

What is the 'Healthy Teen Survey' and Why You Should Care

The [Healthy Teen Survey](#) is a survey administered by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to 8th and 11th graders in most school districts across the state every other year. The OHA claims there is a strong relationship between health and learning...an undeniable fact. The mantra "healthy kids learn better" is used by the OHA and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to justify some extremely invasive programs. The survey is one of the vehicles used to support and rationalize interference in what used to be designated as "private family issues".

The survey contains 165 intrusive questions for 11th graders and 149 questions for 8th graders. These questions include: frequency of sexual intercourse, gender identity (gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual, something else), school-based health centers, parental reactions, suicide, how often the student eats carrots and potatoes in a week, with whom has the student had sexual contact (males; females; females and males), how often the student visits a convenience store in a week, does the student have unmet physical, emotional or mental needs, does the student use prescription drugs (Oxycotin, Percocet, Vicodin, Codeine, Adderall, Ritalin or Xanax) without a doctor's prescription, does the student have a cavity, does the student receive free or reduced lunch, what type of vehicle does the student's family drive, what is your zip code and more. Apparently, all of these questions are deemed necessary and developmentally appropriate by the OHA and ODE.

There are 28 questions on smoking (does someone in your home smoke), 3 questions on the Choking Game, 7 questions on sexual behavior, 5 questions on gambling, 15 questions on marijuana and other drugs, 12 questions prying into family and friends (did your family take a vacation in the last 12 months, how many computers does your family own, do you have your own bedroom) and more.

OHA claims in the [Oregon Healthy Teen Survey 2015, Administrator/Teacher Information](#) (click on Survey Fact Sheet Packet) that "Healthy students have better attendance, get higher grades and test scores and are less likely to skip school, drop out or engage in risky behaviors". Further, they claim on the same fact sheet, that the "findings serve as a valuable tool for legislators and other policy makers as they make decisions about health related policies, services, programs and educational activities. Agencies, non-profit organizations, and community groups use the data to provide baseline and evaluation information required for grants and other funding sources". This is evidence that state

agencies, private foundations and nonprofits like Planned Parenthood and Cascade Aids Project use this information to obtain more money and greater access to our children.

Parents may questions why educators or others are pushing to know if their child has his own bedroom, how often they eat peas and carrots or if the family took a vacation in the past year.

What are the connections between OHA's survey questions and their suggested answers? In the academic achievement arena...there is none. Although OHA and ODE would have you believe that these questions make a difference in achievement. Clearly, they do not. However, in the political and health care arena, it is a gold mine of information. State agencies, private corporations and rich foundations lobby the legislature to change laws that give them greater access to our children without our knowledge or consent. One need only look at the laws that were passed in the 2015 legislative session.

Parents' Rights in Education suggest parents **opt-out** of **all** surveys administered to their child. The [Protection of Pupil Rights Act, 20 USC Â§1232h](#) requires all instructional materials, surveys, etc. to be available for inspection by parents and guardians.