

# ~Editorial~

Welcome to the 21st century...

## Health program must keep pace with demands of contemporary society

Whether you are waiting for marriage or not, sex needs to be discussed more within the Antioch Community High School curriculum. The basics that were covered in freshman health class are informative, but it would be useful to have a class for people who don't erupt in convulsive giggles when the word sex is mentioned.

For quite a few students, the only thing they really took with them from freshman year was the thought of the "repulsive" slides of all the different sexually transmitted diseases.

It may not have occurred to some that those types of diseases are on the rise and appearing more than they did in previous years. Some juniors and seniors are just starting to make sex-related decisions where most freshmen and sophomores haven't yet had sex issues enter their lives.

The idea of an advanced health class is not a new

one. There did used to be a health and sex ed class like this a number of years ago and every junior had to take it. Eventually, the class was cut because there was no state mandate for it, which means that the state does not require the class, so there is no state funding for it.

The reason the class was cut was because there was no state mandate for it. That means that the state does not require the class, so there is a lack of state funding for it.

Another reason why the course did not survive was the struggle to compete with other classes, such as foods and band.

That was when it was offered as an elective. So what if there were a mandatory health class that could be taken during the gym periods? There should be some health aspect to every gym class, which would include sex education.

Physical Education shouldn't simply be about playing sports or working out. The

class could involve a number of different topics that were not covered in depth or not covered at all freshman year.

Health teacher Lauri Hargrove has indicated that she would support such a curriculum change.

Another topic that could be included in a class of this kind is date violence. Many of the warning signs to an abusive relationship go unnoticed or are brushed off as typical teenage behavior.

Without help from our school, when and where can students learn how to protect themselves against date rape and abusive relationships?

Antioch High School has the unique opportunity and responsibility to make an impact that will affect student's lives far beyond their teenage years.

A curriculum change such as this has the potential to leave an immediate and lasting positive impression that ACHS students can carry into adulthood.

## On the road to disaster



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The Tom Tom Staff reserves the right to edit lengthy material or withhold the publication of any letters.

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Letters may be mailed to the high school to the address below or submitted to staff members or the adviser, Michael Gordy, in room 202 throughout any school day.

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The Tom Tom is published monthly. Annual subscriptions to the Tom Tom may be obtained by sending \$5.00 to the Tom Tom in care of ACHS. The Tom Tom is a publication of:

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1133 South Main St.  
Antioch, IL 60002



A FORUM FOR  
PUBLIC OPINION