

1: Abstinence Education Grants and Welfare Reform

Ron Haskins and Carol Statuto Bevan Abstract. As part of its welfare reform bill, Congress enacted a \$50 million per year program to fund abstinence education.

Joe McIlhaney believes that abstinence education is the best way to prevent the proliferation of welfare mothers. When President Clinton scrawled his signature on the Welfare Reform Act on August 22, , most Americans understood that the law was meant to sharply curtail entitlements of public assistance to the poor. But fewer knew that another section of the legislation tightly focuses on a most ambitious goal: Doing away with unmarried motherhood altogether. Unwed parents, especially teenage girls, have long been blamed for the drain on the welfare state; now, welfare reform also means stamping out unmarried sex. But this step in the social re-engineering of America is under way without the benefit of research to guide it. The time is right to directly combat, not just attempt to mitigate, the cause of these ills, he believes. The time is right for abstinence education. House subcommittee on the effects of out-of-wedlock births upon poverty. Therefore, as much as one might like to, there is simply no way of separating welfare from sexually transmitted disease or from teen pregnancy. McIlhaney readily acknowledges that there is a paucity of data on the efficacy of abstinence programs currently being taught in the U. At the very least, five or ten programs could be studied and reported in peer review literature. The national institute, he explains, does not care to be geographically fettered by taking state funds, but will continue to help other communities all over the country launch their own programs. Among his most natural adversaries is the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States SIECUS , which promotes the philosophy that comprehensive sexuality education in the early grades, including contraceptive instruction, paves the way for healthy adult sexuality later on. Daniel Daley, director of public policy in Washington, D. Daley argues that abstinence education, as it has currently been carried out in U. According to the language in the legislation, the funds must be spent on direct services; lawmakers did not set aside monies for evaluating the programs. And the "other" approach also has many of the same restrictions. Writing in a March report entitled "No Easy Answers," Kirby opines that some sexuality education and STD prevention programs "can significantly delay sexual activity and increase contraceptive use" but admits that only two studies were broad enough to be measured, and "neither of these well-designed studies found significant effects upon behavior. According to a Dept. A June report on teenage childbearing from the Urban Institute in Washington says, "Women who have children as teenagers are more likely to be poor than women who defer childbearing. A note to readers: Now more than ever, we need your support to continue supplying Austin with independent, free press.

2: NPR Choice page

As part of its welfare reform bill, Congress enacted a \$50 million per year program to fund abstinence education. This chapter provides an examination of the legislative history of the program; a discussion of the characteristics of the program, especially the definition of abstinence education; and an account of how the program will be implemented by the federal government and the states.

History[edit] s to s[edit] AFDC caseloads increased dramatically from the s to the s as restrictions on the availability of cash support to poor families especially single-parent, female-headed households were reduced. Court rulings during the Civil Rights Movement struck down many of these regulations, creating new categories of people eligible for relief. Community organizations, such as the National Welfare Rights Organization , also distributed informational packets informing citizens of their ability to receive government assistance. Please help improve it or discuss these issues on the talk page. This section possibly contains original research. Please improve it by verifying the claims made and adding inline citations. Statements consisting only of original research should be removed. October This section does not cite any sources. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. Please help improve it by rewriting it in an encyclopedic style. October Learn how and when to remove this template message The legislation was designed to increase labor market participation among public assistance recipients. This represented a major departure from the protectionist legacy institutionalized in U. Concern about dependency[edit] The idea that the welfare-receiving poor had become too dependent upon public assistance also encouraged the act. The idea was that those who were on welfare for many years lost any initiative to find jobs. Those on welfare realized that taking up a job would mean not only losing benefits but also incur child care, transportation and clothing costs. Their new jobs probably would not pay well or include health insurance, whereas on welfare they would have been covered by Medicaid. Therefore, there are many reasons welfare recipients would be discouraged from working. While acknowledging the need for a social safety net, Democrats often invoked the culture of poverty argument. In lobbying the federal government to grant states wider latitude for implementing welfare, Thompson wanted a system where "pregnant teen-aged girls from Milwaukee , no matter what their background is or where they live, can pursue careers and chase their dreams. Research was used by both sides to make their points, with each side often using the same piece of research to support the opposite view. However, by , the Clinton Administration appeared to be more concerned with universal health care , and no details or a plan had emerged on welfare reform. Newt Gingrich accused the President of stalling on welfare and proclaimed that Congress could pass a welfare reform bill in as little as 90 days. Gingrich promised that the Republican Party would continue to apply political pressure to the President to approve welfare legislation. It started the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program, which placed time limits on welfare assistance and replaced the longstanding Aid to Families with Dependent Children program. Other changes to the welfare system included stricter conditions for food stamps eligibility, reductions in immigrant welfare assistance, and recipient work requirements. Previously, Clinton had quietly spoken with Senate Majority Whip Trent Lott for months about the bill, but a compromise on a more acceptable bill for the President could not be reached. It gives structure, meaning and dignity to most of our lives". In his book Lessons Learned the Hard Way, Gingrich outlined a multi-step plan to improve economic opportunities for the poor. The plan called for encouraging volunteerism and spiritual renewal, placing more importance on families, creating tax incentives and reducing regulations for businesses in poor neighborhoods, and increasing property ownership for low-income families. Gingrich cited his volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity as an example of where he observed that it was more rewarding for people to be actively involved in improving their livesâ€”by building their own homesâ€”than by receiving welfare payments from the government. The Congressional findings in PRWORA highlighted dependency, out-of-wedlock birth, and intergenerational poverty as the main contributors to a faulty system. Ending welfare as an entitlement program ; Requiring recipients to begin working after two years of receiving benefits; Placing a lifetime limit of five years on benefits paid by federal funds; Aiming to encourage

