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**Comprehensive Sex Ed is Toast**

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MINNESOTA PARENT BLOG

**The Status of Girls in Minnesota**

By Monica

April 29th, 2008

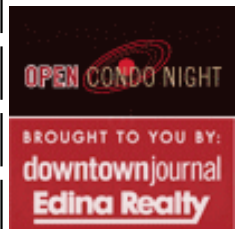
Yesterday at the state capitol the Women's Foundation of Minnesota and the Institute for Women's Policy Research released research on the status of girls in Minnesota. The results? A lot is good, but a lot needs to change. "The research shows that despite the fact that girls work hard inside and outside of the home, get good grades and hold high aspirations for their futures, they are confronted with the challenges of poverty, racism, sexism, physical and sexual abuse, and low self esteem," said Lee Roper-Batker, president and CEO of the Women's Foundation of Minnesota. Here's some of what the study found:

**The Good**

Girls of all races have higher aspirations than boys and are more likely than their male counterparts to want to attend college/graduate school. Girls are also more likely to spend a substantial amount of time studying (six or more hours per week) than boys.

**The Bad**

ACT data for Minnesota shows that girls in the state are substantially less college-ready than boys, with only 28 percent of girls compared with 36 percent of boys meeting the college readiness



## MULTIMEDIA



Homemade Granola

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

&lt; May 2008 &gt;

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

## Anansi the Trickster Spider

 Thursday, May 29th  
 10:00am

## The Magic Mrs. Piggle Wiggle

Sunday, June 15th

benchmarks in English, math, reading, and science.

## The Just Plain Sad

Girls have lower self-esteem levels than boys within every racial and ethnic group. They are also less body-satisfied, and were more likely to feel that they don't have much to be proud of.

In addition to disparities between the sexes, study director Erica Williams said the report "tells the story of two Minnesotas" when it comes to racial divides amongst girls, and the statistics reflect that: for example, poverty rates for girls of color are dramatically higher than those of white girls (7.3 percent vs. 43.4 percent), and while teen pregnancy rates have decreased among white girls, they have increased for Hispanic and American Indian girls.

In order to spread the word about the state of girls in Minnesota the Women's Foundation announced at the press conference that they are launching the 2008 Road to Equality Tour, a 15-community trip throughout Minnesota to deepen the understanding of the research and gather more information about girls in the state. The information gathered during the tour will culminate in another report of public policy recommendations related to women/girls in Minnesota. To read more about the original study visit [wfmn.org](http://wfmn.org).

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## Comprehensive Sex Ed is Toast

By Monica

May 7th, 2008

Anyone else feel a little deja-vu? Just like last year, Gov. Tim Pawlenty threatened to veto the entire Education Policy Omnibus bill due to the comprehensive sex ed legislation. And (once again) a

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## Best mullet

By Tricia Cornell

April 29th, 2008

A coveted title, apparently. [Check out this cute little guy.](#)

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## Sex Ed Update: The Sequel

By Monica

April 29th, 2008

Things change quickly when you have a bill in the legislature, so my sex ed updates are becoming more frequent. Here's the latest: the House passed the measure. Read more [Read More](#)

## Sex Ed Update

