

Testimony by Amy L. Contrada
Joint Committee on the Judiciary – May 7, 2013

I'm speaking in support of House Bills 1282 and 1477. Both bills would block the dissemination of “matter harmful to minors” in schools. Current law (Chapter 272, Sections 28 and 29) actually *exempts* schools, museums, and libraries and their employees from criminal prosecution for dissemination of such harmful materials.

Current Massachusetts law (Ch. 272, Section 31) defines “matter harmful to minors” as “obscene, or, if ... it describes or represents nudity, sexual conduct or sexual excitement, so as to appeal predominantly to the prurient interest of minors.”

I will present just one example of harmful material now in many Massachusetts schools. This [show ***It's Perfectly Normal***] is a book used in health classes and available in school libraries (where parents would have no knowledge of its contents, or ability to restrain their child from taking it off the shelf).

It's Perfectly Normal is a sexuality education book meant for ages “10 and up.” It is filled with watercolor illustrations of nude children and adults, showing adults engaging in sexual intercourse, teens masturbating, a boy putting a condom on his erect penis, a girl bent over with her naked bottom fully exposed to the viewer (as she studies herself in a mirror).

The book is a prime teaching tool of Planned Parenthood. While such groups wish to dismiss objections to the book, the most telling recent challenge may be that the *Washington Post* and *New York Times* both rejected an ad that included illustrations from the book because *the images were “too graphic” or “shocking” for their adult readers*. Yet this material is available in elementary school libraries and classrooms in Massachusetts.

Clearly, the illustrations in this book would “appeal to the prurient interest” of elementary-age or older students. The schools and staff using these materials are engaged in emotional and psychological abuse of young children captive in our schools.

I do not ask the legislature to challenge parents’ rights to show this material to their own children. But it is another thing altogether for a school to present such images to children as part of the “health” curriculum or school library offerings.

I am leaving a copy of my testimony along with several illustrations from *It's Perfectly Normal* for the Committee’s consideration.

Thank you for your attention to this serious problem.

[Attachments]

"*It's Perfectly Normal* is informative, reassuring, and responsible. . . . I wish every child (and parent) could have a copy." —Penelope Leach, Ph.D., author of *Your Baby and Child* and *Children First*

It's Perfectly Normal

For age
10 and
up

CHANGING BODIES, GROWING UP,
SEX & SEXUAL HEALTH



From the author and illustrator of *It's So Amazing!* and *It's Not the Stork!*
ROBIE H. HARRIS illustrated by **MICHAEL EMBERLEY**

Making Love

Sexual Intercourse

The dictionary tells us one more thing about sex. It says, 4: *Sexual intercourse.*

Sex also means sexual intercourse. Some people call sexual intercourse "having sex."



Sexual intercourse happens when a female and a male feel very sexy and very attracted to each other. They want to be very close to each other in a sexual way, so close that the male's penis goes inside the female's vagina. And the vagina stretches open in a way that fits around the penis.

When this happens, it is possible for a female and a male —

once their reproductive organs have grown up — to make a baby.



But most people don't have sexual intercourse only when they want to make a baby. Most often, they have sexual intercourse because it feels good.

People have sexual intercourse well into old age.

People also call sexual intercourse "making love" or "lovemaking" because it's a way of expressing love. But sexual intercourse is only one way of expressing love.

Hugging, cuddling, holding hands, kissing, and touching are other ways of expressing love. So is just being with someone you like a lot and telling that person, "I love you."



Perfectly Normal Masturbation

During puberty, when the sex hormones cause boys' and girls' sex organs to become more active, many kids begin to have even more pleasurable and excited feelings about their own bodies — and they may also be more attracted to and interested in other people's bodies.

These feelings are often called sexual feelings or “feeling sexy.” Even though they are hard to describe, they are normal feelings. They happen at different times and in different ways for different kids.

Boys and girls, teenagers, and grown-ups too, experience sexy feelings when they masturbate. Masturbation is touching or rubbing any of your body's sex organs for pleasure — because it feels good. One everyday term for masturbating is “playing with yourself.”

Mas-tur-ba-ting.
I've heard
about that.

Just another
big word.
That's all it is.



Some people think that masturbation is wrong or harmful. And some religions call masturbation a sin. But masturbating cannot hurt you. And it does not result in pregnancy or in getting or passing on infections that are spread by sexual contact. Many people masturbate. Many don't.

Whether you masturbate or not is your choice. Masturbating is perfectly normal.

