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SAMPLE

NEWS RELEASE

exploring the cost of early sexuality

Birmingham, MI, November 4, 2005...As a parent, you might think that every teen but your own is sexually active, but the rising statistics on sexually transmitted disease, pregnancies and legal entanglements for “too-young” parents tell a different story.

Teens think that their night of fun is just a night. They’re not mature enough to understand that the emotional, physical and legal consequences could last a lifetime. How can they learn to make informed decisions and still be surrounded by a culture that embraces and encourages sexuality?

The Royal Oak Youth Assistance League hopes to foster such dialogue at their presentation on Wednesday November 9 entitled “Teenage Sex: At What Price? Costs and Consequences of Early Sexual Activity.” It is billed as a frank and no nonsense discussion for students and parents of children in 6-12th grades. Parents are encouraged to attend with their children. The presentation which features two videos and a panel takes place at Dondero High School Commons Area at 709 N. Washington Ave in Royal Oak from 7:00- 9:00 p.m. Participants are asked to register by calling (248) 546-8282. There is no fee.

Serving on the panel is Dr. Tracey Stulberg, Director of the Birmingham Family Therapy Clinic. Dr. Stulberg deals with teens and family issues every day in her private practice and has seen long -term consequences in the juvenile system. “The pressures these young people are under to engage in sexual activities are ferocious. Parents must arm their children with facts, of course, but also a way of thinking of themselves. Young people cannot imagine the long term consequences of their actions, so we must encourage them to do so.”

Others on the panel include Moderator Charles Langton, attorney and legal analyst; Deborah L. Carley, Chief Prosecutor, Oakland County; Sheri Mark, Nurse, Attorney and Sex/Health Educator; and Craig Aue, Pastor, Starr Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Stulberg brings decades of experiences and study to the sexuality discussion. Her credentials include a Ph.D., in Marriage and Family Therapy from Texas Tech University and a M.A. in Psychology from Stephen F. Austin State University. She has served as Vice Chair, Licensing Board for State of Michigan for Marriage and Family Therapists and Approved Supervisor, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

Teens and their families looking to facilitate a dialogue about the pressures teens are under can contact Dr. Stulberg to arrange for a consultation by calling the Birmingham Family Therapy Clinic, Inc. at 248-258-9189. Sessions can be designed for the teen or for the family as a group.

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