

Sex (Un)Education

TEACH IN 2024

Presented by the
GVSU Women's Commission



Session Agenda

Welcome & Introductions

Pop Quiz!

Sex Ed Models

Lit Review & Reflection

In The News

Takeaways



Introductions

Facilitator Introductions

Heather Alberda (she/her)

Health Promotion Specialist

Kristen Evans (she/her)

Generalist, Human Resources

Emily Frigo (she/her)

Head of Professional Programs, University Libraries

Jennifer Jameslyn

Director, Brooks College Advising

Table Introductions

Share your name, pronouns, major and what made you choose to attend this Teach-In session

Pop Quiz!

What is the typical use failure rate for male condoms?

A

2%

B

8%

C

13%

D

20%

Which of these is the most effective (lowest typical use failure rate) form of birth control?

A

Male condom

B

Female condom

C

IUD

D

Birth Control Pill

What does Plan B do?

A

Prevent ovulation

B

Terminate existing pregnancy

C

Cause ovulation

D

Cause your period to start immediately

Doctors generally start counting pregnancy from what point?

A

The last full moon

B

The most recent date the patient had intercourse

C

The day the patient started their last menstrual period

D

The date the patient expected to get their period but didn't

True or False: students who participated in abstinence only sex ed were more likely to delay intercourse than students who participated in comprehensive sex ed curriculum.

A

True

B

False

True or False: students who participated in abstinence only sex ed programs had fewer sexual partners than students who participated in comprehensive sex ed curriculum.

A

True

B

False

Michigan law requires schools to teach

A

Comprehensive sex education

B

Contraception methods and their rates of effectiveness

C

HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention

D

Sexual orientation and gender identity

Michigan law requires schools to teach

A

Abstinence as a positive lifestyle

B

Verbal consent as a precursor to sexual activity

C

Disability inclusive sex ed, including contraceptive methods

D

Trauma informed sex ed

All sex education materials are reviewed and approved by

A

Federal government officials

B

State government officials

C

High school principal and PE teacher

D

Local school board and local advisory board including students, parents, educators, clergy, and health professionals

Sex Ed Models

Sex Ed Across the US

- **17** states provide abstinence-only sex education
- **10** states have policies that include affirming sexual orientation instruction on LGBTQ identities or discussion of sexual health for LGBTQ youth.
- **4** states explicitly require instruction that discriminates against LGBTQ people
- **5** states have laws requiring comprehensive sex education (CSE).
- **21** states require instruction on condoms or contraception when sex education or HIV/STI instruction is provided.

Sex Ed Models

Abstinence Only

- Sexual risk avoidance - teaches abstinence as only option for unmarried people, provides limited (if any) information about contraceptives and STDs

Abstinence Plus

- Sexual risk reduction - emphasizes abstinence but includes information about contraceptives and STDs

Comprehensive Sex Education

- Focus on information, values & decision-making - abstinence as best option to avoid pregnancy and STDs but also includes thorough education about contraceptives and STDs

https://www.uua.org/files/documents/advocatesyouth/sexed_definitions.pdf

<https://www.advocatesforyouth.org/resources/fact-sheets/sex-education-programs-definitions-and-point-by-point-comparison/>

Michigan Standards

- Michigan schools are **not required** to teach sex education. However, HIV/AIDS education is required.
- Curriculum is not required to be comprehensive.
- Curriculum must stress abstinence as a positive lifestyle.
- Curriculum is not required to include instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Curriculum is not required to include instruction on consent. However, curriculum must include instruction on refusal skills.
- Parents or guardians must receive written notice of any sex education class and can remove their children from any part of the instruction. This is referred to as an “opt-out” policy.
- HIV/AIDS education must be medically accurate. If a school chooses to teach sex education, curriculum cannot be medically inaccurate.

Your Experience

Did your K-12 sex ed curriculum include information about...

- Pregnancy Prevention?
- Sexually Transmitted Infections?
- Reproductive Anatomy?
- Healthy Relationships?
- Consent?
- Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation?
- Childbirth, Adoptions & Abortion?
- Human Trafficking?
- Youth Rights & Community Resources?

Right? Here in Allendale

"The city of Allendale received pushback in 2019 after parents advocated for sex education curriculum to be science-based and inclusive of topics related to sexual orientation and gender identity. After intense debate largely dominated by community members opposed to updating the curriculum, the school district removed all mention of sexual orientation and gender identity from course materials regardless of the subject."



