

Below is a section from the GSUSA publication "What We Stand For" showing that when human sexuality is discussed, is it from an "informative rather than advocacy point of view." The text has been highlighted in yellow to make it easier to see. The document can be accessed online at <http://www.gsiec.org/pdf/whatwestandfor.pdf>.

Sexuality

Abortion and Birth Control

The Girl Scout organization does not take a position on abortion or birth control. Our membership is a cross-section of America's diversity with regard to religious opinions and practices. We believe these matters are best decided by girls and their families.

References:

Blue Book of Basic Documents 2000

"Respect for Religious Opinions and Practices," p. 22

Sex Education

In some areas of the country, depending on community norms and in response to requests, Girl Scout troops or groups may hold discussions about human sexuality. In all instances, the topic is discussed from an informative rather than advocacy point of view. Participation in these discussions is totally optional, and each girl who participates must provide written consent from her parent or guardian.

In addition, dating and relationship issues are briefly treated in the Junior, Cadette, and Senior Girl Scout handbooks, but again, from an informative rather than advocacy view.

References:

Safety-Wise (2000 ed.)