two-parent families and discouraging out-of-wedlock births; Enhancing enforcement of child support; and Requiring state professional and occupational licenses to be withheld from illegal immigrants. Although the law placed a time limit for benefits supported by federal funds of no more than two consecutive years and no more than a collective total of five years over a lifetime, some states have enacted briefer limits. All states, however, allowed exceptions to avoid punishing children because their parents have gone over their respective time limits. Certain states more actively encourage education; others use the money to help fund private enterprises helping job seekers. The legislation also greatly limited funds available for unmarried parents under 18 and restricted any funding to all immigrants. According to the Conference Report. The reformed child support program attacks this problem by pursuing five major goals: The law envisions a child support system in which all States have similar child support laws, all States share information through the Federal child support office, mass processing of information is routine, and interstate cases are handled expeditiously. Those provisions were upheld in *Weinstein v. Walker* , *Dept of Revenue v Nesbitt* , *Risenhoover v. Washington* , *Borracchini v. Jones* , and *Dewald v.* In light of the restrictions to federal funding under the law, states were allowed to grant aid out of their own funds to address the welfare needs of immigrants. Oftentimes, these policies have had discriminatory effects towards minorities. Race has a strong negative correlation for TANF assistance granted to immigrants. In addition, the immigrant population has a positive correlation with the inclusion of Medicaid coverage considering the positive correlation between higher poverty and inclusion. Research shows that a larger percentage of African-American recipients leads to stricter rules governing initial eligibility, less flexibility in welfare work requirements, and lower cash benefits to welfare recipients. There is also a negative relationship between cash benefit levels and percentage of welfare recipients. These states, however, face challenges in allocating funds due to a larger minority population and cut individual benefit levels per recipient. Moreover, these states assess the costs for inclusion based on racial compositions in the state. For example, California has seen a States with lower immigrant populations have negative and significant marginal effects on the native-foreign inequality in Medicaid coverage. Immigration brings states with exclusive Medicaid policies and a small immigrant population increases in the participation gap between native and foreign populations. In states with inclusive Medicaid policies and small immigrant population, immigration does not affect the participation gap. In states with a large immigrant population, immigration decreases social inequality regardless of the Medicaid policy. Addressing concerns[edit] Increases in descriptive representation for Latinos offsets the negative effects of Latino population size on social welfare policy. A minority voice in representative bodies acts a mechanism for interest representation and mitigates the effects of racial resentment. Regardless of incorporation, welfare effort and TANF benefits decline as the Latino population grows from a nominal size to 10 percent of the population. After that point, incorporation influences policy in a distinct manner. While incorporation is a function of population, it is not perfectly responsive considering the populations that would perceive benefits i. The remaining states exhibited negative relationships between Latino population and welfare generosity with legislative incorporation not overcoming this phenomenon. The bill reauthorized federal funds for TANF and healthcare services. The House, however, failed to authorize the bill. Although it applied to all 50 states by default, states were also given the option to opt out of the ban. Logically, but not in the heated and vitriolic politics created by the attack on welfare, a concern with the relationship of welfare to dependency should have directed attention to the deteriorating conditions of the low-wage labor market. After all, if there were jobs that paid living wages, and if health care and child care were available, a great many women on AFDC would leap at the chance of a better income and a little social respect. Edelman , and Wendell E. Primus, resigned to protest the law. It increased poverty, lowered income for single mothers, put people from welfare into homeless shelters, and left states free to eliminate welfare entirely. It moved mothers and children from welfare to work, but many of them are not making enough to survive. PRWORA assumed that out-of-wedlock births were "illegitimate" and that only a male could confer respectability on a child, said Ehrenreich. PRWORA dismissed the value of the unpaid work of raising a family, and insisted that mothers get paid work, "no matter how dangerous, abusive, or poorly paid". It affects them because the single mothers enrolled in TANF tend to have lower rates of literacy, and therefore finding employment that within the time frame of the "workfare" component becomes more

difficult, or leads to underemployment. The scholars who make this point also relate the underemployment to lower income rates among single-mothers enrolled in TANF, defeating the purpose of the transition to work provisions.

