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Statement of Purpose

Junior High School is more than learning reading, writing, and arithmetic. This is where adolescents learn about who they are by facing many big issues that have not been visible to them before. They are little fish in a big pond were they are left to sink or swim. One of the biggest issues students are faced with is relationships with the opposite sex. Adolescents are dealing with dating, and intimacy, which can turn into teen pregnancy.

Students should receive hands-on reality education about issues that revolve around pregnancy. The main focus should be on the issue of teen pregnancy. The content should be presented to the students in a way that shows them how society and the teens are affected by one decision that was made. They will learn how society views this decision and hopefully they will learn to choose not to get themselves in a situation that may have them dealing with pregnancy.

One-third of all children in the United States are now born to an unmarried mother. Lucas County has the highest rate of teen pregnancy in the state of Ohio. Toledo Public Schools have 250 young women drop out annually due to teen pregnancy and parenting. There is a 26% repeat pregnancy rate among teens in Lucas County. The number of students becoming pregnant is outstanding, and one way to help drop this number is by educating students before it is too late. The schools are one of the only places where adolescences are going to learn that pregnancy does not have to be a factor.

According to Polly Fox Academy, which is a charter school for teenage girls who are pregnant, they opened their doors in 2003 with 30 students; by May 2005, they were serving 200 young women.

Sequencing Rationale

This sex education unit is organized by concept-related patterns of sequencing of logical prerequisite. Although multiple sequencing patterns could have been applied to the organization of this unit, the sex education concepts taught in this unit will be most comprehensible to students by arranging them in logical order.

The first subunit, “Self-esteem,” is a logical starting point for this unit, as student are aware of who they are and who they would like to become during their middle school years. The subunit will focus on peer pressure, appearance perceptions, depression, and eating disorders. These subunits are big issues that will be tackled in hopes to educate middle school students to make the right decisions.

The second subunit, “Decision Making,” is the next step in this unit over sex education, as students will explore many different choices they will have to make in middle school and beyond. They will be faced with many decisions that they will have to choose what path they will continue to go down. The unit will focus on how each decision that is made by them will affect their lives whether it is in positive or negative way. The unit will also deal with students making decisions about their schooling, appearance, attitude, and relationships with family, friends, and dating. This subunit will also focus on middle school students’ choices over drugs and alcohol.
The final subunit, “Sexual Activity,” is appropriate because students will apply information learned in the previous two units, in order to fully comprehend how self-esteem and decision-making can affect the road taken to sexual activity. The students will learn about different ways the media and society views teen sexuality. The subunit will focus on STDs, birth control, and pregnancy in hope that students will choose abstinence. The subunit will give the student all the information on sexually transmitted diseases, contraception, abortions, and parenthood in order to open their eyes and ears to the many issues facing middle school students.

Attitude and Interest Inventory over Sex education (pre and post test)

Name ______________________________

1. Please rate this question from 1 to 5, 1 being you know nothing and 5 being you know everything. How much do you feel you know about teen pregnancy?

2. Who do you feel is affected by teen pregnancy?

3. What is the definition for abstinence?

4. What is the definition for abortion?

5. List some items that you feel are important to know about on the subject of teenage pregnancy.

6. What is something you would like to know more about or that you are interested in learning about?

7. How do you view people who are teen mothers and fathers? What do you think when you see one of your peers at the store who is pregnant or has a baby?

8. How do you feel society/other people view these individuals?

9. Any other comments or thoughts