

Keeping young people in the dark.

Most Americans believe that the best way to teach young people about sexuality is to give them the facts, along with guidance about how to make good decisions.

And studies prove they're right—the more that young people know about how to negotiate and communicate in relationships, as well as about abstinence and contraception, the more responsible their behavior.

Ninety percent of U.S. voters want comprehensive sexuality education that includes information about sexually transmitted disease and pregnancy prevention.

So why is the government spending \$88 million annually on “abstinence-only-until-marriage” education programs that insist on keeping young people in the dark? These programs prohibit giving balanced, medically accurate education about contraception.

Healthy lives begin with what our children learn now. Let's give them the information they need—and the chance to be safe. Learn more and find out how you can make a difference. Visit our website at www.othmerinstitute.org.

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Where we go from here.

How to *prevent* abortion.

There is a contradiction at the heart of the abortion debate. Many politicians who oppose abortion also oppose the most effective ways of preventing abortion.

Family planning and comprehensive sexuality education do more to prevent abortion than any restrictions ever will.

Our representatives should be encouraging new contraceptive research. Funding family planning programs. Spreading awareness of emergency contraception. Requiring insurance plans to cover contraceptives. Promoting comprehensive sexuality education that helps young people make good decisions.

These are all ways we can reduce the need for abortion. Shouldn't abortion opponents support them? Shouldn't the government? Shouldn't we all?

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