

# **Building Respectful Citizens: Sexuality Education for Boys and Young Men**

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**Tuesday, 28 June 2016 11:00 – 12:00**

# Agenda

- Review goals
- Define comprehensive sex education and sex positivity
- Ground rules
- Popular culture, sexualization and gender discrimination
- The cultural context at your school

# Workshop Goals

## Participants will

- Appreciate the significant impact of sexualization and gender discrimination on boys and young men;
- Examine the cultural contexts that influence perspectives on sexuality and corresponding sexuality education;
- Articulate the breadth, scope and value of sexuality and relationship education for boys and young men; and
- Brainstorm possible first step and long-term vision for implementing comprehensive sexuality education in their schools.

One word that  
comes to mind when  
you hear the phrase  
**'sex education'**

# Comprehensive Sex Ed & Sex Positivity

**Sex-positivity** is the view that the only relevant measure of a sexual act, practice, or experience is the **consent, pleasure and well-being** of the people engaged in it or the people affected by it.

Charlie Glickman, Educator

**Comprehensive sex education** includes *age-appropriate, medically accurate* information on a broad set of topics related to sexuality including human development, relationships, decision making, abstinence, contraception, and disease prevention.

Sexuality Information and Education council of the United States (SIECUS)

# TRUST RESPECT JUSTICE JOY



# Ground Rules

- Laughter/discomfort is ok
- Open mindedness
- Respect differences and don't tolerate discrimination
- Reflect and listen
- Avoid alarmist thinking

Question 1 – small group discussion

Popular culture promotes  
'sexuality as a defining  
characteristic'.

How does it show up  
in your school?



# Sexualization & Gender Discrimination

Media and Sexualization: State of Empirical Research 1995–2015; The Journal of Sex 53: 2016

- Regular, everyday exposure to this content is directly associated with a range of consequences...greater support of sexist beliefs and of adversarial sexual beliefs, and greater tolerance of sexual violence toward women.

Sexual Assault Climate Survey Results, October 2015 Indiana University

- 17 percent of the undergraduate women participants reported experiencing attempted or completed nonconsensual sexual penetration
- 35 percent of the undergraduate women participants reported being the victims of some form of sexual harassment while at IU.

# COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION - SOMETHING ALL STUDENTS HAVE A RIGHT TO.

## Example:

It fits into St. George's Mission:

- *Building Fine Young Men. One Boy at a Time*

And its Core Values:

- *Empathy, Humility, Integrity, Respect, Responsibility, Resilience*

Can you justify NOT addressing comprehensive sex ed to fully educate and develop the students?

## Question 2 – small group discussion

Name one characteristic/value from your school, and **discuss** how sex education relates to that value.

# Evidence-based Sexuality Education Program

Sex education which provides accurate, complete, and developmentally appropriate information on human sexuality, including risk-reduction strategies and contraception helps young people take steps to protect their health, including delaying sex, using condoms or contraception, and being monogamous.

- Goesling, B., Colman, S., Trenholm, C. et al. Programs to reduce teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, and associated sexual risk behaviors: A systematic review. *J Adolesc Health*. 2014; 54: 499–507
  - Providing adolescents with sexual health information is an important means of promoting healthy sexual development and reducing negative outcomes of sexual behaviors
- Kirby D, et al. Sex and HIV Education Programs: Their Impact on Sexual Behaviors of Young People Throughout the World, *J Adolesc Health*, 2007; 40: 206–217.
- Dating Matters: Strategies to Promote Health Teen Relationships. Atlanta: Center for Disease Control and Prevention; 2013.
  - Maintaining a healthy relationship requires skills many young people are never taught – like positive communication, conflict management, and negotiating decisions around sexual activity. Sex education should include understanding and identifying healthy and unhealthy relationship patterns; effective ways to communicate relationship needs and manage conflict; and strategies to avoid or end an unhealthy relationship.
- <http://theconversation.com/why-boys-need-to-have-conversations-about-emotional-intimacy-in-classrooms-54693>

## Question 3- small group discussion

What challenges or push back can you foresee in pursuing comprehensive sex education at your school?

Where you can imagine push back, how do you respond?  
(USE SCHOOL VALUES aligning with realities of the day)

# Stephen & Marnie's 'Pro Tip' List

## for pursuing comp sex ed in your school

- Identify the champions and lead (administrators, parents, teachers, students)
- Become educated and seek training
- Articulate goals and outcomes
- (Identify more champions)
- Determine the external forces that work with or against the stated goals
- Identify stepping stones (formulate a 5 year plan for building curriculum)
- (Identify more champions)
- Train staff

What questions are  
outstanding to help you  
move this issue forward  
at your school?

# one word

\*Listening is the root of justice.  
-Jamie Utt, Educator and Writer



Thank you

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