

Iroquois School District

**Teaching of Controversial Issues**

*(Revised: 05/11/71)*

**PURPOSE:**

One of the major goals of Iroquois School District is to train students for effective citizenship. Our instructional program is developed to achieve the purpose of placing emphasis upon teaching about our American heritage, the rights and privileges we enjoy as citizens, and the responsibilities that must be assumed in maintaining and improving our American way of life.

In training for effective citizenship, it is sometimes necessary for pupils to study issues that are controversial. The discussion of controversial issues is completely proper, provided both sides of the issues, and their effects upon the rights and privileges of others are accurately presented. Students have the right to study under competent instruction in an atmosphere free of bias and prejudice.

**DEFINITION:**

Teachers shall not endorse, advocate, or promote fornication, adultery, homosexuality, subversive or illegal activities. (Refer to Webster's Dictionary for the definitions of these terms.)

If any of the aforementioned activities are endorsed, advocated or promoted by any of the students, outside consultants, training aids or books used in the classroom, the classroom teacher must tell the students that such behavior is wrong and it is not endorsed by the School.

It is the responsibility of the teacher to present both sides of a controversial issue in order that the students may begin to form opinions based on their own values and beliefs that are consistent with our goals.