

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RIGHTS, RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY® SURVEY FINDS THAT OREGONIANS SUPPORT TALKING TO TEENS ABOUT SEXUALITY

What do television and condoms and conversations between parents and teens about sexuality have in common? The answer is that over 50% of Oregon residents surveyed in Eugene, Springfield, Grants Pass, and Medford responded favorably in support of advertising condoms on television as well as talking with their teens about the issue of sexuality.

These and other issues about teen sexuality were the focus of a telephone survey conducted by Northwest Survey & Data Services (NSDS) in April and May of this year as part of the Rights, Respect, Responsibility® Initiative supported by Planned Parenthood Health Services of Southwestern Oregon. The telephone survey questioned 400 households of adults with an additional small survey of 40 teens.

90% of respondents agreed that sexually active teens need access to birth control and reproductive health services. 68% believed those services should be available in their schools. The majority of respondents (52-59%) supported giving information about puberty, reproduction, abstinence, birth control, condoms and sexually transmitted infections as early as ages 10, 11 and 12, with 84% responding that such education should take place in public schools.

Mary Gossart, Planned Parenthood Health Services of Southwestern Oregon's Director of Education and Training said, "It is clear that the people in our communities favor providing young people with medically accurate information and access to services that support their health, well being and positive choices around sexuality."

Rights, Respect, Responsibility® (RRR®) is an innovative and bold initiative that advocates using proven public health strategies as a means of reducing the incidence of unintended pregnancy, births, and sexually transmitted infections among teens as well as the need for abortions.

To access a copy of the survey results, call Planned Parenthood's education department at 344-1611 X 14.