

## *Positive Prevention Plus*

### Insufficient Evidence of Effectiveness

<i>Positive Prevention Plus</i>	LaChausse, 2015/2016 <sup>1</sup>
Study conducted by independent evaluators?	<b>YES</b>
Follow-up at least 12 months after the program to show duration of effect?	<b>NO</b> , follow-up measures were only taken at 6 months after the program
<b>OUTCOMES:</b>	
Pregnancy	<b>NO EFFECT</b>
STDs	Not measured
Sexual Initiation	Reduced at 6-month follow-up
Consistent Condom Use	Not measured
Condom Use Frequency/At Last Sex	Not measured
Unprotected Sex	Reduced at 6-month follow-up
Number of Sex Partners	Not measured
Recent Sex	Not measured
Dual Effect: Condom Use & Abstinence	Not measured

### Key Findings

*Positive Prevention Plus* (PPP) is a school-based comprehensive sex education (CSE) curriculum. One impact study has been conducted, and it was by independent evaluators, but it did not measure long-term effects. A published research review by *The Institute for Research & Evaluation*<sup>2</sup> found that **this study did not produce sufficient evidence to label PPP an effective school-based program**. The program reduced sexual initiation and unprotected sex 6 months post-program, but there was no indication that these 6-month effects would be sustained. The program also failed to reduce teen pregnancy. Although a primary objective of PPP is to “[increase] an adolescent's ability to use risk-reduction skills,”<sup>3</sup> the study did not measure condom or contraceptive use, so there is no indication of its effectiveness on these behaviors.

**Summary.** Contrary to the U.S. Teen Pregnancy Prevention website,<sup>4</sup> *Positive Prevention Plus* has not shown evidence of effectiveness in school populations—there was no reduction in teen pregnancy, and it is unknown whether the reductions in sexual initiation and unprotected sex endured beyond 6 months after the program. Also unknown is whether PPP had any positive impact on teen condom or contraceptive use, a major goal of the program.

1. LaChausse R. (2015). Evaluation of the Positive Prevention PLUS Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. USDHHS, Office of Adolescent Health. TP2AH000007; LaChausse, RG. (2016). A clustered randomized controlled trial of the positive prevention PLUS adolescent pregnancy prevention program. *American Journal of Public Health, 106*, S91-S96.
2. Ericksen IH, Weed SE. (2019). "Re-Examining the Evidence for School-based Comprehensive Sex Education: A Global Research Review." *Issues in Law and Medicine, 34*(2):161-182.
3. See: <https://tppevidencereview.youth.gov/document.aspx?rid=3&sid=279&mid=2>
4. See: <https://tppevidencereview.youth.gov/EvidencePrograms.aspx>