



## **GUARD YOUR HEART. GUARD YOUR MIND. GUARD YOUR BODY.**

### **Missouri Human Sexuality Education Statutes**

As part of our continued mission to equip and empower youth through character education, we at Lifeguard Youth Development would like to keep you up to date on the Missouri State Statutes regarding the education of students within the public school systems. **Lifeguard Youth Development curricula are completely and intentionally compliant with all of the Missouri state statutes.** The MO Statute number is section 170.015 and can be read in its entirety here:

<http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutes/C100-199/170000015.HTM>

An outline of the state statutes is presented below. There are eight major sections, some with distinguishing subtopics and are as follows:

1. Any course materials and instruction relating to human sexuality and sexually transmitted diseases shall be medically and factually accurate and shall:
  - (1) **Present abstinence from sexual activity as the preferred choice of behavior** in relation to all sexual activity for unmarried pupils
  - (2) Stress that sexually transmitted diseases are serious, possible, health hazards of sexual activity.
  - (3) Present students with the latest medically factual information regarding both the possible side effects and health benefits of all forms of contraception
  - (4) Include a discussion of the possible emotional and psychological consequences of preadolescent and adolescent sexual activity
  - (5) Teach skills of conflict management, personal responsibility and positive self-esteem through discussion and role-playing
  - (6) Advise pupils of the laws pertaining to their financial responsibility to children born in and out of wedlock
2. Policies concerning referrals and parental notification regarding contraception shall be determined by local school boards
3. A school district or charter school which provides human sexuality instruction may separate students according to gender for instructional purposes.
4. The board of a school district or charter school shall determine the specific content of the district's or school's instruction in human sexuality, in accordance with subsections 1 to 3 of this section, and shall ensure that all instruction in human sexuality is appropriate to the age of the students receiving such instruction.
5. A school district or charter school shall notify the parent or legal guardian of each student enrolled in the district or school of:
  - (1) The basic content of the district's or school's human sexuality instruction to be provided to the student; and
  - (2) The parent's right to remove the student from any part of the district's or school's human sexuality instruction.
6. A school district or charter school shall make all curriculum materials used in the district's or school's human sexuality instruction available for public inspection
7. **No school district or charter school, or its personnel or agents, shall provide abortion services, or permit a person or entity to offer, sponsor, or furnish in any manner any course materials or instruction relating to human sexuality or sexually transmitted diseases to its students if such person or entity is a provider of abortion services.**
8. As used in this section, the following terms mean:
  - (1) "Abortion", the same meaning as such term is defined in [section 188.015, RSMo](#);
  - (2) "Abortion services":
    - (a) Performing, inducing, or assisting in the performance or inducing of an abortion which is not necessary to save the life of the mother;
    - (b) Encouraging a patient to have an abortion or referring a patient for an abortion, which is not necessary to save the life of the mother; or
    - (c) Developing or dispensing drugs, chemicals, or devices intended to be used to induce an abortion which is not necessary to save the life of the mother.