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## What Parents Need To Know About CSE in Washington

In early 2020, Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) became the mandatory method for teaching sex education in all Washington State public schools. Here is what you should know about the sex education method the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) says is essential for all children, K-12:

### What is CSE

CSE is NOT sex education; it is sexuality education. In their framework for CSE, International Planned Parenthood Federation states, "Our approach includes an emphasis on sexual expression, sexual fulfillment and sexual pleasure. This represents a shift away from methodologies that focus exclusively on the reproductive aspects of adolescent sexuality." (IPPF Framework for Comprehensive Sexuality Education)

### CSE is Not Age Appropriate

Per law, OSPI must provide a list of curricula they have reviewed and decided are age-appropriate and medically accurate from which schools can choose.

Two programs already approved by OSPI, "FLASH" and "The 3R's," are rife with graphic and exploitative content such as a lesson that encourages 4th graders to research wet dreams and penis size online, ignoring the prevalence of online porn ("FLASH" Grades 4,5 and 6 Lesson 12); teaches 7th graders that co-bathing is important for building connections in relationships ("The 3R's," 7th grade); and tells teens the pull-out method is "free, always available and more effective than most people think." (HS "FLASH," 3rd Edition)

### It is An Un-Funded Mandate

Schools can create their own curriculum to present to OSPI for approval. But, the high price tag of creating, drafting and implementing an entire curriculum across all grades is more than what most districts can afford and will force them to choose a free curriculum like "The 3R's."

### A Loophole Could Void the Parental Opt-Out

While schools don't have to integrate CSE into other subjects, they are not banned from doing so. You can't opt your child out of English or social studies if the teacher chooses to bring up CSE themes during class. Laurie Dils, Sexual Health Director at OSPI said she would like to see CSE content blended in with other subjects.

### Washington Parents Don't Want CSE

According to a 2019 survey by OSPI, out of 10,200 respondents, 58% said they don't want CSE in schools.

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