

Faith and Human Sexuality

Some basic assumptions underlying our work together...

1. All creation is of God and therefore is good. Sexuality as part of creation is good.
2. Sexuality, as a factor of the whole person is expressed through:
 - the physical needs of growth, reproduction and fulfillment
 - deep feelings of self-worth, intimacy, acceptance, commitment and caring love for another
 - communications of who we are and what we hold as valuable in life
3. Sexual behavior is determined more by attitudes and feelings than by factual information. Emotional factors such as a need for intimacy, sense of self-worth, gender roles, reassurance and even esthetic factors, as well as skills in interpersonal relationships and basic value commitments tend to be decisive in shaping sexual behavior.
4. In the light of Biblical affirmation of love and the value of people, we affirm sexuality education as a continuing ministry of the church.
5. Sexuality education can assist people to assume responsibility for their decisions
6. Sexuality education continues from birth through the whole of life
7. The gospel is a positive, life fulfilling, liberating force which stands over and against pervasive cultural patterns of exploitation and abuse.
8. Effective sexuality education takes place in a coeducational group of youth and adults.
9. As youth mature they may become less communicative with their parents about sexuality. Shared experiences in education can improve communication between youth and parents.
10. Parents and adults need sexuality education themselves.
 - Adults need confidence to affirm and express the wholeness of their own sexuality
 - Adults need to be aware of their living witness about sexuality
 - Youth are more likely to become positive and accepting about sexuality when they learn from parents and other adults who themselves are positive and accepting about sexuality.

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