



The Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria
ST. GEORGE AND ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
Montreal - Canada



ÉDUCATION SEXUELLE KINGERGARTEN/ MATERNELLE

Messages généraux aux parents et servants

**Remember the commandments given to you
the day your children were baptized ..**

تذكروا الوصية التي قيلت لكم يوم المعمودية اولادكم

Parents Responsibility towards their Children

Our concern for timing is more about our comfort than our children's. I mean, let's get real. Look at the world they are living in. Everyone else is talking about sex, so we'd better get started now.

Sexuality is a cradle-to-grave reality, and we have only a few short years to nurture our children's moral development.

By learning more about childhood development, we can better time our efforts with God's design.

Proverbs 22:6

- Train up a child in the way he should go,
And when he is old he will not depart
from it.
- Instruis l'enfant selon la voie qu'il doit
suivre; Et quand il sera vieux, il ne s'en
détournera pas.

□ (أم 22:6): رب الولد في طريقه فمتى شاخ أيضا
لا يحيد عنه

Question: "How should a Christian view sex education?"

Answer:

1. Children will learn about sexuality from someone.
2. The options are their peers, pornography, school settings, experimentation, **or their parents.**
3. The best place for sex education is in the home, as a natural part of training children "in the way they should go" (Proverbs 22:6).
4. It is the parents' God-given responsibility to teach children God's perspective on every area of life, including sexuality (Ephesians 6:1–4).

Question: "How should a Christian view sex education?"



5. Regardless of whether children receive sex education in schools or even at church, it remains the parents' responsibility to ensure their children are properly educated about both the biological and moral aspects of sexuality.
6. Leaving values-training to others is dangerous, particularly regarding matters of sexuality in many cultures today.

What are you going to do?

- Ignore the problem
- Remain shy
- Lose your children

OR

- Get informed
- Find courage
- Discuss and guide your children

We chose to be proactive !

When and how ?



- It is never too early for parents to share their values and beliefs with their children.
- While this presentation gives some ideas as to how to talk about the biological aspect of sexual development to the little ones, it also gives the parent or servant an opportunity to share his beliefs (those of the Bible) on the subject.
- For example, when the subject of sexual development is approached, a parent or servant can tell a child that God has created us with the intention that we expected to be married to express the feelings of love when we grow up and have babies.

What are you going to do?

- **As parents** : Please Do not be shy to discuss controversial issues with your children. Send your questions (church's website and we will answer).
- **As servants and church:** Sunday School lessons are addressing the issue (servants and kids)

Every lesson has 2 parts:

- **Part 1: Introduction of the topics in school s curriculum**
 - Summary of the controversial issue in the government curriculum
- **Part 2: Christian Corrective lesson**
 - Lesson from the Christian Perspective
 - Material to be retained by the child
 - Discussion ,supported by biblical verses, ready Q&A, parent discipline

General rules for servants and parents (preschool)

- Answer only the questions that children ask
- Give a short simple explanation with a vocabulary that your child knows well.
- Explain the difficult words
- NEVER ignore questions asked by children.
- ALWAYS keep the idea of communicating with your child that sexual relation is blessed and beautiful in the context of Christian marriage.
- Whenever possible, it is good for the dad to discuss this subject with his boy, and for the mother to discuss this with her daughter. If this is not possible, the child still needs to hear this information from a parent or guardian who is concerned about the child's well-being.

General rules:

Particularity of this age group

- Most of the kids at this age do not understand the nature or usefulness of the sexual relationship and most children do not personalize it or think it is something they should do.
- Here are some ideas when discussing sexuality with young children, based on the first chapters of the book of Genesis in the Bible:
- God created each one of us in his image. Every person—man, woman, boy and girl—was created in his own image, and has great value in the eyes of God.