Let's Talk About Sex

When The Conversation Doesn't Include You: LGBTQ+ Sex Ed In A Small Town

April 1, 2019 · 5:48 PM ET
Heard on All Things Considered

ALYSSA EDES



AILSAS CHANG



12-Minute Listen



https://siecus.org/state_profile/michigan-state-profile/
<https://www.npr.org/2019/04/01/706944327/when-the-conversation-doesnt-include-you-lgbtq-sex-ed-in-a-small-town/>
<https://revuewm.com/cannabis/news/item/4365-teach-the-children-well-comprehensive-sex-education-advocates-face-uphill-climb-to-change-west-michigan-culture>

Comprehensive Sex Ed

Comprehensive sex education refers to K-12 programs that cover a broad range of topics related to:

- Human development, including puberty, anatomy, sexual orientation, and gender identity
- Relationships, including self, family, friendships, romantic relationships, and health care providers
- Personal skills, including communication, boundary setting, negotiation, and decision-making
- Sexual behavior, including the full spectrum of ways people choose to be, or not be, sexual beings
- Sexual health, including sexually transmitted infections, birth control, pregnancy, and abortion
- Society and culture, including media literacy, shame and stigma, and how power, identity, and oppression impact sexual wellness and reproductive freedom

International Models

Sweden

- Required with little to no opposition since 1955
- Includes facts about anatomy, sexual orientation, STIs, abortion and contraceptives as well as discussion about attitudes, norms, and values about love, sex, and relationships



Consent for Kids #ConsentForKids

YouTube · Gloucestershire OPCC · Apr 7, 2022

Netherlands

- Sexuality education including information about health, tolerance, and assertiveness required starting at age 4



<https://www.rfsu.se/om-rfsu/om-oss/in-english/national-work/sexuality-education/about-swedish-sexuality-education/>

<https://www.studyinternational.com/news/sex-education>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2018/08/the-benefits-of-starting-sex-ed-at-age-4/568225/>

<https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2016/03/comprehensive-sexuality-education/>

Knowledge As Power

Books

THEN & NOW

WOMEN and THEIR BODIES

a course



Published 1970

Cost 75 cents

Boston Women's
Health Collective

<https://www.ourbodiesourselves.org/about-us/our-history/>

“

"The purpose of this paper is then to help use learn more about our anatomy and physiology, to begin to conquer the ignorance ... when we felt we didn't know what's happening to us. **The information is a weapon without which we cannot begin the collective struggle for control over our own bodies and lives.**"

Boston Women's Health Collective as cited in Wells, S. P. D. (2010). *Our Bodies, Ourselves and the Work of Writing*. Stanford University Press.

“

"It was the first time, for many of these women, to learn about their bodies, their desires, their choices, without a gatekeeper withholding information or framing possibilities or judging; to understand the possibilities of the body, and to make choices about what is best for that body. For a woman? In that time and place? Revolutionary."

“Our Bodies, Ourselves: Agency, Autonomy, and Embodiment.” (2022, July 6). The Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies, University of Mississippi.

<https://sarahisomcenter.org/isom-news/2022/7/6/our-bodies-ourselves-agency-autonomy-and-embodiment>

A RESOURCE BY AND FOR TRANSGENDER COMMUNITIES



TRANS BODIES, TRANS SELVES

EDITED BY LAURA ERICKSON-SCHROTH

FOREWORD BY KAI CHENG THOM

SECOND EDITION

First published in 2014

2nd edition 2022

Written by and for
transgender and gender
nonconforming people

<http://transbodies.com/>

Book Titles: what is in a name?

- Human Reproductive Biology
- New Joy of Sex
- Girl Sex 101
- Let's Talk about S-E-X
- Angry Birds, Killer Bees
- Our Bodies, Ourselves
- Trans Bodies, Trans Selves



can understand, plus pictures they will enjoy." — ANN LANDERS

CHANGING BODIES, GROWING UP.

SEX & SEXUAL HEALTH



It's Perfectly Normal



ROBIE H. HARRIS illustrated by MICHAEL EMBERLEY

First published in 1994

**Most recent edition
2021**

10 years older and up

**Accurate information,
drawings**

THE TRAVELS OF THE EGG: *Menstruation*



At puberty the brain tells the ovaries to produce oestrogen, which tells the eggs to mature.



