



White Paper
“3 Rs Curriculum”

Specifically noting its title section:
“Human Reproduction”
Page 159 (684 pages)

Curriculum is titled as:
Human Reproduction
Answer Key

“When Pregnancy Begins”: A Response to the 3 Rs Curriculum

Whereas proponents of legislation for Comprehensive Sex Education present as “medically accurate” information, Human Life of Washington takes exception to the most fundamental point of distinction: the misinformation of the development of human life from its earliest stages.

According to the diagram on page 159, the male side merges at the point of intercourse with the female side. However, the term “fertilized egg” fails to emphasize its unique distinction. Omission of key information is grossly misrepresented. Further, missed opportunities to understand human development exist.

According to embryology textbooks¹, this ‘fertilized egg’ is actually an exceptional human being in the earliest stages of development. At the moment of conception, the child in the cellular proliferation from zygote, blastocyst, and embryo, contains distinct DNA to that of his or her parents. Unique such that the child contains 23 chromosomes from each side, male and female, for a total of 46, or 47 in cases of Down syndrome.

The text accurately describes this “travel through the fallopian tube to the uterus,” albeit minus any mention of the distinct human creation in the course of travel. However, it then claims “Pregnancy begins” only after this and two further steps. This is incorrect, as the pregnancy begins at the moment of conception, when the new, distinct human being is created. See the contrast below.

CURRICULUM TEXT: “Cell attaches to the wall of the uterus (implantation) conception complete.”

HLW RESPONSE: At the implantation stage, the mislabeled “cell” has proliferated to countless cells with brain waves which actively send detectable signals from a formed brain through a nervous system to a beating heart. The science is undisputed and widely known through a plethora of peer-reviewed sources.

“At six weeks of pregnancy, an ultrasound can detect “a little flutter in the area that will become the future heart of the baby,” said Dr. Saima Aftab, medical director of the Fetal Care Center at Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami.”

If an egg meets up with a sperm cell that has made its way into the fallopian tube, it combines into one cell, a process that's known as fertilization or conception.

At fertilization, the sex of the fetus is already determined, depending on whether the egg receives an X or Y chromosome from a sperm cell. If the egg receives an X chromosome, the baby will be a girl; a Y chromosome means the baby will be a boy.

According to the Cleveland Clinic, it takes about three to four days for the fertilized egg (or embryo) to move to the lining of the uterus, where it attaches or implants to the uterine wall. Once the embryo is implanted, the cells start to grow, eventually becoming the fetus and the placenta, which is tissue that can transport oxygen, nutrients and hormones from the mother's blood to the developing fetus throughout pregnancy.”²

Plainly, the curriculum places the beginning of the pregnancy far too late, in direct contradiction of long-established medical science.

While morally questionable, In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) demonstrates this point succinctly. In IVF, a human zygote is created using the same elements, sperm and egg, in a laboratory dish. Therein human life exists; contrary to the Text, no implantation was required to make human life. Implantation, however, is necessary for life to continue to grow.

The marvel of human development

The Cleveland Clinic describes this on its website: “Within three weeks, the blastocyte cells ultimately form a little ball, or an embryo, and the baby's first nerve cells have already formed...[the] developing baby is called an embryo from the moment of conception to the eighth week of pregnancy.”⁴

The American College of Pediatricians states on its website that it “concur[s] with the body of scientific evidence that corroborates that a unique human life starts when the sperm and egg bind to each other in a process of fusion of their respective membranes and a single hybrid cell called a zygote, or one-cell embryo, is created.”⁵

Conclusion

As it fails even to convey the scientific reality of the origin of human life, as well as numerous other flaws, Human Life of Washington opposes the 3 Rs Curriculum as presented. This curriculum lacks facts that define body parts. Ironically, proponents in hearings for the bills on this topic repeatedly claim “to teach about body parts with medically accurate terms.” There is no evidence to support that claim in this context.

Legislative members should give serious consideration against curriculum lacking scientifically sound assertions in its curriculum. Understanding human development is the building block of understanding human reproduction and development.

Opportunities exist for statewide legislation to embrace the best available science regarding body parts present in utero at the earliest stages. Among them, the embryo’s blood type, which is different to his or her mother’s. The heartbeat, present at 22 Days⁶, concertedly, the nervous system and brainwaves send signals that tell the nerves to reach the heart to make it move rhythmically. These are worthwhile concerns to humanity and must be taught. The conversation to teach age appropriate anatomy could easily start by explaining the marvel that each of us began our human lives at that tiny stage in our mother’s womb. This would be life-giving and life-changing for our society.

