

Dear Committee,

I believe that it is incredibly important to have comprehensive sexual education in Minnesota schools. Especially as a young queer person, sex is something that I am afraid of. I have not been taught much about it in school, and a lot of what I know was found out from the internet or from friends. It is important that every person knows how to have sex safely, otherwise it can lead to disastorous situations. There are harmful myths surrounding LGBTQ+ sex that teach students that because having sex with a same sex partner cannot get you pregnant, you do not have to use safe sex practices. These myths lead people to unknowingly getting and spreading harmful STDs.

As a person with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder(OCD), it is a necessity to have comprehensive sexual education. Sex is something that has a lot of stigma in our society, and because it is seen as taboo, it scares me. I know that when I am older and begin to have sex, I will obsess over it, worrying that something bad will happen or that I will do something wrong. Better comprehensive sexual education would help give me a stronger understanding about what sex is and how to do it safely. When I have a solid understanding of something, it helps limit the amount of obsessing I do.

Overall, comprehensive sexual education is an important and necessary part of education.

Thank you,

Lily Ahluwalia, 16, 49A