And then, about once a month, an egg leaves an ovary and pops into a Falloptian tube.



“

"How can we not write about those very experiences that have meaning for our children? How can we not write honestly? How can we hold back writing about powerful feelings, or not include certain information children crave and have the right to know, simply because we are afraid? If we do that, children will sense that we are not being honest and they will not read or listen to the books we write. But if we are honest, our books may be banned."

<https://pen.org/robie-harris-on-the-banning-of-her-books/>

Reflection Roundtables

You will rotate through three reflection exercises in your own
time

Literature Review

Browse the books,
taking care to notice:

- Book title
- Cover art
- Illustrations
- Table of Contents
- Year Published
- Who was the book written for?
- Who does the book leave out?

Reflection Notes

Use the sticky notes
to respond to the
prompts:

- *What you learned in K-12 sex ed*
- *What you didn't learn*
- *What you had to un-learn*

Resource Review

Click QR code or visit
www.gvsu.edu/wcommission
and select
"Events" to review
resources and
curriculum examples



Individual Reflection

Lit Review

- *What did you notice about the books you reviewed?*
- *What books were familiar to you?*

Sticky Notes

- *What did we learn in K-12 sex ed?*
- *What didn't we learn?*
- *What have we had to un-learn?*

Group Reflection

In The News

January 1 - August 31, 2024

1,128

**UNIQUE TITLES
TARGETED FOR CENSORSHIP**



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association

January 1 - August 31, 2024

414

**ATTEMPTS TO CENSOR
LIBRARY MATERIALS
AND SERVICES**

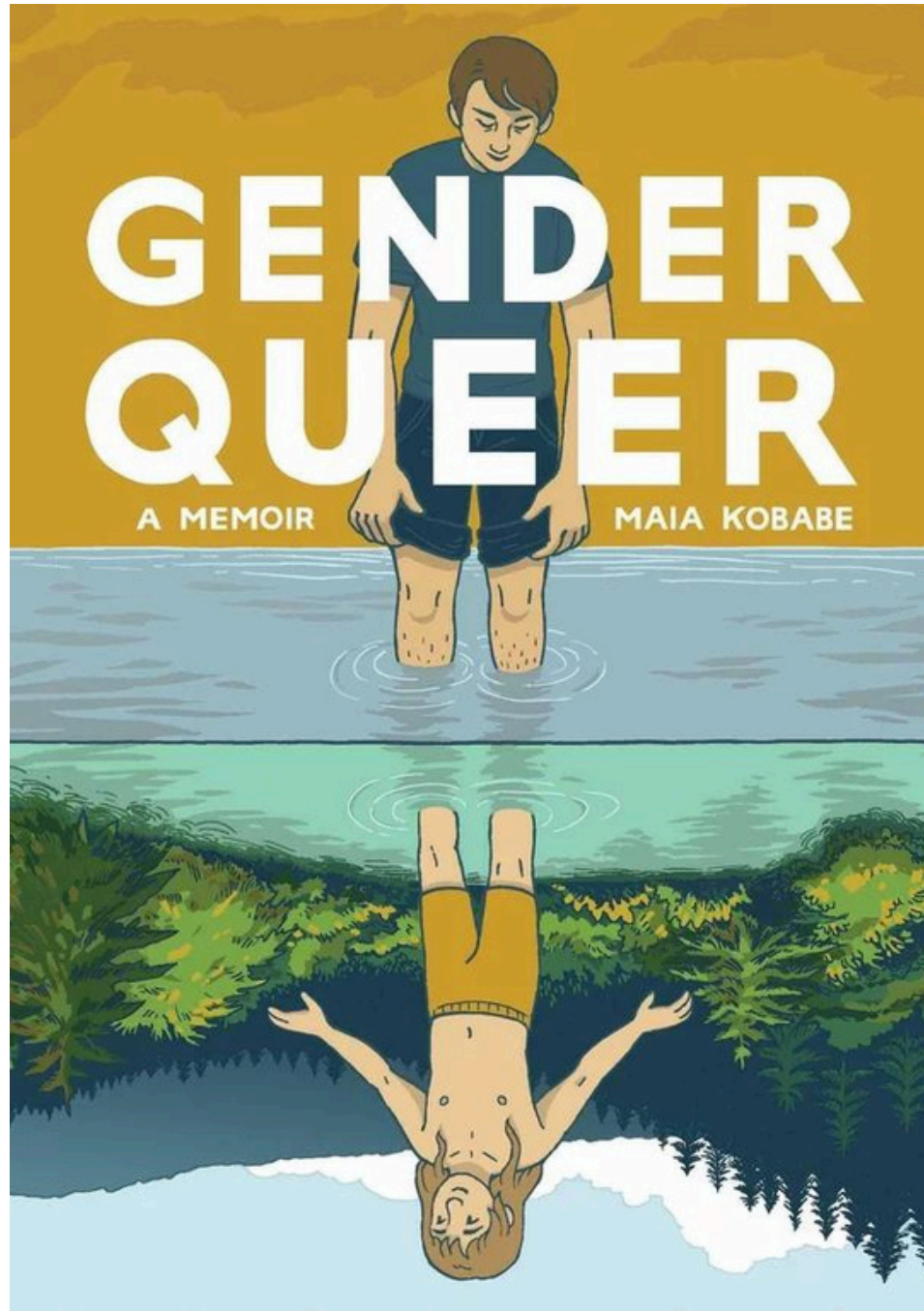


OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/book-ban-data>

Book Bans

Banned Books



Large majorities of voters (71%) oppose efforts to have books removed from their local public libraries, including a majority of Democrats (75%), independents (58%), and Republicans (70%).

August 2022

Book banning or protecting children? LGBTQ books at West Michigan library draw differing views

Published: Aug. 09, 2022, 2:37 p.m.

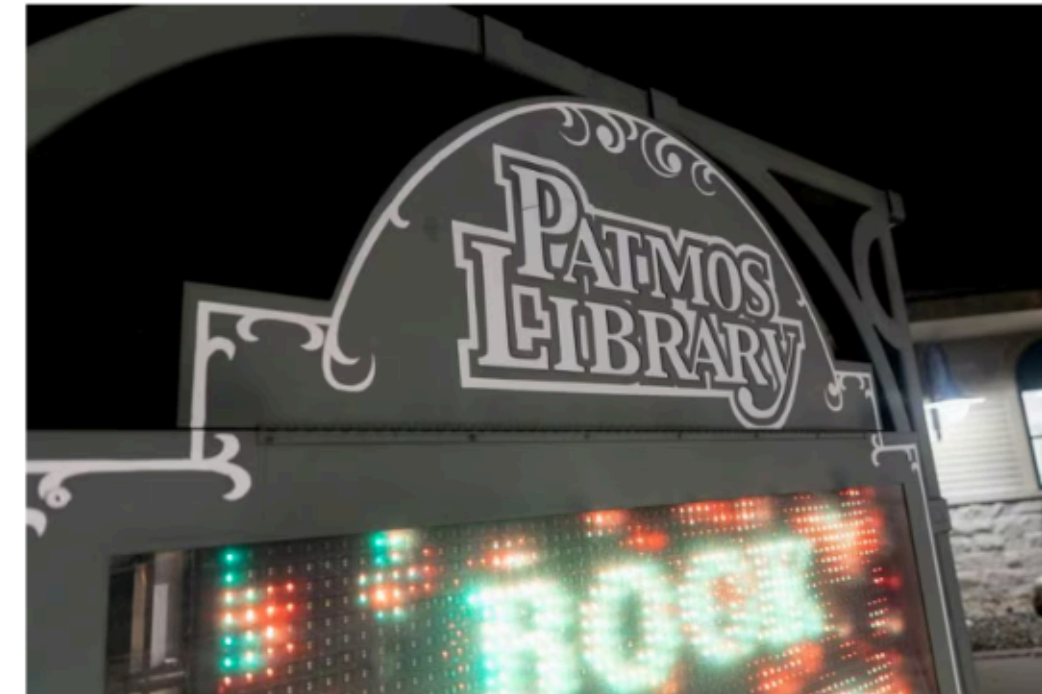


A large group of residents spoke in favor and against the Patmos Library keeping LGBTQ materials on its shelves during the library board's meeting on Monday, Aug. 8, 2022. During an hour-and-a-half public comment period, residents shared their reasons on why the library should or shouldn't remove the books. (Bradley Massman | MLive)

November 2023

Twice-defunded West Michigan library will stay open thanks to voters

Updated: Nov. 08, 2023, 12:39 a.m. | Published: Nov. 07, 2023, 11:26 p.m.