Unfortunately, proponents of the bill (s) have presented fragments of the truth clouded with misinformation and nondisclosure of proven science. As such, Human Life of Washington finds this portion of the curriculum problematic at best. We oppose the lack of information and poor explanations. We urge legislative members against consideration of this curriculum which lacks crucial information about vital signs, such as the presence of a heartbeat, in the context of teaching children about reproduction and human development.

* “Baby”: The medical term, “fetus” is Latin for “little one”, which is used within the medical profession. This report is written in English. It is suitable for young audiences, policy makers, or those outside of the medical profession.

References

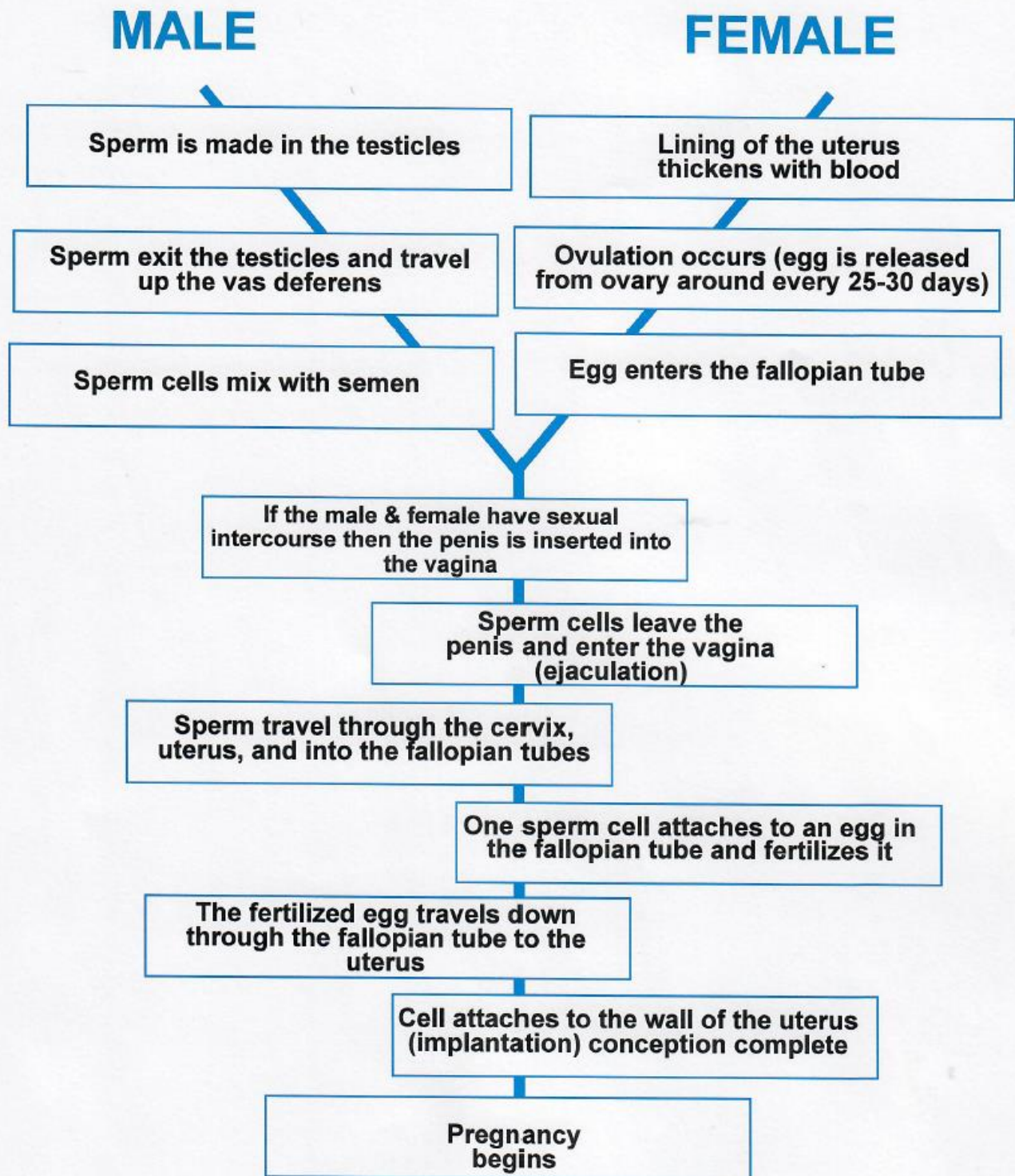
1. Textbooks:
Human Embryology (2nd ed.) Larson Chapter 1 pp1-32
The Developing Human: Clinically Oriented Embryology (6th ed.) Moore and Persaud
Before we Are Born (5th ed.) Moore and Persaud Chapter 2 pp14-33
Essentials of Human Embryology Larson Chapter 1 pp1-16
Human Embryology Fitzgerald and Fitzgerald Chapter 2 pp8-14
2. Is a 'Fetal Heartbeat' Really a Heartbeat at 6 Weeks? Rachael Rettner, May 17, 2019.
<https://www.livescience.com/65501-fetal-heartbeat-at-6-weeks-explained.html>
3. Having a Baby: Stages of Pregnancy. Cari Nierenberg. (August 30, 2017). Conception and Implantation. <https://www.livescience.com/44899-stages-of-pregnancy.html>
4. Website. Cleveland Clinic (2020). Fetal Development Stages of Growth.
<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/7247-fetal-development-stages-of-growth>
5. American College of Pediatricians. Website (2020). <https://www.acpeds.org/the-college-speaks/position-statements/life-issues/when-human-life-begins>
6. Keith L. Moore and T.V.N. Persaud, The Developing Human, 5th ed. (Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Co., 1993).