LEARNING CONTENT IN SEXUALITY EDUCATION – KINDERGARTEN

	SEXUAL GROWTH AND BODY IMAGE Appreciating the body you have as a girl or boy	PREGNANCY AND BIRTH Understanding the phenomenon of birth
LEARNING CONTENT	<p>1) Identify the parts of the body of girls and boys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parts of the body that both girls and boys have <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ E.g. arms, lungs, head, heart, brain, buttocks • Parts of the body specific to girls or boys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Outside the body (girls: vulva, breasts; boys: penis, scrotum) ◦ Inside the body (girls: ovaries, uterus, vagina; boys: testicles) ◦ Functions of the sexual organs (e.g. elimination, reproduction) • Differences among girls' bodies; differences among boys' bodies • Importance of taking good care of your body (hygiene, appreciating your body) <p>2) Give examples of what you can feel and express with your body</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Five senses: taste, touch, smell, sight, hearing ◦ Emotions ◦ Sensations: pleasant, unpleasant • Sharing your needs and wishes with others (e.g. friends, adults in your life) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ When sensations and feelings are pleasant; when sensations and feelings are unpleasant ◦ When you are not sure about something, when you need to talk with someone ◦ Saying when you do not like being touched ◦ Protecting your private parts <p></p>	<p>1) Briefly explain, in your own words, the steps involved in making a baby</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Union of an egg and a sperm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Two cells needed for a fetus to develop: the egg and the sperm ◦ Multiple pregnancy • Development of the fetus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Three main stages in the development of a fetus: first, second and third trimesters • During the pregnancy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Changes that take place in the mother's body to help the baby grow ◦ Preparing for the baby's arrival • Childbirth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Type of birth (vaginal or caesarean) ◦ Where the baby is born (e.g. hospital, birthing centre, at home) ◦ Needs of a newborn (e.g. eating, sleeping, affection) <p>2) Name ways of welcoming a baby into a family</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different family models <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Nuclear, single-parent, same-sex-parent, adoptive, blended • Welcoming a baby <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ At birth ◦ At the time of adoption <p></p>
WHY DO STUDENTS NEED TO LEARN THIS?	<p>Children who know the parts of their body, including the sexual organs, are more likely to be proud of their bodies¹ and to develop a positive body image.²</p> <p>Talking about the parts of the body and the sexual organs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allows children to satisfy their natural curiosity about their bodies and anatomical differences.³ • gives children the appropriate vocabulary for asking questions about sexuality.⁴ • equips children to identify inappropriate touching (when children use the correct terms to refer to sexual organs, they are able to make themselves better understood if they need to report a sexual assault).⁵ 	<p>Children without accurate knowledge about pregnancy and birth will invent their own explanation, often based on myths.⁶</p> <p>Kindergarten students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are in a stage of development in which they are curious about sexual functions⁷ and where babies come from.⁸ • are able to understand concepts related to the phenomenon of pregnancy and of birth.⁹



Preschool : particular aspects



- During this age, children are very concrete and literal, so this is the perfect time to teach the proper and correct names of body parts (especially their own parts).
- In addition, as children grow up, they should be made aware of the importance of privacy.

Preschool : particular aspects



- More importantly, during these years, parents should establish a rhythm of family devotions. Call this routine as you wish: family prayer, biblical time etc.
- This is the perfect time for kids to get used to seeing Mom or Dad open the scriptures to talk about the things that really matter. This will establish the Bible as an authority over all matters of life and establish you as a teacher.

General rules:

What to tell the kids



- God created men and women. The differences between a man and a woman are good. We must respect these differences.
- Everyone is born **either as a girl or a boy.**
- A man and a woman differ from each other, but are equal.
- The man is not superior to the woman, and the woman is not superior to the man.

General rules:



- God has given men and women the ability to have children.
- He has given the rules to adults, and we should respect them. He wants the man and the woman to marry before having children.
- God created our bodies. Our bodies are good because God has created us on his image, and we must respect them.
- Our sexual organs are private and nobody should touch them.
- A boy should never touch the private parts of a girl, or allow a girl to touch his. A girl should not touch the private parts of a boy, nor allow a man or boy to touch her own.

As parents we have to understand that:



- Sexuality is at the core of our human existence. Therefore, we have a responsibility to equip our children with a comprehensive view of sexuality.
- For sexuality to be taught correctly, it must be taught within the context of a Biblically holistic approach.
- If our children are to have a healthy respect and appreciation for the gift of sexuality, parents must **both *teach and model*** the precepts and principles that lead to greater sexual health and integrity.
- As for timing and when to get started, there's no time like the present – we have to be proactive.

Three basic lessons that our children can understand.



Sexuality provides a union between mom and dad

- (1) to make babies
- (2) to nurture a mommy and daddy's love,
- (3) to point us back to the love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Our younger children only need to hear that God designed sexual relations for husbands and wives.

Develop teachable moments

- We can't shelter our children from every poster in the mall or every sensual song played in a restaurant. But we can take these moments to affirm the basic goodness of sexuality because of God's design, and then make a comment about what's wrong with how sexuality is misrepresented in the culture.
- Our messages need to be tied to God's love for us, and how we express our love for Him through obedience.
- Children need to learn early that God's plan is *healthy* and Satan's plan is *harmful*.
- In the early years we can talk rather simply of what is *good* and *bad*. We want to teach them ***what*** to think about sex. As they mature we shift our approach and begin to teach them ***how*** to think.

Principles

- No two children are alike – even in the same family.
- Be sensitive to how your children are developing physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.
- Sex education has to occur in both spontaneous and structured moments.
- As our children continue to mature we'll want to help them understand that God really is for us, and that His plans are designed to benefit us.
- We'll also want them to understand the difference between a precept (a stated do or don't) and a principle (the general application of a truth that requires reason and discernment).

Principles

God's Law Is a Trustworthy Guide

- In disciplining our young children, we want to teach them to trust God and God's Law. We want to teach them the value of obedience to that Law. We do this by trusting God ourselves, by teaching God's rules, and by explaining and defending and praising those rules.
- Make every act of discipline with your child an opportunity to understand how God loves, forgives, and disciplines us.
- If you as a parent simply spank a child for doing something wrong and are done with the discipline, you miss a wonderful opportunity to teach your child about God's love for her or him.

Principles



- By principle we can teach our sons that they are to be the image of Christ to their future wives as their dads are. The kind of Jesus sacrificial love is pure and nurturing, never abusive or selfish.
- We can teach our daughters that they are to be the Church to their future husbands, preserving their purity and preparing well for the day they and their bridegroom become one. By continually teaching the love story that exists between Christ and us, the Church, we can help them to honor sexuality – both theirs and others'.

Principles



- Teaching sexual health and integrity requires a Christ-centric approach. We want our children to learn early that sexuality is a function of our bodies, minds, and spirits.
- The Apostle Paul began to speak of marriage between a man and a woman and how these symbolize the marriage between Christ and the Church. He also concluded that it was a great mystery.

Principles



- As our children mature ,we can teach that sexuality between a husband and wife is a private discipleship where "the two become one flesh" and are participating in the divine love of God
- The importance of grounding your child in love, of teaching them of the centrality of family and of trusting God and God's word, and teaching them that their bodies and their sexuality are a good gift from God.

Principles:

Be First to the Story



- For example ,boys will experience periodic erections throughout their childhood, frequently if they touch themselves for pleasure, but even if they do not..
- We should talk to our children about these realities.
- First messages are the most potent.

“You Are Loved”

- The foundation of all sex education is enabling your child to give and receive love. At the heart of Christian theology is the notion that our God is a relational God who loves, and who imparted into His creation the capacity to love and be loved: “For God so loved the world ...” (John 3:16); “God is love” (1 John 4:16). Deuteronomy 6 suggests that the heart of Christian parenting is to create a family environment where the truth of the Christian faith will be incarnated, lived out, made substantial and real, in such a way that our children will find it natural to believe the gospel and live it.
- ***The loving parent.*** Which is more convincing in teaching children that God loves them? The distant, rigid, unemotional parent who forces a child to memorize “God is love” and other Bible verses while rarely embracing the child? Or the loving parent who shares with a child the joys of God’s love while holding and hugging that child, thus embodying God’s love in a vivid way?

The Centrality of Family:

Scripture's picture of family

- God has an ideal for marriage and hence for families.
- That ideal is for one woman and one man to be united for life, and for children to spring from that union. This is what family is meant to be.
- Other groupings of people do not fully represent the ideal of what God meant families to be.
- God designed marriage as an earthly model of the singular devotion of Christ and His Church to each other (Ephesians 5), a devotion that permanently unites two different but equal and complementary types of beings (Christ and His people; a man and woman).

Family



- The ideal type of family God means all people to experience—is thus important to God as the primary place where He intends us to learn and experience love, devotion, and union.
- We need to teach this courageously, but not arrogantly, to our children. We need to teach them that God's ideal will for them is to marry and have children.
- At the same time, we should not deny that some people don't experience much the good in other family structures. Many people have no choice in living in other family forms. Many divorced parents never would have chosen that way of life had other options been possible. Few singles are unmarried by deliberate effort, and few childless couples are childless by choice.
- A battle rages in our society to define the family. Proponents of gay rights, for instance, are attempting to redefine a same-sex couple as a family just as legitimate as a heterosexual couple

Leçon sur les BONS et les MAUVAIS secrets

Considérations générales sur les BONS et les MAUVAIS secrets

Pour sa sécurité, un enfant doit apprendre la différence entre un secret inoffensif qu'il peut garder et un secret dangereux qu'il doit révéler à un adulte de confiance. Un enfant en danger est souvent tenu au silence. Les délinquants sexuels usent d'ailleurs souvent de stratagèmes pour manipuler les enfants et obtenir leur silence.

