Delve Deeper into "The Education of Shelby Knox"
A film by Marion Lipschtuz and Rose Rosenblatt

This multi-media resource list, compiled by Penny Talbert of the Ephrata Public Library in partnership with the American Library Association, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary "The Education of Shelby Knox" that premieres on June 21st, 2005 at 10 p.m. on PBS (check local listings www.pbs.org/pov/).

What’s it like to be a Christian teenage girl today? "The Education of Shelby Knox" profiles a young native of Lubbock, Texas, on the rocky road through high school. At 15, Shelby pledges celibacy until marriage, but because Lubbock has one of the highest teen pregnancy and STD rates in the state, she also spearheads a campaign for comprehensive sex education in the high schools, opposing the established "abstinence-only" curriculum. When the campaign broadens with a fight for a gay-straight alliance club in the high school, Shelby confronts her parents and her faith as she begins to understand how deeply personal beliefs can inform political action. A co-presentation with the Independent Television Service (ITVS).

ADULT NONFICTION

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

FAITH AND SEXUAL IDENTITY

Bono, Chastity. Family Outing. Boston: Little Brown, 1998. Family Outing is two books in one: a memoir of Chastity Bono’s experience coming out as a lesbian to her famous parents and a look at the difficulties and triumphs that are part of every uncloseted homosexual’s family life, with narratives drawn from interviews with members of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG).


Fone, Byrne. Homophobia: A History. New York: Metropolitan Books, 2000. Fone chronicles the ways in which homophobia has induced legal, medical, social and ecclesiastical authorities to punish and kill gay men. He argues that, despite social progress, hating homosexuals is “the last acceptable prejudice.”


Jordan, Mark. The Silence of Sodom: Homosexuality in Modern Catholicism. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000. Jordan, a professor of theology at Emory University, examines Catholic teachings on homosexuality and argues that the Catholic Church needs to honestly recognize its many gay Catholics, some of whom occupy positions of leadership and that the culture of Catholicism and gay culture have much in common.


White, Mel. Stranger at the Gate: To Be Gay and Christian in America. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1994. White, a one-time ghostwriter for Jerry Falwell, tells the story of what it is like to be gay and also raised in a conservative Christian community and church.

SEX EDUCATION
Chen, Constance. The Sex Side of Life: Mary Ware Dennett’s Pioneering Battle for Birth Control and Sex Education. New York: New Press, 1996. Mary Ware Dennett’s battle for birth control and sex education rights is only the beginning of the story. Through Dennett’s personal tribulations, Chen’s telling of the story sheds light on this oft-forgotten pioneer, and the battles she fought.

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sex education in America’s school and the tactics used by both sides in assuring they win. This book is an excellent look at the social history of sexual education and an enlightening glimpse at the workings of both sides.


NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Akagi, Cynthia. Dear Larissa: Sexuality Education for Girls Ages 11-17. Littleton, CO: Gylantic Publishing, 1994. Akagi presents this informative book, written as letters from parent to child, about the changes girls go through during adolescence. From dating to sexuality to puberty, this book covers most of the questions young girls may have as they move through adolescence.


Kim, Jae et al. Future 500: Youth Organizing and Activism in the United States. Subway & Elevator Press, 2002. Future 500 is a great reference for teens looking to become active in their communities. From interviews with teen activists to overviews of activism groups throughout the country, this book gives a great snapshot of today’s teen activists and how they do it.


Marcus, Eric. Is It a Choice? Answers to 300 of the Most Frequently Asked Questions About Gay and Lesbian People. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1999. Marcus presents an excellent book to answer the questions teens have about gays and lesbians. This book is a good basic overview of many issues that teens may be curious about – with answers that will help them understand those issues.

VIDEOS/DOCUMENTARIES

"A Brooklyn Family Tale." Produced and directed by Roger Weisberg and Murray Nossel. 2001. (60 min.) Chronicles the struggles of the Santiago family and their unique relationship with Sister Geraldine who runs a local social services agency. As the parents watch their teenage children drop out of school, join gangs, have babies, attempt suicide, and resort to violence at home, we witness Sister Geraldine’s remarkable efforts to keep this embattled family intact.

http://www.pbs.org/wnet/familytale/

"All God’s Children." Women Vision. 2001. (26 min.) Prominent religious, intellectual, and political leaders, family members and activists speak out about the role of the Church and the importance of commitment to equal rights and social justice for all people, including lesbians and gay men.

http://www.woman-vision.org/children.htm


http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/fronline/shows/assault/

"Baby Love." Produced by Carol Cassidy. 1996. (60 min.) A startling, upfront look at how teenage mothers see things from love, sex, virginity to pregnancy and the reality of single motherhood all before they’re old enough to graduate from high school.

http://www.itvs.org/search/atalan ce.htm?showID=127

"Bellyfruit." Directed by Kerri Lee Green. 1999. (60 min.) Drama
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about the plight of three teen mothers.
http://www.vanguardcinema.com/ellyfruit/nellyfruit.html

"Bhat Bodoh" ("Just Pretend"). Produced by Muhammad Afandi. About sex education in Malaysia

"The Brandon Teena Story." Produced by Susan Muska and Greta Olafsdottir. 1998. (90 min.) Documentary about Brandon Teena (aka Teena Brandon), a transgendered person, who was murdered along with two others in 1993 in rural Nebraska.

"Breaking the Silence." Produced by Fiona Otway. 2003. (28 min.) Alarmed by recent reports of the toll of HIV and AIDS on the young girls of the Caribbean, a woman with a passion for film dedicates its transformative power to tackling the crisis.
http://www.breakingthesilence.info/

"Chances, Choices, Changes." Directed by Stephen Roy & Paul Martin. 1996. (20 min.) Seven teenage mothers talk frankly about teen pregnancy, the choices they have made, and the resulting changes in their lives.


