



S.H.A.P.E. Parent F.A.Q.'s

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who teaches S.H.A.P.E. (qualifications, attitudes regarding parents and parental authority)?

All S.H.A.P.E. classes are taught by Camp Fire instructors who have completed training in reproductive health and who have experience working with both parents and children. Many have Bachelor or higher degrees, work experience with children/adolescents, and have been teaching for many years. Camp Fire promotes the parent as the authority and expert on their own children; we work with families by encouraging and assisting parents in teaching their children valuable health and life information.

2. What content areas will be taught?

Both male and female anatomy and physiology, pregnancy and conception, abstinence and birth control, STI's and HIV/AIDS, refusal and negotiation skills, healthy relationships, and more. S.H.A.P.E. classes include interactive games and discussions, as well as videos and lecture.

3. Who wrote the curriculum?

The curriculum was modeled after a parent-child sex education curriculum from the Family Guidance Center in St. Joseph, Missouri. It has been evaluated and used since 1980. The curriculum was been updated to stay current with the times and with the population in California.

4. What is the teacher's approach to values and morals, particularly in the areas of homosexuality, birth control, masturbation, and premarital sex?

Course material contains only unbiased age-appropriate information. Instructors provide factual information about topics such as these during sessions. Parents are encouraged to talk with their children outside of class about their family's values and morals. In respect of the many views and opinions of families attending, S.H.A.P.E. instructors don't share personal opinions on these matters.

5. Will the course undermine the values of home/church?

Absolutely not...but again with many views on church, home, and religion instructors give the most neutral position possible, respecting everyone's values and morals.

6. Will the class stress the importance of the family?

Family is very important to Camp Fire. We want to support open communication between parents and their children so that they can become sexually healthy adolescents and adults.

7. Will the class promote promiscuity or situational ethics?

No. Unfortunately, our kids are getting a sex education from their peers, television, or other sources that often portray sex in a promiscuous or unhealthy way. Research has shown that improving communication in families about sex reduces irresponsible sexual behavior and decreases unwanted pregnancies. Teens with correct and accurate information are more likely to delay having sex than teens who do not have the right information or close relationships with their parents (National Campaign, 2003).

8. What if my child is reluctant to come to SHAPE?

Many children are nervous and embarrassed on the first night of S.H.A.P.E. but after a few sessions they usually are dragging the parent to class because they are learning valuable information and having tons of fun. S.H.A.P.E. curriculum includes many games and activities that engage the child and their parents together in learning.

***For further information, please contact
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