

Sexual Risk Reduction vs. Sexual Risk Avoidance:

What Does the Bible Say about That?



The Matthew XVIII Group

The current gold standard in public school Sex Education curricula is called **Sexual Risk Reduction (SRR)**. With good cause, parents and other concerned citizens have been horrified to find that children are being taught from the underlying presupposition that **they are sexually active**; in this approach, children are taught methods to engage in every sort of perversion, in ways that supposedly reduce their risk of disease and, especially, pregnancy.

In response, **Abstinence Groups** have rolled out an alternative, for which they seek a piece of the federal education budget pie, called **Sexual Risk Avoidance (SRA)**. But is it really that different from SRR?*

What does **the Bible** say that we should teach our children about sex education? What is true **Biblical Purity**?

	Sexual Risk Reduction	Sexual Risk Avoidance	Biblical Purity
Origin	Man-made	Biblical & Man-made	God's Word
Focus	Sexual Rights	Sexual Responsibility/respect	Identity in Christ
Starting Assumptions	Assume all children are sexual from birth and need to be encouraged. Graphic materials shown to youth.	Assume all children are sexual and at risk. Focus is delay in sexual activity. STD slides used to show consequences.	But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people... darkness to light. (1 Peter 2:9)
Teaching Philosophy	Non-Directive Education - Information with no guidance	Directive Education - Information with guidance	Biblical guidance
Goal (Stated)	Reduce consequences	Avoidance	Abstain from fleshly lusts which war against soul. (1 Peter 2:11)
Parental Involvement	Little/no parent involvement	SRA Specialist with parents	Parents with help of church
Goal (Unstated)	Encourage creating one's own values	Encourage values of family	Encourage biblical values
Children's Focus Directed Toward...	Focus on giving and receiving pleasure	Encourage self-regulation and personal power	Encourage reliance on God to maintain purity
Character Qualities Encouraged	Encourage experimentation, no character education	Encourage positive youth and character development	Encourage to be the light in the darkness, God's people
Approach to Sexuality	Teach adolescent sexual activity is normal	Teach healthy relationship development skills	Teach biblical standards, how to treat others
Approach to Pornography	Teach the use of porn is not harmful & can be beneficial	Teach the use of pornography is harmful	Teach God designed brain/body & warnings given
Goal (Action Item)	Use contraception, condoms, abortion	To delay sexual debut	Pure lives, healthy marriage/family/nation
Goal (Ultimate)	Orgasm top goal	Keep sex positive	Holiness, purity
Goal (Underlying)	Gender identity and fluidity	Refer to the science on gender	God's design - Biblical manhood/femalehood
Sources	Based on Kinsey science	Based on science/research	Based on God's Word/history
Goal (Morality)	Live for today, if it feels good do it, no morality	Future health, happiness, and prosperity	Salvation, peace, love, protection, restoration
Perspective on Family	No marriage & family	Value marriage & family	God, family, nation

*Note: The SRR and SRA columns of this chart were produced by an abstinence group promoting SRA.

To learn more, purchase our book *10 Tips on How NOT to Talk to Your Kids about Sex*, or arrange a speaking event, visit MatthewXVIII.org.