"Family Values." Produced by Pam Walton. 1996. (56 min.) Documents lesbian video maker Pam Walton’s attempt to reconcile with her long estranged father. It is also her search for what “family” means to her.
http://www.pamwaltonproductions.com/pam_familyvalues.html

"Gay Rights, Special Rights: Inside the Homosexual Agenda." Jeremiah Films. 1993. (35 min.) Claims the “homosexual agenda” is a threat to individuals, families and the country.
http://www.jeremiahfilms.com/cgi-bin/store/agora.cgi?cart_id=1063165.18067*2kSU628p_id=GRSRVPS4&xm=on&ppinc=product

http://www.soulforce.org/main/vide os.shtml

"One Nation Under God." by Teodoro Maniaci. First Run Features. 1993. (83 min.) Focusing on the contemporary religious Right Wing proliferation of curative therapies for homosexuality, this riveting documentary offers historical context as well as a political analysis of this surprisingly large movement.
http://firstrunfeatures.com/onenationundergod.html

"Sex, Teens and Public Schools." Produced and directed by Deborah Dickson and Roger Weisberg. 1995. (60 min.) Explores the conditions that have led to escalating rates of teen pregnancy, illustrates the costs and consequences of this national epidemic, and most importantly, examines the role that public schools can play in stemming the tide of early and unwanted pregnancy.

"The Silence of Sex." Pinch Me Films. 2004. (60 min.)

"Straight from the Heart: A Journey to Understanding and Love." Produced by Dee Mobscher. Facets Multimedia. 1994. (30 min.) Academy Award nominee" Straight from the Heart" examines the issues parents face in coming to terms with having a gay or lesbian child.

"Teen Sex." Produced by Charlie DuBevoise. A North South Production for Discovery Health Channel. (60 min.) Details the intimate accounts and alarming statistics of sexual activity among young teenagers.

"The Trial of Jimmy Creech." Produced by Mel White. Soulforce Videos. 1999. (30 min.) Documents the life journey of a United Methodist Church Reverend who disobeyed the Order and Discipline of his church by marrying a lesbian couple.

FEATURE FILMS

http://www.finelinefeatures.com/sit es/bnfalls/

"Boys Don’t Cry." Directed by Kimberly Peirce. 1999. The story of the life of Teena Brandon, a cross dressing youth who preferred life in her male identity as Brandon Teena.

"Boys in the Band." Directed by William Friedkin. 1970. Tempers fray and true selves are revealed when a heterosexual is accidentally invited to a homosexual party.

"Common Ground." Directed by Donna Deitch. 2000. This movie contains three short stories dealing with the theme of homosexuality.

WEB SITES

www.teenwire.com
Teenwire is the Planned Parenthood Federation of America Web site about sexual health for young people.

www.siecus.org
SIECUS—the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States—has served as the national voice for sexuality education, sexual health, and sexual rights for almost 40 years. SIECUS believes that sexuality is a natural and healthy part of life and that all people have the right to the information, skills, and services they need to make responsible sexual decisions.
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www.sexedcoalition.org
The Sex Education Coalition is composed of educators, health care professionals, trainers, and legislators dedicated to providing information and supporting informed discussion concerning sexuality education.

www.aasect.org
Founded in 1967 out of a desire to provide the public with comprehensive sexuality education, counseling and therapy conducted by qualified professionals, the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists is the premier organization that certifies sexual health practitioners.

www.catholicsforchoice.org
Catholics for a Free Choice in the United States works in partnership with reproductive health, interfaith and Catholic Church reform groups that share their commitment to safe, legal reproductive health care and women’s equality.

national.unitedway.org
United Way brings communities together to focus on the most important needs in the community—building partnerships, forging consensus and leveraging resources to make a measurable difference.

www.nccccusa.org
The National Council of Churches, founded in 1950, is the leading force for ecumenical cooperation among Christians in the United States. A good site for information and the latest news about the stand various churches take on the subject of homosexuality.

www.pflag.org
PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

www.plannedparenthood.org
Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc., is the world’s largest and most trusted voluntary reproductive health care organization.

www.advocatesforyouth.org
Established in 1980 as the Center for Population Options, Advocates for Youth champions efforts to help young people make informed and responsible decisions about their reproductive and sexual health. Advocates believe it can best serve the field by boldly advocating for a more positive and realistic approach to adolescent sexual health.

www.glsen.org
GLSEN envisions a world in which every child learns to respect and accept all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression.

www.yesinstitute.org
To prevent suicide and ensure the healthy development of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and all youth by initiating dialogue, providing education, and creating support systems.

www.abstinence.net
The mission of the Abstinence Clearinghouse is to promote the appreciation for and practice of sexual abstinence (purity) until marriage through the distribution of age appropriate, factual and medically referenced materials.

www.sexrespect.com
Abstinence education program

www.abstinencedu.com
Louisiana Governor’s Program on Abstinence

www.agayopinion.com
Support group for parents of homosexual children.

www.angelfire.com
An on-line journal writing site. The topic for March, 2001 explores the relationship between parents and their gay children.

www.dignityusa.org
A pastoral message to parents of homosexual children.

hirr.hartsem.edu
Site of the Hartford Institute for Religious Research. Excellent articles on the subject of religion and homosexuality.

www.ngltf.org/issues

www.ourtruecolors.org
A great site offering support as well as many educational links.

www.gsanetwork.org
Gay Straight Alliance Network

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