

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 38

By: Smith, Brown, Cain, Campbell,
Capps, Coffee, Crutchfield,
Dickerson, Douglass, Dunlap,
Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford,
Haney, Harrison, Helton, Henry,
Herbert, Hobson, Horner,
Johnson, Kerr, Laughlin,
Leftwich, Littlefield, Long,
Maddox, Martin, Mickle,
Milacek, Monson, Morgan,
Muegge, Price, Pruitt, Rabon,
Robinson, Rozell, Shurden,
Snyder, Stipe, Taylor, Weedn,
Wilcoxson, Wilkerson, Williams
and Williamson

A Resolution condemning studies that suggest sexual relationships between children and adults might be positive; urging the federal government to take similar action; encouraging competent investigations and research; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, children are a precious gift and responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the spiritual, physical, and mental well-being of children is our sacred duty; and

WHEREAS, no segment of our society is more critical to the future of human survival and society than our children; and

WHEREAS, it is the obligation of all public policymakers not only to support but also to defend the health and rights of parents, families, and children; and

WHEREAS, information endangering to children is being made public and, in some instances, may be given unwarranted or unintended credibility through release under professional titles or through professional organizations; and

WHEREAS, elected officials have a duty to inform citizens and counter actions they consider damaging to children, parents, families, and society; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma has made sexual molestation of a child a felony and has declared parents who sexually molest their children to be unfit; and

WHEREAS, virtually all studies in this area, including those published by the American Psychological Association, condemn child sexual abuse as criminal and harmful to children; and

WHEREAS, the American Psychological Association has recently published, but did not endorse, a study that suggests that sexual relationships between adults and willing children are less harmful than believed and might even be positive for "willing" children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate condemns and denounces all suggestions in the recently published study by the American Psychological Association that indicates sexual relationships between adults and willing children are less harmful than believed and might even be positive for "willing" children.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate urges the United States Congress and the President of the United States to likewise reject and condemn, in the strongest honorable written and vocal terms possible, any suggestion that sexual relationships between children and adults are anything but abusive, destructive, exploitative, reprehensible and punishable by law.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate encourages competent investigations to continue to research the effects of child sexual abuse using the best methodology so that the public and public policymakers may act upon accurate information.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the American Psychological Association, the President of the United States and Oklahoma's Congressional delegation.

Adopted by the Senate the 27th day of May, 1999.

President of the Senate