



A presentation on findings from a statewide  
survey among registered likely voters in  
Connecticut

*March 2008*

## Methodology

Lake Research Partners (LRP) designed and administered this survey, which was conducted by phone using professional interviewers. The survey reached a total of 400 registered likely voters statewide in Connecticut. The survey was conducted February 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Telephone numbers for the sample were drawn from a random digit dial sample (RDD). The sample was stratified geographically based on the proportion of registered likely voters in each region. The data were weighted slightly by gender, age, party identification, education, and race in order to ensure an accurate reflection of the demographic configuration of this population. The margin of error for the total survey is +/- 4.9%.

## Key Findings – Support for Teaching Comprehensive Sex Education

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- **Connecticut voters express a significant level of urgency around providing comprehensive sex education in public schools.**
- **They strongly prefer that sex education be comprehensive, age appropriate, and medically accurate and they largely reject abstinence-only programs.** This sentiment crosses partisan lines and pro-choice and anti-choice voters alike express a preference for medically accurate sex education.
- **Support for teaching comprehensive, age appropriate, medically accurate sex education in public schools is strong, even without informing people that Connecticut currently does not require sex education to be taught in public schools.**

## Key Findings – Healthy Teens Act

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- **Voters express strong support for the Healthy Teens Act, with three-quarters of the electorate voicing support for this legislation, including a strong majority who intensely support it. Support is only somewhat diminished when voters hear that state tax dollars may be used to fund this bill, but support remains strong.**
- **Connecticut is a strongly pro-choice state, though even a majority of anti-choice voters and Republicans favor the Healthy Teens Act.**
- **When we test support and opposition messages head-to-head, the statement in support of the Healthy Teens Act handily beats the opposition's claims by wide margins.**

# **Attitudes on Sex Education**

*Voters strongly prefer comprehensive sex education over abstinence-only programs. They express considerable urgency around providing comprehensive sex education in public schools.*