3: Welfare Law and the Drive To Reduce 'Illegitimacy' | Guttmacher Institute

Under welfare reform, funding to the states for abstinence-only education was originally authorized for five years, beginning in , at \$50 million per year. That annual amount has remained unchanged, and has been reauthorized under short-term extensions of welfare reform.

McDermott, and members of the Committee, I am pleased to appear before you today to discuss the next phase of welfare reform. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to you, Mr. Chairman, for your leadership and to the Committee for your unceasing efforts to enact the next phase of welfare reform to further improve the lives of low-income Americans. It has been three years since President Bush first proposed his strategy for reauthorizing TANF and the other critical programs included in welfare reform. During this time, the issues have been debated thoroughly but the work has not been completed and States have been left to wonder how they should proceed. Secretary Leavitt and I are convinced that working together with you, we will be successful. With our State partners, our accomplishments have far surpassed even the most optimistic goals. With heightened expectations of personal responsibility and greater opportunities, millions of families have moved from dependence on welfare to the independence of work. We have provided the necessary work supports, child care, and transportation to ensure that parents can get to work and stay there without worrying about the safety and well-being of their children. We also have collected record amounts of child support on behalf of children with a parent absent from the home. Building on these successes, President Bush laid out a clear path for the next phase of welfare reform. The proposal is guided by four critical goals that will transform the lives of low-income families: This framework has not changed. I will begin with TANF, the cornerstone of our welfare reform efforts. This Committee and Congress granted States tremendous flexibility to reform, design, and operate their welfare programs. In recent years after enactment of welfare reform, States have reported an average of , new job entries each year. As a result, millions of families have been able to end their dependency on welfare and achieve self-sufficiency. The welfare caseload has declined by . Employment among never-married mothers has grown to unprecedented levels. For example, between and , the employment rate for never-married mothers increased 28 percent, from . Contrary to critics who claimed that welfare reform would impoverish one million children, the child poverty rate declined about 14 percent, with 1. Overall child poverty rates declined from . The poverty rate among African American children declined from . Similarly, the poverty rate among Hispanic children declined from . Although the poverty rate has increased some since as a result of the recent recession, the surge in job creation over the past 20 months portends favorably for renewed improvement in poverty rates. The birth rate for teenagers continues to decline, as does the number of births to unmarried teens. But even with this notable progress, much remains to be done, and States still face many challenges. While the basic structure and goals of TANF remain strong, we are concerned about some unfavorable trends. Despite the success in moving families from welfare to work, a majority of adult TANF recipients are not engaged in employment-related activities. In FY , States reported that only 31 percent of families with an adult recipient participated in the required 30 hours of TANF work activities. We need to reverse this trend so that all TANF recipients are given the opportunity to become self-sufficient. States also have been less effective in placing clients with multiple barriers such as mental health issues, addiction, learning disabilities, and limited English proficiency in work. We need to ensure that these barriers are addressed and that every family is given work opportunities leading to self-sufficiency. But our efforts cannot stop there. We also need to develop more effective models of post-employment supports that lead to career development and wage progression, programs that sustain and keep families together, and programs that enable low-income, non-custodial fathers to help their families both financially and in non-financial ways. In addition, given what the research literature tells us about the benefits healthy marriages confer on both children and adults, we need to promote policies that support the formation and stability of healthy marriage, and provide a strong and nurturing environment for raising children. Consequently, our efforts to reauthorize TANF build upon our past success and address current challenges by: I would like to offer some detail on each of these elements. It also will permit them to develop innovative

