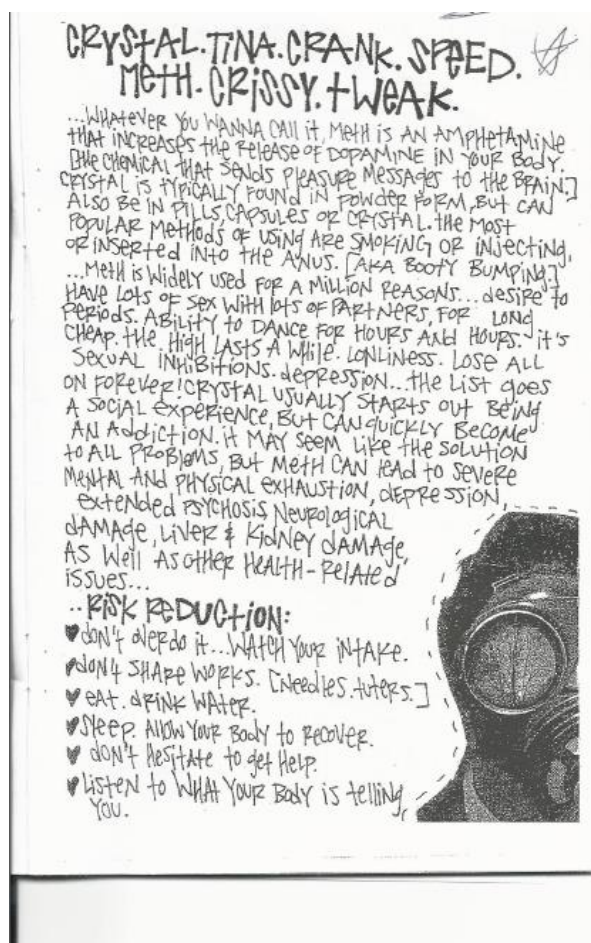


Drugs, Sex, and the Oregon Department of Education's Truth Deficit

"...Meth is widely used for a million reasons...desire to have lots of sex with lots of partners, for long periods."



Source: Distributed at the Oregon Adolescent Sexuality Conference; Cascade Aids Project Pamphlet "[A Young Males Guide to...for Guys who Like Guys](#)".

By visiting this year's 2014 annual [Oregon Adolescent Sexuality Conference](#) (ASC), it became evident that the Oregon Department of Education's (ODE) mission of "Helping Youth Make Healthy Choices" is not true. Drug use to enhance sexual pleasure and to lose all sexual inhibitions is not a healthy choice for youth.

The words and actions from ODE bear little resemblance to these claims, either at the conference or within Oregon's Sexuality Education Standards for the classroom. Key representative, Brad Victor, ODE employee and Sexuality Expert, repeated the "helping teens make healthy choices" mantra throughout this year's conference as well as to the media. Mr. Victor has also been a director for "[Working to Institutionalize Sex Education in Oregon](#)" and for the Oregon Teen Pregnancy Task Force (OTPTF) -- a major sponsor of the ASC.

Within the Adolescent Sexuality Conference, Mr. Victor was asked by a youth about a Cascade Aids Project's suggestion in one of their "[zines](#)", which said that using meth could enhance sexual performance—and with multiple partners. Brad Victor brushed off the teen by responding, "I don't know anything about that, I'm not a doctor", and told him to go ask someone else. Does this appear to be helping youth make healthy choices? Or is there a truth deficit in what Mr. Victor repeatedly claims?

Cascade Aids Project authors this zine—and others which are equally disturbing--and makes them available to all youth attending the ASC. Cascade Aids Project serves on the [Steering Committee](#) for the conference, along with Governor Kitzhaber's Oregon Department of Education and Oregon Health Authority.

Mr. Victor also repeatedly declared that parental and local control has always been a priority for him. In 2012, Mr. Victor directed the passing of the [2012 revisions](#) to Oregon's comprehensive K-12 sex education administrative rules as a "consent item" at a State Board meeting. Quoting Brad Victor at the 2013 Adolescent Sexuality Conference in Seaside, Oregon:

"There was no public comment at all. So, we went for the consent items, and said 'Everybody agree on the consent items?' They raised their hands, and bingo, boom! We've got the most progressive law in the nation (Oregon). So we pushed the envelope again." (www.stopp.org/article.php?id=11951)

Does it appear that Mr. Victor places parental/local control as a priority? Is there a truth deficit here too?

In a [KOIN TV, Channel 6 interview](#), April 7, 2014, Brad Victor repeated Oregon Department of Education's "Helping Youth Make Healthy Choices" claim, and even added an invitation to those who were concerned with the content at the Adolescent Sexuality Conference to come in to see what was really happening inside. Some accepted the invitation, but were asked to leave as soon as they entered the door.

Much of what we have learned or experienced at the ASC and about Oregon's Comprehensive Sex Education (aka: "healthy sexuality") is disturbing and strongly indicates a truth deficit on the part of the ODE and its representatives.

It is evident that Oregon's Superintendent of Public Instruction, Governor Kitzhaber, is perpetrating an assault on our children's sexuality and their health. Regaining parental and local control is vital to safeguard their educational future and well-being.