La règle des BONS et des MAUVAIS secrets, enseignée dans le cadre du programme d'autoprotection Enfants avertis, vise à prévenir les abus pédosexuels. Cette règle sert à désamorcer une situation dangereuse dans laquelle un enfant pourrait se retrouver et à l'encourager à signaler les contacts physiques inappropriés. Il est important d'aider les enfants à faire la distinction entre des secrets inoffensifs qu'ils peuvent garder et des secrets dangereux qu'ils doivent révéler à un adulte de confiance.



Avec votre enfant, lisez chacune des mises en situation qui suivent et demandez-lui s'il pense que le secret est inoffensif ou dangereux. Demandez-lui ensuite d'expliquer sa réponse.

- Un enseignant demande à deux élèves de rester pendant la récréation et de l'aider à décorer la classe pour une fête surprise en après-midi. L'enseignant demande aux élèves de garder le secret à propos de la fête surprise.
 - BON secret (inoffensif)
 - MAUVAIS secret (dangereux)
- Olivier rentrait chez lui à pied après l'école lorsqu'un garçon plus âgé s'est approché de lui et l'a frappé. Le garçon a dit à Olivier de n'en parler à personne sinon il lui ferait encore du mal.
 - BON secret (inoffensif)
 - MAUVAIS secret (dangereux)
- Pour souligner l'anniversaire des parents d'Alice, sa tante leur prépare un souper spécial et demande à Alice de garder le secret.
 - BON secret (inoffensif)
 - MAUVAIS secret (dangereux)
- Mathieu s'est fait toucher d'une manière qui l'a rendu mal à l'aise pendant qu'il jouait à la lutte avec le grand frère de son ami. Ce dernier a fait peur à Mathieu et lui a dit de n'en parler à personne.
 - BON secret (inoffensif)
 - MAUVAIS secret (dangereux)

5. Sophie a remarqué des bleus sur les bras et les jambes de sa meilleure amie en jouant avec elle. Son amie lui a dit que son père lui faisait du mal parfois lorsqu'il se mettait en colère. Elle a fait promettre à Sophie de ne rien dire à personne.

- BON secret (inoffensif)
- MAUVAIS secret (dangereux)

6. Le frère de Samuel a peur du dentiste. Son père lui a demandé de ne rien dire à Samuel au sujet du bruit que font certaines machines.

- BON secret (inoffensif)
- MAUVAIS secret (dangereux)

7. Florence s'est fait demander par un voisin s'il pouvait la prendre en photo. Il lui a dit qu'il lui donnerait des bonbons si elle n'en parlait à personne.

- BON secret (inoffensif)
- MAUVAIS secret (dangereux)

8. Le chauffeur d'autobus de Thomas lui a dit qu'il l'emmènerait au magasin de bonbons mardi après avoir déposé tous les autres enfants. Il a dit à Thomas qu'il l'emmènerait seulement s'il n'en parlait pas à ses parents.

- BON secret (inoffensif)
- MAUVAIS secret (dangereux)

9. Ce sera l'anniversaire de la mère d'Emma et son père lui prépare une fête surprise. Il a demandé à Emma de ne pas le dire à sa mère.

- BON secret (inoffensif)
- MAUVAIS secret (dangereux)

References and Ressources for parents:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8iTPPh1d2j8&feature=youtu.be>.Keep your hands for yourself.
- <https://www.facebook.com/christianyouthchannel/videos/10158896295815006/>
- <http://stminachurch.copticorthodoxy.com/father-daoud-lamei-children-development/>
- <http://orthodoxsermons.org/category/keywords/love-sex-and-dating-series>

□ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPlpAKrnXJI>

□ [QUEBEC PROGRAM](#)) :

http://www.education.gouv.qc.ca/fileadmin/site_web/documents/dpse/adaptation_serv_compl/Apprentissages_prescolaire-primaire_FR.pdf

www.cyberaide.ca



Questions ?