programs to address remaining challenges. Other key policy changes that will increase State flexibility include: Maximize Self-Sufficiency Through Work A key component of our reauthorization proposal is to maximize self-sufficiency through work. States will be required over time to make certain that the percentage of TANF recipients engaged in work and productive activities grows and that the primary focus is on participation in work—subsidized or unsubsidized employment, on-the-job training, and supervised work experience or community service. States also will be required to engage all TANF families with an adult in self-sufficiency activities and they must develop, and regularly monitor progress on, individual plans for each family that include appropriate activities leading to self-sufficiency. The current caseload reduction credit, the effect of which has been the elimination of the participation rate requirement in most States, will be phased out and replaced by an employment credit. The result of these policy changes will be to reinstitute a meaningful work participation rate requirement while increasing flexibility in how States can achieve that standard. Promote Child Well-Being, Responsible Fatherhood and Healthy Marriages Our proposal seeks to improve child well-being through programs aimed at encouraging responsible fatherhood and healthy marriages. Indeed, we establish improving the well-being of children as the overarching purpose of TANF, recognizing that the four goals of TANF are important strategies for achieving this purpose. These demonstration efforts will be carefully evaluated and information about successful programs will be broadly disseminated. This funding will provide for demonstration projects to test promising approaches to promote and support involved, committed and responsible fatherhood, and to encourage and support healthy marriages between parents raising children. Funds also will be used to identify, test, and publicize community-based programs and activities that effectively encourage and support responsible fatherhood and that can be replicated in other communities, including two multi-city, multi-State projects. But, the shift in focus to a work and family support program has presented management challenges. Therefore, our fourth reauthorization component highlights improving program performance and accountability. Targeted on meeting the employment goals of TANF, it will reward States for successful job placements, sustained work and wage growth. Program Integration For any organization to succeed, it must never stop asking how it can do things better. Using the flexibility under programs such as TANF and the One-Stop Career Center system, States have made great strides towards transforming and integrating their public assistance programs into innovative and comprehensive workforce assistance programs. But, with greater flexibility even more can be accomplished. The final key element of our TANF proposal, therefore, seeks to enable far broader State welfare and workforce program integration through the establishment of new State program integration demonstrations. The proposed demonstrations could modify to all aspects of selected Federal programs, including funding and program eligibility and reporting rules, enabling States to design fully integrated welfare and workforce development systems that could revolutionize service delivery. Child Support Enforcement Child support is a critical component of Federal and State efforts to promote family self-sufficiency and to provide for the well-being of children. Like TANF, the child support program has been very successful. Total collections have grown by increased The child support enforcement program uses a number of tools to ensure that children receive the support they deserve — many of which were implemented as a result of the original welfare reform legislation. Tools such as the National Directory of New Hires and Federal Case Registry, the passport denial program, the financial institution data match, and license revocation have made a tremendous difference in improving State performance and strengthening child support collection efforts. Equally important, PRWORA streamlined paternity establishment, particularly voluntary paternity establishment, to encourage fathers to take the first step toward providing their children with financial and emotional support. The impact of these changes has been dramatic. The number of paternities established or acknowledged has reached over 1. Of these, over , paternities were established through in-hospital acknowledgement programs. The child support enforcement proposals being considered as part of welfare reform reauthorization build on our success by focusing on increasing child support collections and directing more of the support collected to families. This focus on families represents a major shift away from the historic purpose of the child support enforcement program which was heretofore aimed at recouping of Federal and State welfare outlays. Directing More Support to Families Under current law, States and the

Federal government can keep some of the child support collected on behalf of current or former TANF recipients to defray costs of welfare. We are proposing a change to give States an incentive to send more child support directly to the family. Families and children will benefit financially and, equally important, the children will see that their parents support and care for them. Currently, almost half the States pass through a portion of child support collections to TANF families. Federal contributions to the pass-through of collections to TANF families will provide a strong incentive to States to begin to pass-through additional support to these families, or increase the amount of the current pass-through. Moreover, these increased pass through amounts will be disregarded in determining TANF eligibility, thus providing greater financial resources to help children in need. States also will be given the option to adopt simplified distribution rules under which families that have transitioned from welfare will receive all of their child support collections. Increasing the Amount of Child Support Collected The second prong of our strategy for child support enforcement is to increase the amount of support collected by adding to our existing cadre of enforcement tools. Also, to ensure that child support orders are fair to both custodial parents and children as well as noncustodial parents, we will require States to review and adjust as appropriate, child support orders in TANF cases every three years. For example, we will require States to look to either parent when considering the health care coverage needs of a child rather than focusing solely on non-custodial parents as under current law. Research shows that more health insurance is provided by custodial parents and stepparents than is provided by non-custodial parents. Because the fee is collected only when the State is successful in collecting support and represents a fraction of the cost of the services families receive, we are confident it will not pose a barrier to families seeking child support enforcement services. I would like to turn now to child care, a key support service for low-income families. Child Care Access to child care assistance can make a critical difference in helping low-income families retain employment. Therefore, the Administration remains committed to preserving the key aspects of the child care program: Funding available through child care programs and TANF transfers alone will provide child care assistance to an estimated 2. This is a significant increase over the number served just a few years ago; in about 1. These substantial child care resources support our expectation that all families will be fully engaged in work and other meaningful activities by ensuring that safe, affordable child care is available when necessary. Abstinence Education In , there were almost 19 million new cases of sexually transmitted diseases in the U. We know that for many of the diseases there is no cure. We also know, without a doubt, that those teens who choose to abstain from sex will not contract such diseases and will not become pregnant. Therefore, the final piece of our welfare reform strategy supports reauthorization of the State Abstinence Education Program. This move provided important linkages to community-based and faith-based positive youth development programs which connect youth to caring adults, thereby empowering them in their schools and communities. Such programs can be effective in protecting young people not only against early sexual behavior but also from illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and violence. One of the great success stories in recent years is the progress in lowering the out of wedlock birth rate, especially among teen mothers. The State Abstinence Education Program and Community-Based Abstinence Education grants have helped people to develop the self-discipline to say no to sex. They help people develop inner strength, help them take charge of their lives, and redirect their energies into healthy and productive choices. While the evidence is still being collected, we are seeing the benefits of a strong abstinence message, and it is clear that the State program needs to be reauthorized. Chairman, the proposal I bring before you today contains many different elements. What binds these fundamental elements together is the desire to improve the lives of the families who otherwise would become dependent on welfare.

