



# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF CLEARWATER

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January 18, 2017

Dear Parents, Grandparents, and Guardians:

We are pleased to announce that the Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater will be offering **Our Whole Lives (OWL)**, a comprehensive sexuality education curriculum for students in grades 7 through 9, based on liberal religious values and common sense.

**OWL** is part of a series of sexuality education curricula jointly developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the United Church of Christ (UCC). **OWL** helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. It equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas:

Human Development  
Relationships  
Personal Skills  
Sexual Behavior  
Sexual Health  
Society and Culture

Grounded in a holistic view of sexuality, **OWL** provides not only facts about anatomy and human development, but helps participants to clarify their values, build interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of sexuality.

*Is this one of those religious abstinence-only based programs?*

No. While **OWL** encourages abstinence with regard to sexual activity for teens, it's a comprehensive sexuality education program. Participants will also be learning about vital topics such as relationships, birth control, and how to avoid contracting diseases such as HIV. Woven within this curriculum is how sexuality is expressed in our culture. Participants will learn how the media affects their feelings about their own bodies. Social issues relating to LGBTQ concerns will be addressed. Another important topic is how sex and power can become linked in relationships. Participants will also learn how to relate to gender identities and relationships as they grow and change.

*How can I be sure that I'm comfortable with your curriculum?*

These are tricky topics and we agree that parents are the most important source of values and information for their children. We require that parents meet with the teachers and review the curriculum before enrolling your child. There will be a **mandatory** parent orientation meeting for this purpose. The parent orientation will be on Sunday, February 12, 2017 from 12-3 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater.

There is no religious dogma attached to this curriculum. We welcome people from every religious background.

*What kind of commitment would my family be making in terms of time and money?*

The program is being offered on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and one Saturday a month from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from mid-February through early May. We ask that participants miss no more than three sessions.

There is a \$75 fee per child for this program to cover the costs of materials. However, no one will be turned away.

If you would like to learn more about **Our Whole Lives (OWL)**, or to let us know of your interest, please contact:

Christine Ducady  
Director of Religious Education  
dre@uuc.org  
727-531-7704, ext. 108

As a facilitator who has been trained in and have taught this program, I look forward to having your child participate.

Rev. Patrice Curtis