



***Hamilton - Wentworth***

***Family Action Council***

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING FAMILY VALUES  
Box 66714, 38 King Street East Stoney Creek, ON L8G 5E6

Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2006

Place : HWDSB - Office of Superintendent Croxall

Time : 12:30 p.m.

Attending : Superintendent Krys Croxall HWDSB  
Debbie Sprentz HWDSB  
Lynn Scime HWFAC and Hamilton Sexual Health Network  
Jim Enos HWFAC

Purpose : Discuss 4<sup>th</sup> Version of Grade 5 thru 8 Growth and Development Curriculum

K.C. Reason for defining 3 types of sexual intercourse; children need to understand what it is they are to abstain from

Gender specific information is not necessary

Religious beliefs, public board tries to address all persons, ( ie. References to clergy)

Public Health will continue to be a resource to the classroom

J.E. Posed question, “ Is sexual activity healthy for children, yes or no?” All agreed ‘no’.

J.E. If no, then what should the focus of the curriculum be?

K.C. Focus is to instruct in accordance with Ontario Curriculum

J.E. Disagreed. Focus should be to direct students away from sexual activity. This can be done while

at the same time meeting Ontario Curriculum expectations. The Ontario Curriculum can be met while making focus on convincing the students of the need for\benefits of, abstinence. Expressed that HWFAC is impressed with many positive gains that have been made since the inception of this curriculum and probably 70% of it is good to excellent; it is the 30% that is troubling and becoming worse.

General

A lot of open discussion on HWFAC opposition to discussion and description of anal intercourse due to the fact that very few participate in this activity. Most children would not typically consider this unnatural behaviour. HWFAC expressed that due to the extreme high risk of anal intercourse, this should not be introduced into the classroom. However, if HWDSB insists that this discussion must take place for those who may consider being or are already involved in such activity, then this discussion should take place outside of the classroom setting and only with the

identified individuals. This is to avoid possibly introducing an unhealthy curiosity in the classroom.

HWDSB continued to state that anal intercourse discussion must remain in the general curriculum. HWFAC insisted that if it remains, then specific teaching must instruct in detail, as to why anal intercourse is high risk. (Ie. rectal lining is only one cell thick, contains feces, ie easily bruised and ripped; introducing disease directly to the blood stream. HWDSB offered to give further thought to this area.

HWDSB submitted to HWFAC a response to all of HWFAC concerns, outlining where they will make adjustments and where they do not agree. HWFAC to review and respond in near future. A second meeting can be arranged if mutually beneficial.

### **Summary**

Not a lot of commitment to further change, however a very positive, open dialogue covering very tenuous issues with parties hearing each other's concern.