4: Testimony on Welfare Reform Reauthorization Proposals | ACF Archive | ACF

The welfare reform bill contained a number of provisions designed to reduce the incidence of nonmarital births. This seminar addressed one such policy: the special grant program that allocates \$50 billion per year for abstinence education.

Boonstra, Guttmacher Institute First published online: Relatively little is known, however, about how these policy interventions are being implemented by the states and what impact, positive or negative, they have had. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, enacted in 1996, signaled a profound shift in American welfare policy. It also transferred primary responsibility for the operation of welfare programs from the federal government to the states. Because cash benefits under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children AFDC program historically had been reserved almost exclusively for single mothers, many welfare reform proponents argued that over time, the AFDC system itself had become a powerful disincentive to marriage. However inadvertently, they argued, AFDC undermined the "traditional" family by encouraging nonmarital childbearing among poor, disproportionately minority, women. Accordingly, one of the four stated purposes of the new block-grant program, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families TANF, is to "prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies. Nonmarital Childbearing The percentage of births to unmarried women has increased dramatically in the past six decades. Data for 1996 are preliminary. Figures are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual. For that reason, some of its provisions such as the requirement that unmarried minor mothers live at home or in supervised settings and stay in school apply specifically to welfare recipients, while others such as those supporting abstinence-only education and instituting the so-called illegitimacy bonus do not. As Congress lays the groundwork to reauthorize the welfare law in 2002, one of the challenges it will face is the lack of a straightforward approach to assessing whether the law has had the desired effect on birthrates and whether any identified effect stemmed from changes in sexual activity, contraceptive use or recourse to abortion. The pathways of causal effect are complex, and the data are difficult to come by. Significantly, the bonuses are for reductions in out-of-wedlock births among all women, not just welfare recipients or teenagers. The first round of bonuses was awarded in 1996 to Alabama, California, the District of Columbia, Massachusetts and Michigan. Among recipients in 1996, decreases in births to unmarried mothers ranged from moderate 4. In a survey conducted in 1996 by The Alan Guttmacher Institute, officials in health and social services agencies in 34 states and the District of Columbia reported that their state had taken steps to reduce out-of-wedlock births in light of the welfare law. Some states reported having acted in response to a formal decision to seek the illegitimacy bonus; others, however, had taken steps to lower nonmarital childbearing even in the absence of any official policy or, in some cases, after concluding that they had little chance of winning the bonus. In general, state efforts fall into three broad categories: In fact, the law does not require states to do anything to win the bonus; the Department of Health and Human Services DHHS uses data that the states routinely submit to the federal government to determine the bonus winners. Moreover, the initiatives launched since 1996 are too recent to have been an influence on changes on which the bonus is calculated, at least in the first two rounds. Round one was based on changes in out-of-wedlock births between 1990 and 1994; round two, on changes between 1994 and 1996. Realistically, any effects state initiatives have will not show up in the data for some time; even then, of course, it may not be possible to demonstrate cause and effect. When the winners of round two were announced, a DHHS spokesperson acknowledged that the bonus may be more a reflection of demographic changes such as an increase in marital births or in the number of teenage women than of program initiatives. Family Cap One of the basic premises of AFDC was that families on welfare would receive additional benefits whenever they had another child. In 1996, New Jersey became the first state to institute a "family cap" a policy to deny these additional benefits when a child is born after gaining DHHS approval for a research and demonstration "waiver. In addition, some conservative groups and antiabortion advocates argued that the family cap could result in more abortions among welfare recipients. In the end, Congress decided not to include a family cap provision in the law, leaving states free to adopt such policies if they wish. According to the Center for Law and Social Policy, 23 states have some type of family

cap in place today see table. So far, the results are inconclusive. Investigators at the University of Arkansas School of Social Work reported no apparent effect on birthrates in Arkansas for the period , although they acknowledge that their sample was small. On the other hand, evaluators at Rutgers University found that the family cap in New Jersey did exert some influence over the family formation decisions of women on AFDC. They estimated that between and , there were roughly 14, fewer births, almost 1, more abortions, and some 7, more family planning visits among welfare recipients than would have occurred in absence of the cap. According to a Congressional Budget Office report, almost three-quarters of unmarried teen mothers received AFDC within five years of giving birth. Marriage is no guarantee against welfare, however; the report notes that one-quarter of married teen mothers received AFDC during the same period. In an attempt to interrupt this cycle, authors of the welfare law included a requirement in TANF that unmarried minor mothers, with few exceptions, live at home or in some other supervised setting and stay in school in order to receive welfare benefits. The living-arrangement requirement was premised on the notion that some teenagers who are unhappy living at home may have a child in order to get welfare benefits, which would enable them to set up an independent household. Opponents argued that requiring minor mothers to live with a parent or guardian could put them at risk of abuse or neglect. Most states 44 have dealt with this by allowing teen mothers to live independently with state approval, and all 50 states and the District of Columbia consider living with another adult relative as meeting the requirement. Very little is known about whether this requirement has any effect on sexual behavior or reproductive decisions, and what is known may be surprising. The provision requiring teen mothers to attend school or training in order to collect benefits grew out of the idea that women with higher educational aspirations are less likely to become teenage mothers than their peers who have lower expectations. As the possibility of a successful future becomes more realistic, the argument goes, the cost of having a child increases. While several studies provide evidence that high levels of school engagement are associated with decreased pregnancy rates, the limited research on the school-attendance requirement has failed to demonstrate that these initiatives have an independent impact on initial or repeat teen childbearing.