After shooting down two previous attempts, voters have approved a three-year property tax that will keep Patmos Library open. Neil Blake/MLive.com

Book Bans

November 2022

POLITICS & ELECTIONS

Proposal 3 passes, etching abortion rights into Michigan Constitution

Updated: Nov. 10, 2022, 10:36 a.m. | Published: Nov. 09, 2022, 5:37 a.m.



November 2023

One year after Michigan approves abortion access, Right to Life sues to overturn it

Updated: Nov. 08, 2023, 4:51 p.m. | Published: Nov. 08, 2023, 1:59 p.m.



Prop 3

Top stories

News about Ottawa County



WOODTV.com

Report: Ottawa County health officer will get \$4 million to resign

5 hours ago



The Holland Sentinel

Instead of firing her, Ottawa Impact plans to give Hambley millions to resign

6 hours ago

FOX 17

Ottawa County looks to spend \$4M to end health officer's case against the...

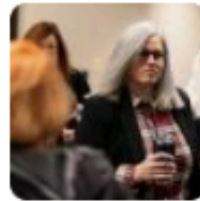
2 hours ago



MLive.com

Instead of firing her, Ottawa County commissioners delay termination vote for health...

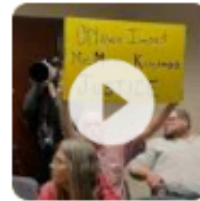
2 days ago



WZZM13.com

Ottawa County commissioners delay termination vote for health...

1 day ago



More news →

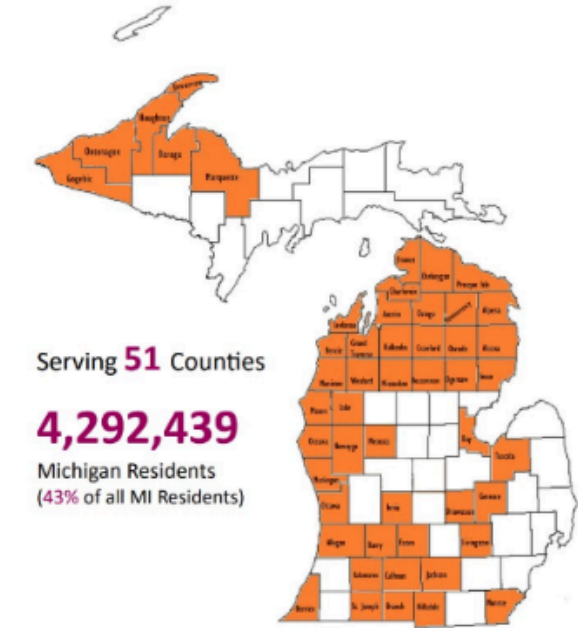
Wear One – Free Condom Pick-up Locations

The Wear One program offers free condoms to anyone between the ages of 18 and 24. For more information or to receive condoms by mail, complete the order form here or visit any of the locations below.



Condoms By Mail Order Form »

Wear One Counties



Serving 51 Counties

4,292,439

Michigan Residents (43% of all MI Residents)

WOC counties #map 01 02202022 PH

Public Health



SEX ED WEEK *at GVSU*



Kinky karaoke, sex toy talk prompt GOP outrage at GVSU sex ed week

Updated: Feb. 09, 2023, 10:54 p.m. | Published: Feb. 09, 2023, 9:51 p.m.



Grand Valley State University students head to class in Allendale, MI.

☰ SUBSCRIBE

THE MIDWESTERNER

HOME ORIGINALS

ORIGINALS

'Kinky Karaoke & Condom Cupcakes': Conservative Michigan county sponsors university's raunchy 'Sex Ed Week'

'Use the terms "people with penises" or "vulva-owners" instead of saying men and women'