Attachment contains citations:

- Page 159 of the 3 Rs Curriculum
- 6. National Right to Life Fact Sheet

www.humanlifewa.org

Since 1971, Human Life of Washington is an affiliate of National Right to Life Committee, the oldest and largest pro-life organization



THE BASICS

A compilation of recent and noteworthy information on the abortion issue.

Diary of an Unborn Baby



Day 1 Fertilization: all human chromosomes are present, and a unique life begins.

Day 6 The embryo begins implanting in the uterus.

Day 22 The heart begins to beat with the child's own blood, often with a different blood type than the mother's.

Week 5 Eyes, legs, and hands begin to develop.



Week 6 Brain waves are detectable¹. The mouth and lips are present, and fingers are forming².

Week 7 Eyelids and toes form. The baby now has a distinct nose and is kicking and swimming³.

Week 8 Every organ is in place⁴; bones⁵, fingerprints² begin to form.



Weeks 9 & 10 Teeth begin to form, fingernails develop⁵; baby can turn head⁵ and frown².

Week 11 Baby can grasp object placed in hand³.

Week 17 Baby can have dream (REM) sleep⁷.

Unless otherwise noted, information on fetal development taken from Keith L. Moore and T.V.N. Persaud, *The Developing Human*, 5th ed. (Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Co., 1993). 1. O'Rahilly & Müller, *The Embryonic Human Brain*, 2nd Ed, 1999. 2. Firmagor, *The First Nine Months*, 1965. 3. Valsson & Persson, *BMJ*, 1/26/80. 4. Nilsson, *A Child is Born*, 1990. 5. Rugh & Sherles, *From Conception to Birth*, 1971. 6. PE. Rockwell, *Markle v. Abele*, U.S. Supreme Court, 1971. 7. *AMA News*, 2/1/83. Full citations available upon request.

MORE THAN NUMBERS

There have been **over 61 million abortions** in the U.S. since 1973.

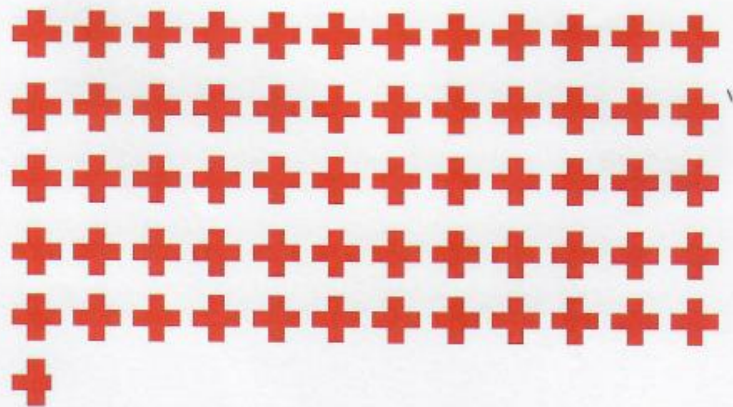
There were over **800,000 abortions** in 2017. That is nearly **2,400 abortions per day, 98 per hour, 1 every 34 seconds**.

Of all pregnancies that resulted in either live birth or abortion in 2017, **18.4% resulted in abortion**.

The War On The Unborn

⊕ = 1 Million Lives

Abortions in the U.S. Since 1973:



American Casualties from every war since 1775:

