**The Chinese government should develop a national curriculum standard for sexuality education**

According to the National Health Commission of the People’s Republic of China, (2018), “about 9 million abortions take place annually in China.” Babatunde Ahonsi (2018) reported that “the group of women younger than 24 years old contributes to 28.5 percent of abortions.” Large numbers of young women in china have abortions. One of the reasons is that Chinese adolescents don’t get enough sexual knowledge. Chinese sexuality education has obvious deficiencies. There are no specific standards or guidance for the sexuality education curriculum. As a result, the proposal is that the Chinese government should develop a national curriculum standard for sexuality education. The proposal has three benefits. The proposal can solve the deficiencies of current sexuality education. The proposal provides a reliable source of sexual knowledge for adolescents. Implementation of the proposal follows the United Nations’ guidance and improves Chinese international status.

Chinese schools take the integrated approach to sexuality education. The integrated approach has obvious deficiencies. The proposal can solve the deficiencies. According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization [UNESCO] (2019):

“The study found that integration is the main approach to sexuality education in the surveyed Chinese middle schools. These schools commonly integrate sexuality education into subjects such as psychology, biology and moral education as well as into class meetings.” (p. 7)

The integrated approach has three deficiencies. The first deficiency is the lack of a stand-alone course on sexuality education. The second deficiency is the lack of a universal textbook on sexuality education. The third deficiency is the lack of professional teachers on sexuality education.

Integrating sexuality education into subjects means the lack of a stand-alone course on sexuality education. Setting a stand-alone course can guarantee sufficient teaching hours on sexuality education. It is difficult for the government to stipulate the teaching hours on sexuality education. That is because there is no stand-alone course on sexuality education. As a result, the government does not stipulate the teaching hours on sexuality education. The teaching time of sexuality education depends on teachers because there is no requirement for it. China implements test-oriented education. Teachers prefer to shorten time on sexuality education because they want to spend more time improving students’ grades. Time on implementing sexuality education is limited. If the Chinese government develops a national curriculum standard for sexuality education, the standard will lead schools to set a stand-alone course on sexuality education.

The integrated approach means integrating the content of sexuality education into many subjects. There is not a universal textbook on sexuality education. For example, *Chinese High School Biology Textbook 1* contains reproductive health. And some pages of the biology textbook introduce HIV. However, it is hard to cover entire sexual knowledge in carrier subjects. According to UNESCO (2019): “The sexuality education content in schools was not sufficiently comprehensive, with insufficient coverage of topics such as violence, gender, rights, sexual behavior, sexual orientation, condom, conception and abortion.” (p. 55) Developing a national curriculum standard helps the Ministry of Education to write a textbook on sexuality education. The textbook will cover entire sexual knowledge. The textbook helps teachers to teach sexual knowledge comprehensively.

Schools lack professional teachers on sexuality education. According to UNESCO (2019), teachers lack specialized training and insufficient teaching sources. Teachers in China are sensitive to the topic of sex because Chinese do not like to talk about sex in public. Without sufficient training, it is difficult for teachers to conduct lectures on sexuality education. Developing a national curriculum standard for sexuality education helps schools and the government to design specialized training for teachers. The curriculum standard also helps teachers to self-learn sexual knowledge. The curriculum standard helps to solve the lack of professional teachers.

Chinese adolescents do not have a reliable source of sexual knowledge. The proposal provides a reliable source of sexual knowledge for adolescents. Yu Zhang and Jianli Li (2015) reported that,

“High school students got sex knowledge in diverse ways, but with poor quality. For 49.06% of high school students, the main source of sex knowledge was “classmates or friends”; 35.74% of boys and 8. 55% girls read pornographic books; 40% of boys and 12.10% of girls watched adult videos.” (pp. 98-102)

Friends, classmates, pornographic books, and adult videos are not reliable sources of sexual knowledge. Parents should be a reliable source for adolescents. However, Wenli Liu, Kali S. Van Campen, Carolyn P. Edwards and Stephen T. Russel (2011) reported that few Chinese parents provide sexuality education. Schools should provide comprehensive sexuality education because adolescents don’t have a reliable source ~~now~~. Developing a national curriculum standard for sexuality education helps schools to build comprehensive sexuality education. Implementing comprehensive sexuality education helps students to gain comprehensive sexual knowledge. Then the school can be a reliable source of sexual knowledge for adolescents.

Implementation of the proposal follows the United Nations’ guidance and improves Chinese international status. According to UNESCO (2018), the United Nations set The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and 17 Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs]. SDGs include quality education, gender equality, and health and well-being. China has 165 million adolescents. As a member of the United Nations, China should follow the United Nations’ guidance and provide comprehensive sexuality education for 165 million adolescents. Implementation of the proposal shows the Chinese government’s respect for human rights. It also shows the Chinese government’s emphasis on education. The United Nations and countries in the world will appreciate Chinese endeavor for comprehensive sexuality education. Implementation of the proposal can improve Chinese international status.

Some people oppose the proposal because they think that teaching sexual knowledge to students leads students to try sexual behaviors. However, according to Amie M. Ashcraft and Pamela J. Murray (2017), sexuality education is associated with delayed sexual activity and more consistent contraceptive use. If the Chinese government develops a national curriculum standard for sexuality education, professional teachers will lead adolescents to have delayed sexual activity. The proposal is beneficial for adolescents’ health.

China does not implement comprehensive sexuality education now. Adolescents in china do not get enough sexual knowledge. Sexuality education in China has prominent deficiencies. The Chinese government should develop a national curriculum standard for sexuality education. The standard helps the school to be a reliable sexual knowledge source for adolescents. The implementation of the proposal also improves Chinese international status.

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