Abstinence-Only Education Intent on addressing the root cause of nonmarital childbearing among all women as a part of welfare reform, Congress enacted a major new abstinence education initiative, with the stated purpose of establishing educational programs across the country that censure all sex outside of marriage, at any age. Commenting on the intent of Congress in drafting the provision, congressional staff members Ron Haskins and Carol Statuto Bevan wrote in the Children and Youth Services Review in that "the explicit goal of the abstinence-only education programs is to change both behavior and community standards for the good of the country. Since the passage of the welfare law, Congress has also appropriated funding for FY for abstinence-only education under two other programs: To qualify for funding under all three of these programs, education programs must adhere to a strict eight-point definition of "abstinence education. AMCHP reports that many state initiatives include media and public education campaigns, mentoring and counseling activities, and curriculum development. Furthermore, although the federal law is written so as to apply to individuals of all ages, states are allowed to determine which age-groups to target. In a survey of state abstinence education coordinators, the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States found that the majority of programs target preteens and the youngest teenagers see chart below. A Focus on Youth Although the abstinence-only program was intended for all age-groups, most states have targeted preteens and the youngest teens. Data are for 45 states and the District of Columbia. Many studies rely on changes in attitudes to measure changes in behavior—a link that is not always valid. Few studies use control groups, and fewer still involve long-term follow-up. The scant research that is available suggests that such programs have little or no effect on initiation of sexual intercourse. The national evaluation is being conducted on a small scale, at six sites across the country. Interim findings are expected to be available in August Most states are also planning to undertake some type of evaluation. Challenges Ahead In the Children and Youth Services Review article on the welfare bill, proponents of the legislation acknowledged that the "attack on illegitimacy is based far more on the value position that sex outside of marriage is wrong" than on solid evidence that their actions would produce substantial results. Congress forged ahead with a range of new policies based on the judgment that the nation faced a serious social problem and that strong action was therefore justified. But four years later, with

very limited empirical evidence, Congress faces a daunting challenge of considering how well these policies have worked to reduce nonmarital births, among American women in general and welfare recipients in particular. While actual debate on reauthorization of the welfare law will not take place until , when authorized funding expires, Congress is expected to begin oversight hearings and general consideration in

Acknowledgment The research on which this article is based was supported in part by a grant from the General Service Foundation. The conclusions and opinions expressed in this article, however, are those of the author and The Alan Guttmacher Institute.

5: Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act - Wikipedia

The welfare reform law addresses the problem of births to single adolescents by enforcing child support payments, giving states financial incentives to reduce nonmarital births, and creating the abstinence education grant.

On one hand, teen pregnancy and birth rates have fallen dramatically, reaching record lows. On the other hand, rates of sexually transmitted infections STIs among teens and young adults have been on the rise. Many schools and community groups have adopted programming that incorporates abstinence from sexual activity as an approach to reduce teen pregnancy and STI rates. The content of these programs, however, can vary considerably, from those that stress abstinence as the only option for youth, to those that address abstinence along with medically accurate information about safer sexual practices including the use of contraceptives and condoms. Early action from the Trump administration has signaled renewed support for abstinence-only programming. This fact sheet reviews the types of sex education models and state policies surrounding them, the major sources of federal funding for both abstinence and safer sex education, and summarizes the research on impact of these programs on teen sexual behavior. Sex and HIV Education. State Laws and Policies, as of May 1, Fact sheet examines abstinence education programs, funding and impact on teen sexual behavior There are two main approaches towards sex education: These categories are broad, and the content, methods, and targeted populations can vary widely between programs within each model. They generally do not discuss contraceptive methods or condoms unless to emphasize their failure rates. Comprehensive sex education is more diversely defined. Most generally, these programs include medically accurate, evidence-based information about both contraception and abstinence, as well as condoms to prevent STI transmission. Other programs emphasize safe-sex practices and often include information about healthy relationships and lifestyles. Usually excludes any information about the effectiveness of contraception or condoms to prevent unintended pregnancy and STIs. Sometimes must adhere to the 8-point federal definition Table 3. Comprehensive Sex Education “ Provides medically accurate age-appropriate information about abstinence, as well as safer sex practices including contraception and condoms as effective ways to reduce unintended pregnancy and STIs. Comprehensive programs also usually include information about healthy relationships, communication skills, and human development, among other topics. The type of sex education model used can vary by school district, and even by school. Some states have enacted laws that offer broad guidelines around sex education, though most have no requirement that sex education be taught at all. Only 24 states and DC require that sex education be taught in schools Text Box 1. More often, states enact laws that dictate the type of information included in sex education if it is taught, leaving up to school districts, and sometimes the individual school, whether to require sex education and which curriculum to use. Since then, abstinence education curricula have evolved and federal financial support has fluctuated with each administration, peaking in at the end of the Bush Administration and then dropping significantly under the Obama administration. All programs must adhere to the federal A-H definition, and states must match every four federal dollars with three state dollars. Information about contraceptives and condoms may not be provided unless to emphasize failure rates. Personal Responsibility Education Program PREP , established “ Enacted under the ACA, PREP awards grants to state health departments, community groups, and tribal organizations to implement medically accurate, evidence-based, and age-appropriate sex education programs that teach abstinence, contraception, condom use, and adulthood preparation skills. States receive grants based on the number of young people ages in each state, and programs must target those at high risk. TPPP supports program implementation and capacity building for grantees, as well as development and evaluation of new approaches to teen pregnancy prevention. There are currently 84 TPPP grantees. However, the Trump Administration has released a new funding announcement that focuses on programs that teach abstinence instead of comprehensive sex education. DASH also supports surveillance on youth risk behaviors and school health policies and practice. Background “ Until , there were three major federal programs dedicated to abstinence education: While these programs have since been eliminated and replaced by other sex education funding streams, the Title V AOUM program remains the largest source of federal funding for abstinence

