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### Abstinence Education and Teens from South-Central Kansas head for Topeka!

We are actively seeking abstinent teens to join us for a special one-day journey to Topeka on Wednesday, March 17 where we will tour the State Capitol and learn about the legislative process up close and personal. We will also have an opportunity to participate in the legislative process by meeting with state lawmakers, communicating our concerns and educating them about abstinence education. We want to encourage them to support abstinence education in Kansas schools and communities. We plan to caravan to Topeka, departing at 6:45 a.m. on March 17, and returning that evening about 7:30 p.m. Can you join us? It will be a fun informative day and offers us all a chance to impact the choices made by our elected officials. Please contact Dan Thompson, Youth Coordinator by e-mail at: [gdt7999@yahoo.com](mailto:gdt7999@yahoo.com) or call our offices in Wichita at (316) 688-0840, toll-free at 866-688-0840.



The Kansas state motto is: *Ad Astra per Aspera*, which is Latin for: "To the stars with difficulty." This also reflects the hopes and dreams of Abstinence Education, Inc. as we seek to build a better tomorrow for all Kansas teens!

### Lights, Camera, and Action!

Teens, we are putting out an official "casting call," seeking actors and actresses who will be featured in a new teen video we are producing—an "urban version" of our popular 8 episode Pure & Simple Choice series. We need to fill roles for two lead males and two lead female roles, plus a number of "extras." These are PAID ROLES, and something you can use to begin a nice resume.



Auditions will be held on Saturday, March 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, from 5-8 p.m. These racially diverse roles require memorization, time and commitment. Here's how it works: call to RSVP for a specific audition time. We'll then provide you with a script to memorize for the audition and a role best suited to your talents. Please RSVP no later than March 17. Shooting will begin within a few weeks of selecting our cast. For more information and to RSVP contact: Dan Thompson-Youth Coordinator at 316-688-0840 or email Dan at [gdt7999@yahoo.com](mailto:gdt7999@yahoo.com). Break a leg!



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### Abstinence Education, Inc. named Faith-Based Partner of the Year by the Urban League of Kansas

Abstinence Education, Inc. prides itself on working cooperatively with other organizations throughout the community in making our community a better place to live and thrive now and into the future. So we were gratified and humbled recently as the Urban League of Kansas presented us with their "Faith-Based Partner of the Year" Award. The award was presented at the Urban League's Annual Luncheon to our own Sandy Pickert by Mr. Chester Daniels, President and CEO of the Urban League of Kansas. We are PRIVILEGED to work with the Urban League's YOUTH PROGRAMS. Thank you!



### JOIN ABSTINENCE EDUCATION, INC. AT WICHITA BLACK EXPO 2010!

Make plans now to attend the 2010 Wichita Black Expo on Saturday, March 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wichita State University Metroplex, located at 29th St. N. & Oliver. Tickets for the day are just \$5, available at the door. The day is filled with fun and fascinating programs and activities for teens and parents. We will be presenting two breakout sessions: "Pure & Simple Parenting: Raising Teens in a Sex Saturated World" and "Respecting Yourself and Others in Dating and Relations" for teen girls. Other speakers include Mike Tyson, juvenile parole officer, and Sherdeill Breathett from Real Men/Real Heroes.



There will be a talent teen showcase, door prizes and much more! Call our office at (316) 688-0840 for more information. See you there!



### TAKE TIME OUT! We encourage you to take "time out" from your busy schedule to discover what's happening at Abstinence Education, Inc. Enjoy lunch or refreshments while "taking a tour" of our mission, vision and services. Please contact Rhonda at (316) 688-0840 or by e-mail: [rhonda@abstainpureandsimple.org](mailto:rhonda@abstainpureandsimple.org) so we can prepare for your arrival.

The upcoming TIME OUT! tour dates:

- Tuesday, March 9, Noon-1:00 p.m. (lunch served)
- Thursday, March 25, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 13 Noon-1:00 p.m. (lunch served)
- Thursday, April 29, 4:30 -5:30 p.m.



We also offer portable "tour in a box" opportunities where we will come to your local community, civic, or faith-based group—ideal over lunch or anytime!

### "No More Dirty" 2010 Purity Conference

Featuring national speaker, Fred Whitlow II & Co.

"The Pure & Simple Lifestyle Players"

New Beginnings SDA Church  
209 W. 21st St. N.

Thursday and Friday, March 18 & 19, 2010, 7-9 p.m.  
Saturday, March 20, 2010 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Gospel singer-songwriter J. Moss

In Concert

Saturday, March 20, 2010, 7 p.m.

Christian Faith Center — 1130 S. Broadway

Concert Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door

Tickets and Information: Call 243-0786 or 409-3835



### A Message from Executive Director Sandy Pickert



In our efforts to help shape a society where our children can grow up happier and healthier, we face a lot of headwinds. The "other side" has money and political power. Our instant communication technology culture is exposing our kids to all sorts of temptations and dysfunctional models of behavior. In short, it can be easy to get discouraged.

But I'm not—in fact, I am as optimistic as I've ever been that we can make a difference. One has to just spend a little time with our young people to get a sense of the enthusiasm and hope they have for life and for the future. They energize me and without realizing it, they help recommit my efforts to bring abstinence education to as many parents and teens as possible. And I know I am not alone in this effort, far from it. In this short e-newsletter, you can see the civic and faith-based organizations that share our mission of educating parents and teens about the benefits of making healthy life choices including abstinence from sexual activity until marriage, drugs, alcohol, pornography, gangs and violence.

This is not a coincidence. For instance, at the upcoming Wichita Black Expo we will present a Pure & Simple Lifestyle parenting class and a session for teen young ladies about respect for self and others at the same venue as Mike Tyson and Sherdeill Breathett from Real Men/Real Heroes, and the Urban League's David Gilkey with the "Do You Want to Live or Die?" program. The common theme is that we all are trying to educate our teens about risky behaviors, whether that is joining a gang or engaging in premarital sex. The New Beginnings SDA Church "Purity Conference" is another example. One of the themes for that event is "Get Restored," something we encourage teens to do if they have lost their virginity—we call it "secondary virginity."

I encourage you to support these and other efforts. I also ask that you consider supporting our mission. As you may be aware, federal funding for Abstinence Education, Inc. ends this fall, and unless something unforeseen occurs, we will be totally on our own for financial sustainability in order to continue to provide services to communities. Please consider a financial gift. You may access our web site at [www.abstainpureandsimple.org](http://www.abstainpureandsimple.org) and make a donation online through a secure Paypal process. I am available to visit with you as an individual and to present to groups about our organization, our services, and ways you can be involved to help us continue abstinence education in Kansas.

Finally, please "stay tuned" for some exciting news. As we told you last month in our e-newsletter, we are on the verge of a name change for our organization. Thanks to all who offered their input. We think you will like what you see.

With the season of Spring comes a sense of optimism and new beginnings. That is what I wake up to each day. Please pray for me as I will for you, and THANK YOU for supporting our teens and abstinence education!

Blessings,

Sandy