

## **Minnesota Sexuality Education Resource Review Panel**

### **Summary of Panel Review**

#### ***Choosing the Best Life (2001)***

Curriculum

Target audience: Grades 7-8

Cost: \$395.00 for leader guide, 20 student manuals and video, \$5.00 for each additional student manual

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**The Minnesota Sexuality Education Resource Review Panel **Does Not Recommend** the use of this leader guide, student manual, and video for the following reasons:**

This is the 2001, updated version of the “Choosing the Best” curriculum, published in 1993 and 1995, targeted to high school students. “Choosing the Best Life” uses an abstinence-until-marriage approach to sexuality education.

The panel stated that the curriculum presented information that was inaccurate and/or misleading, conveyed a negative view of sexuality, and contained gender and culturally-biased messages. They felt that the individual and group activities did not use sound educational methodology as they were simplistic, non-interactive, and used scare tactics.

The panel stressed that although there is a detailed teacher and student guide, this curriculum is not teacher friendly. It requires a teacher/facilitator with strong content knowledge and facilitation skills to replace the misinformation presented in the curriculum with accurate information that is inclusive of all learners regardless of their gender, race/ethnicity or sexual orientation.

The panel felt that the relationship between sex and alcohol use was presented in a useful way.

The panel did not review the video that accompanies the curriculum.

The panel does not recommend the use of this curriculum for any audiences.

#### ***Choosing the Best Life (2001)***

**Review Criteria**

	<b>Mean Score</b>
1. Technically accurate and up-to-date	1.0
2. Gender Fair	1.0
3. Sexuality Positive	1.0
4. Developmentally appropriate for age	2.4
5. Racially, ethnically, culturally non-biased	1.5
6. Sound educational methodology	1.6
7. Educational messages/strategies provided for learners at all points of risk continuum	1.1
8. Addresses the needs of all learners, including those with physical, cognitive or emotional disabilities.	1.1
9. Teacher-friendly	1.5

Scoring is based on a 5 point Likert scale, from poor (1) to excellent (5). The mean (average) is based on the assessments of the panel members who were present to review the material 1/30/03.

**Panel Recommendations for Appropriate Audiences**

<b>Assessment Criteria</b>			
<b>Overall Recommendation</b>	<b>Recommend highly</b> 0	<b>Recommend</b> 0	<b>Reject</b> 8
<b>Audience</b> For what audience is this resource appropriate?	<b>Audience targeted by the resource</b> 1	<b>Other audience(s)</b> 0	<b>Not Appropriate for any audience</b> 7
<b>Facilitation Skills Required</b> How knowledgeable and skilled must the facilitator be to use this resource effectively?	<b>Requires leader with strong content knowledge and group skills</b> 6	<b>Requires leader with moderate content knowledge and group skills</b> 0	<b>Requires leader with little content knowledge and group skills</b> 0
<b>Multicultural Perspective</b> Does this resource address the needs of communities of color; and/or issues of sexual orientation, gender, and disability	<b>Resource is culturally specific.</b> 0	<b>Resource is Multicultural/ Inclusive</b> 0	<b>Resource does not address the needs/issues of diverse populations</b> 8