



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

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## This week: Free Contraception at High School - Parents Need Not Know

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**Education:** You have tried to teach your teenage daughter to respect her body and her faith by practicing chastity. You know that some parents put their daughters on birth control in order to prevent pregnancy because they don't believe they can abstain from sexual activity, but you are definitely against that approach. But then you find out that the public high school she attends is giving free birth control, including implanting IUDs, to teens, without parents' knowledge. A federally funded program called "Take Charge" is intended for low-income women, but the state of Washington mandates that teens can apply on their own, without parental involvement.(1)

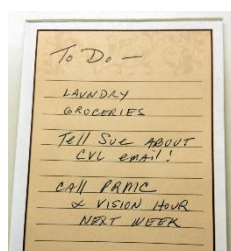
If you lived in Seattle, the above scenario could well be true. A number of schools have on site clinics where students can get sports physicals, immunizations, and other health care. Seattle high schools have banned soda and junk food from school campuses, but at Chief Sealth International High School "reproductive health care" is included in clinic services. State law mandates that parental permission is not required for either mental health services, or "reproductive health care." (2) So your daughter can't get a Coke at school, because the school doesn't want to encourage consumption of junk food, but they will give her powerful hormones and encourage a pattern of sexual activity and contraception that has serious risks to her physical, emotional and spiritual health.

1. <http://www.lifenews.com/2015/06/12/high-school-implants-iuds-in-teen-girls-without-their-parents-knowledge-or-consent/>

2. <http://www.neighborcare.org/clinics/neighborcare-health-chief-sealth-international-high-school>



**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, Please give wisdom and perseverance to all parents as they struggle to raise their children to be good and responsible adults. We pray especially for Christian parents, that they teach their children well, with both word and example, to be strong in their faith, and to love and follow You. Help all parents to be aware of the many outside influences that their children are exposed to, and to effectively counter those that draw them away from true Christian living. Please protect young people from the lies and deceptions that may look so attractive, but are in reality so harmful. Please bless ministries that work with young people, so that they are faithful and effective in teaching the truth of Your love for them, and your loving plan for their lives.



**Action:** If you have teen children, be aware of what is happening at their school, or anywhere else where they spend time. Be clear in your expectations for them to practice chastity. Talk to parents of teens about the wisdom of providing contraception to their children, since it gives a clear message that you are expecting them to be sexually active. Make sure they are aware of the physical risks of hormonal contraception. (See "Birth Control Pills – NOT Safe!" available at [www.ChristianVoicesforLife.org/information-resources](http://www.ChristianVoicesforLife.org/information-resources)) Pray for young people as they face strong negative influences and temptations.