When people masturbate, they usually rub their sex organs with their hands or with something soft, like a pillow. A girl often rubs her clitoris; a boy often rubs his penis. Both the clitoris and the penis are sensitive to touch.





Have you noticed that human bodies come in all different sizes ... shapes ... and shades? People's bodies look so different.



Most human bodies look pretty much the same to me.

They do?



They do.





Oh, come on! You do know that male and female bodies look different from one another!

Do we have to talk about this — now — here — or anytime?

What's the big deal?

Let's just forget we ever had this conversation. Okay?



American Life League

Press Release [excerpt]

April 25, 2013

<http://www.all.org/article/index/id/MTE5MjI/>

Planned Parenthood Sex-Ed Too 'Graphic,' 'Shocking' to Show Adults

[re: illustrations from *It's Perfectly Normal*]

WASHINGTON, DC - This week, both the New York Times and Washington Post rejected a full-page advertisement from American Life League as "too graphic" and "shocking" for their adult readers. What was too graphic? This full-page color advertisement showed images from actual Planned Parenthood sex-ed materials used for children as young as 10 years of age. ALL couldn't agree more. The rejected ad can be seen here: http://www.all.org/pdf/PP_HookingKids.pdf.

... **"Starting in kindergarten, funded with our tax dollars, PP uses graphic cartoons to saturate children with sexual imagery that encourages them to focus on sexuality, engage in sex, and accept dangerous aberrant sexual acts as perfectly normal.** Parents' tax dollars are being used to turn their own children into Planned Parenthood's future sex customers."

To raise public awareness about Planned Parenthood's controversial sex education -- more accurately described as sexual indoctrination -- ALL planned a series of advertisements revealing what and how children are really taught in PP'S so-called "comprehensive sex education." These are programs that are already in many schools and will reach all public schools as currently mandated in Obamacare.

The Washington Post rejected the advertisement simply saying that, without disguising the pictures, it was "too graphic." The only images in the ad are from Planned Parenthood-endorsed sources. If they are too graphic for adults reading the Washington Post, then they certainly should not be in elementary school classrooms.

Likewise, the New York Times offered to run the ad only if ALL would agree to blur the pictures. Its staff suggested that they could run a disclaimer saying, "Image too shocking for the New York Times audience. To see actual image and for more information, please visit:

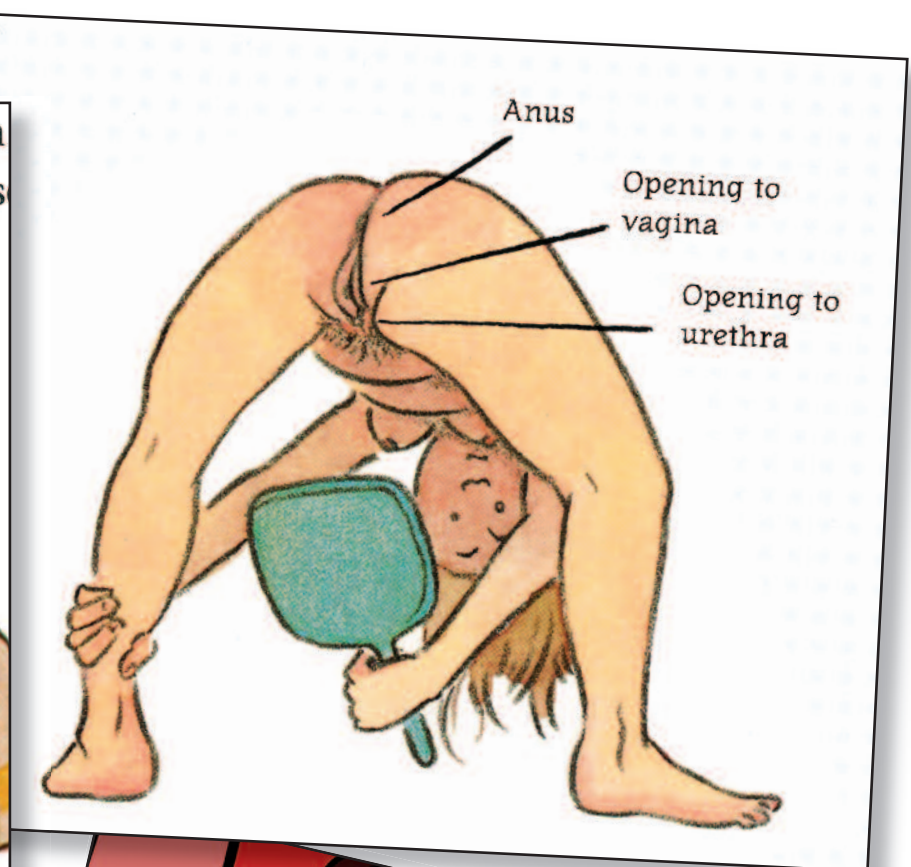
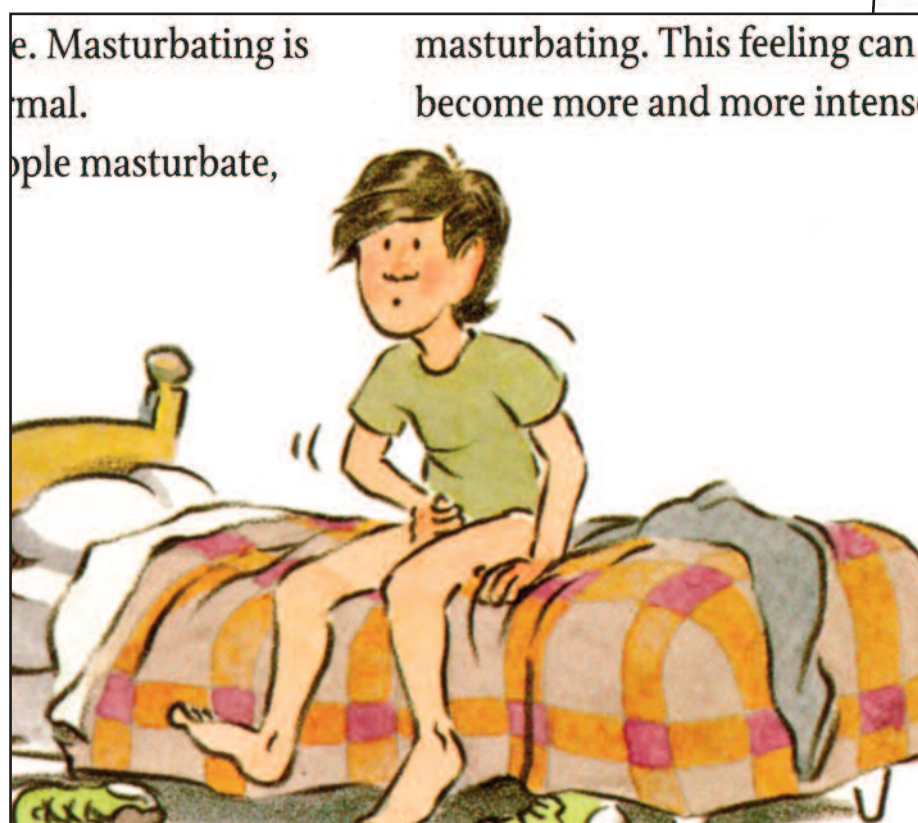
http://www.all.org/pdf/PP_HookingKids.pdf." ...

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American Life League, cofounded by Judie Brown in 1979, is the oldest national Catholic pro-life education and advocacy organization in the United States. For more information, please visit <http://www.ALL.org>.

Cartoons for your kids

courtesy of Planned Parenthood (and millions of your tax dollars)



A stranger would be arrested, but your tax dollars pay Planned Parenthood to show these images to your child.

Planned Parenthood is in the sex business. The above images are from actual Planned Parenthood "educational" materials targeting children as young as 10 years old. This is all done with your tax dollars: \$375 million through Obamacare alone. The earlier children get involved in sex, the more customers Planned Parenthood has for contraceptives, STD testing, and abortions. Help us stop Planned Parenthood from indoctrinating your children into a lifestyle of sexual sin.

Defund Planned Parenthood



To learn more, go to StopPlannedParenthood.com

P.O. Box 1350, Stafford, VA 22555 • 540-659-4171 • www.ALL.org • JBrown@all.org

Cofounded in 1979 by Judie Brown, American Life League is the United States' oldest and largest Catholic grassroots pro-life organization. ALL is committed to the protection of all innocent human beings from the moment of creation to death.

Sources for the above images: *It's Perfectly Normal* by Robie H. Harris, a book promoted as appropriate for 10-year-olds by Planned Parenthood (see the endorsement on www.PlannedParenthood.org); the Planned Parenthood video *The G-Spot—How Pregnancy Happens*, online at www.YouTube.com; and the video *Sextionary: ClitoralHood*, online at www.TeenWire.com, last accessed 04/01/09.