## "IT'S A TEEN'S WORLD: wired for sex, lies and power trips" wins the prestigious Aegis Award in the documentary category

(TORONTO): Coinciding with the Media Literacy Week theme of gender and media and with the upcoming National Bullying Awareness Week, we are pleased to announce that the influential documentary IT'S A TEEN'S WORLD: wired for sex, lies and power trips is a winner of the 2010 Aegis Award in the documentary category. The Aegis Award is the industry's premier competition to recognize outstanding achievement for video and film production that most effectively delivers its message to the target audience.

Award-winning filmmaker and journalist Lynn Glazier (director of the acclaimed NFB documentary *It's a Girl's World* about social bullying) takes us inside a culture of sexual harassment that is widespread among today's teens. Whether it's posting racy photos and raunchy video online, grabbing a girl's ass in the school hallway or spreading explicit gossip and lies, some 80 per cent of Canadian youth report they've been sexually harassed by the time of their high school graduation. Ninety per cent report that teens adopt the values of the media they consume.

"Teens are being bombarded with messages in the media and on the Internet that they need to act like sexual barracudas in order to be popular and cool. That's going unchallenged," says Glazier. "Sexual harassment is the number one form of bullying among teens today and it's warping them just as they are forming their identities. As adults, we just can't shrug our shoulders and dismiss it as a normal part of growing up."

Glazier challenges three groups of Toronto teens (ages 13-17) to think more critically about their hypersexual and high-tech social world, following them inside all-age clubs, checking out their computer screens and candid personal diaries, and inspiring each of the three groups to make its own short dramatic video about sexual pressures. For many of the teens the documentary, this process was a life-changing experience.

Distributed in Canada by CBC Learning, *IT'S A TEEN'S WORLD* is an unprecedented, unvarnished exploration of the impact the brave, new, wired world has on the sexual behavior and attitudes of teens. The film reveals a generation pushed into flaunting their sexuality without grasping its real-life consequences. And that's a real eye-opener for adults. Their guidance and support can help teens make better choices and become ambassadors for healthier relationships in their schools and communities.

IT'S A TEEN'S WORLD is an essential tool for promoting awareness and change, as told through the authentic voices of teens.

For more information about the film, resources, suggested classroom activities and to download the User Guides, visit <a href="www.itsateensworld.com">www.itsateensworld.com</a> - a must-see destination for teenagers, their parents, and teachers concerned about sexual harassment among youth. The film and its a educational materials have received endorsements from leading experts such as Dr. Debra Pepler and Dr. Jennifer Connolly, both prominent psychologists and researchers at York University, and by world-renowned parenting author and lecturer Barbara Coloroso.

A one-hour version of the documentary premiered on CBC New Network in October 2009 to critical acclaim. An enhanced DVD with educational modules, and a 3-hour companion radio series produced for CBC IDEAS are available at www.CBCLearning.ca.

IT'S A TEEN'S WORLD: wired for sex, lies and power trips is directed and produced by Lynn Glazier and produced by Ed Barreveld of Storyline Entertainment, Canada's foremost production company of award-winning documentaries with a distinct point of view.

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