education today. While not all eight points must be emphasized equally, AOUM programs cannot violate the intent of the A-H definition and may not discuss safer-sex practices or contraception except to emphasize their failure rates. States that accept Title V grant money must match every four federal dollars with three state dollars, and they distribute these funds through health departments to schools and community organizations. Every state, except California, has received funding from this program at some point, and currently half of states do. The current landscape of federal sex education programs is detailed in Table 2 and includes newer programs such as Personal Responsibility Education Program PREP , the first federal funding stream to provide grants to states in support of evidence-based sex education that teach about both abstinence and contraception. In addition, the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program TPPP was established to more narrowly focus on teen pregnancy prevention, providing grants to replicate evidence-based program models, as well as funding for implementation and rigorous evaluation of new and innovative models. Nonetheless, support for abstinence education programs continues. Nine organizations sued in Washington, Maryland, and the District of Columbia, arguing that their grants were wrongfully terminated. Federal judges in each of the four lawsuits ruled in favor of the organizations, allowing the programs to continue until the end of their grant cycle in . At the same time, the Trump Administration announced the availability of new funding for the TPP program with updated guidelines. These new rules require grantees to replicate one of two abstinence programs—one that follows a sexual risk avoidance model, and one that follows a sexual risk reduction model—in order to receive funding. This marks a sharp departure from the rules under the Obama administration, which allowed grantees to choose from a list of 44 evidence-supported programs that vary by approach, target population, setting, length, and intended outcomes. In , a nine-year congressionally mandated study that followed four of the programs during the implementation of the Title V AOUM program found that abstinence-only education had no effect on the sexual behavior of youth. Among those who did have sex, there was no difference in the mean age at first sexual encounter or the number of sexual partners between the two groups. The study also found that youth that participated in the programs were no more likely to engage in unprotected sex than youth who did not participate. While teens who participated in these programs could identify types of STIs at slightly higher rates than those who did not, program youth were less likely to correctly report that condoms are effective at preventing STIs. A more recent review also suggests that these programs are ineffective in delaying sexual initiation and influencing other sexual activity. Instead, the evaluated programs differed from traditional abstinence-only programs in three major ways: Percent of Schools in Which Teachers Taught Specific Topics as Part of Required Instruction Conclusion The Trump administration continues to shift the focus towards abstinence-only education, revamping the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program and increasing federal funding for sexual risk avoidance programs. Despite the large body of evidence suggesting that abstinence-only programs are ineffective at delaying sexual activity and reducing the number of sexual partners of teens, many states continue to seek funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs and mandate an emphasis on abstinence when sex education is taught in school. There will likely be continued debate about the effectiveness of these programs and ongoing attention to the level of federal investment in sex education programs that prioritize abstinence-only approaches over those that are more comprehensive and based on medical information.

