity or anti-sexualism which is in direct opposition to the sex-positive approach. It disapproves of the practice of sex with multiple partners in one's lifetime, regarding it as immoral and unethical.  PROS:  Abstinence is 100% effective when it comes to preventing any form of unwanted pregnancies.  This practice contains the risk of sexually transmitted diseases.  The people that practice this approach is less likely to experience an abusive relationship.  CONS:  People may find it difficult to practice this approach of abstinence for a long time due to certain medical reasons.  Abstinence decrease the general knowledge of a person regarding safe sex practices that can later be harmful to sexual partners. | Summary of sex-positive:  It is a philosophical and social movement that focuses on changing cultural attitudes, values, and norms relating to sexuality. It describes the recognition of sexuality as a part of a healthy experience and personal freedom, provided that it is practiced safely.  PROS:  It promotes the healthy expression of sexuality in the youth.  It promotes the practice of safe sex.  It helps the teens to avoid unwanted pregnancy incidents.  CONS:  This approach is practically insulting to many people with strict religious beliefs about sex. This is due to the practice of sexual abstinence before marriage in certain traditions.  Provision of too much sex knowledge destroys the innocence of the youth |

**Question 3**

Share your thoughts on and reaction to John Oliver’s’ discussion about sex education and the documentary, *Let’s Talk About Sex*.

**Answer**

Comedian John Oliver has somewhat interesting and informative views regarding sex education and the documentary, Let's Talk About Sex. In his show, Last Week Tonight, he talks about the breaks in the American culture when it comes to sex and its associations. He talks about the control of language used for conveying useful sex education when it comes to teaching sex education, especially in the case of teenagers. He also encouraged the parents to give up the practice of guilt and shame while talking about their child's sexual decisions. Lastly, he talks about how abstinence should be the person's own choice rather than it is enforced on them by their parents or society as a whole. He concludes that the basic goal of the parents is the protection of their children and gives them a chance to participate in a mutually beneficial relationship without damaging their personality. This is a just view given by Oliver is the knowledge and encouragement to speak openly can help in the resolution of many issues, let alone sexual relationships and education.