BY KYLE OLSON
FEBRUARY 8, 2023

On Campus



DEEP READS

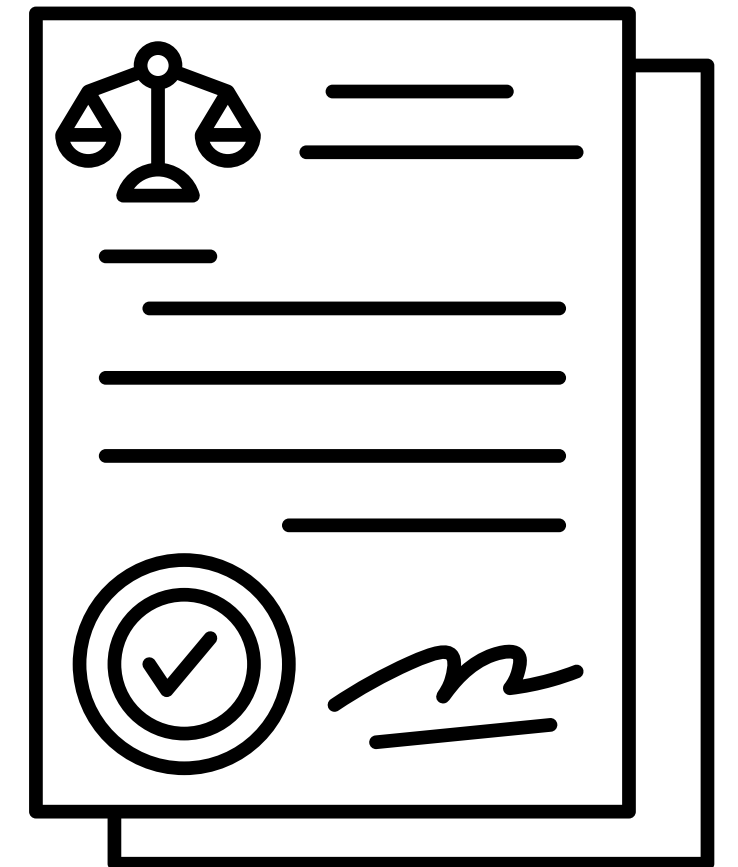
A sex educator in Michigan refused to be shamed. Then came the backlash.

Heather Alberda found her calling by speaking bluntly about sex in her conservative county. Her career was no match for the nation's culture wars.

The Washington Post

United States
532 bills introduced

Michigan
10 bills introduced



Current Legislation

Michigan

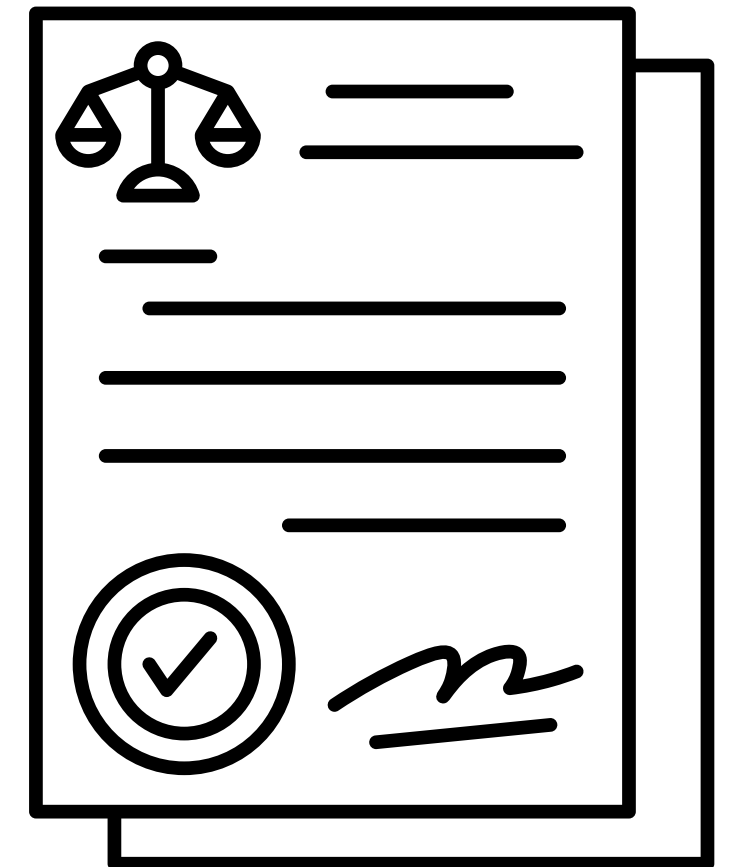
3 - Healthcare Age Restrictions

2 - School Facilities

2 - Religious Exemption

1 - Schools Sports

2 - LGBTQIA



Current Legislation

Takeaways

Thank you for
joining us today.

Please complete the session
evaluation at the link below