6: Abstinence Education Under Welfare Reform

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Components[edit] Abstinence, be faithful, use a Condom consists of three components: The ABC approach encourages young adults to delay "sexual debut" age of first sexual intercourse , or to use abstinence until marriage, the most effective way to avoid HIV infection, as advocated as the ideal by Christianity. The program develops skills for practicing abstinence and encourages participants to adopt social norms that support abstinence. In addition to abstinence, the ABC approach encourages participants to eliminate casual or other concurrent sex partners and to practice fidelity within their marriages and other sexual relationships. This reduces exposure to HIV.. The Catholic Church has publicly stated its opposition to condom use. However, in , during an interview, Pope Benedict XVI addressed the use of condoms and his view that condoms are the "first step" of morality [6] United States[edit] Starting primarily in the s and s, the popularity of the "abstinence plus" sex education program grew into a common method of teaching students, in the United States , about sexuality. The program understood that it would not be possible to stop all teenagers from having sex, but still stressed that abstinence is the only guaranteed way of avoiding unwanted pregnancies and contraction of STDs. To account for this, some states included information about contraceptives in their sex education programs along with encouragement for students to be abstinent. Of the states that, in , required abstinence education, fourteen also included the use of contraception within the curriculum. It is meant to support abstinence and help develop skills to continue abstinence, help teens who have had sexual intercourse to abstain from further, and to provide teens with information on contraceptives and methods for preventing sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy. There has also been debate and discourse over the emphasis of one tenet of ABC sex education over the other. Currently there is the debate over the emphasis of "A" over "C" and vis versa. Abstinence is emphasized for individuals who are young and unmarried, who hear messages about AIDS regularly; Be faithful is emphasized with married couples whose religious leader "polices" their sexual behavior; Condom use is a contested area with religious leaders due to the fact that religious openly denounce condom use, however some leaders have privately consulted individuals on condom use, resulting in many members doing so. In Malawi, religious leaders influence and emphasize the use this strategy [16] However, in the United States, ideologies influence the use of ABC strategy. In this case, political ideologies influence the use of various sex education programs. For example, conservatism had previously taught young women that sex was about danger, not pleasure, focusing on an abstinence-only education program, reinforcing the foundational conservative ideas of fear, and that society is fragile and human nature is inherently bad. Globally, the debate of sex education divides liberals and conservatives. In many countries, children do not receive proper sex education, and discourage the act of sex itself [19] Responses[edit] The usefulness of the ABC approach is highly debated. The three elements are interpreted differently by different actors and critics argue that often abstinence and faithfulness are unduly promoted over condoms and other measures such as education, female empowerment and making available modern antiviral drugs. However, most infections in Africa occur outside these vulnerable groups, and ABC was a US donor policy only for the "generalized" epidemics in Africa. Migration patterns within a population affect both men and women where men who migrate are more likely to contract the infection and bring it back and infect their female partner, whose greatest risk of contracting HIV is from their husbands extramarital sexual encounters, but women are also seen contracting the disease outside of their primary relationship, focusing the ABC strategy on morality and "static individualized behavior". A majority of the debate is focused on whether or not there should be a comprehensive sex education program or an abstinence-only program. Along with the push for earlier sex education, there is the call for age-appropriate sex education. This means that for elementary school students, the sex education they receive will be tailored to their age. Those Planned Parenthood people are only talking about condoms. By the way, they know full well that the condoms devoted to Africa are sub-standard. This conclusion was validated and expanded to underscore the

dangers of concurrent sexual partners by Helen Epstein, in *The Invisible Cure* [35].

7: No Sex, No Moms: Welfare Reform Funds Abstinence Ed to Curb Momhood - News - The Austin Chronicle

Like the welfare reform abstinence program the funding for CBAE is also tied to an extremely narrow, morality-based definition of abstinence-only education that puts teens at risk. The eight-point definition first formulated under the welfare law condemns all sexual activity outside of marriage, for people of any age.

8: Abstinence, be faithful, use a condom - Wikipedia

Dr. Joe McIlhaney believes that abstinence education is the best way to prevent the proliferation of welfare mothers. When President Clinton scrawled his signature on the Welfare Reform Act on.

Statistics Applied to Clinical Trials Self-Assessment Book Alexander Popes the rape of the lock Pt. 2. Dictatorship versus democracy in Egyptian public discourse. Prologue : public sphere and public di Things to Make and Do for Christmas (Kid Kits : Hands-on Fun With Usborne) Biographical Directory of the South Carolina Senat Iguanas (Exotic Lizards) You cant still be hungry Amazing You Face Hand Reading (Amazing You S.) Consumer Education Economics, Student Activity Manual Sallys submarine Judicial review : the norm of deference and its contours Ecos de Uma Viagem Ebook without registration True Tales of the Paranormal Business of sustainable development 4. The killing season Interactive 3D graphics in Windows Pocket encyclopaedia of buses and trolleybuses, 1919 to 1945 Modern philosophy of science The metaphorical marketplace and truth Folk-lore from the Cape Verde Islands . The west bank of the Hudson River, Albany to Tappan Soft computing in engineering design and manufacturing Love Games (Wildfire) The story of alexander the great A Royal Proposition Adventures of Sindbad (Central European Classics (Central European Classics Series (Central European Clas Mitsubishi s500 vfd manual Defining the conflict nevertheless Literary criticism of the New Testament Towards a visual culture The Working Lurcher Synergetics of measurement, prediction, and control Administrative subdivisions of Japan, with appendix of 47 prefectural maps Sex and sexuality in early America Graphing polynomial functions worksheets Access New York Restaurants 97/98 (Access New York Restaurants) Mine manager job description Reconstruction and Cold War in Germany Sequence-selective binding of transition metal complexes to DNA Einar Sletten