

WHAT IS CONSENT?

Clear Words or Actions



Voluntary, willing, active communication

The absence of a "no" is NOT a "yes"

Can't be Inferred



from clothes, drinking, dancing, accepting a gift or date, a prior relationship, or agreement to go to a private spot like a bedroom

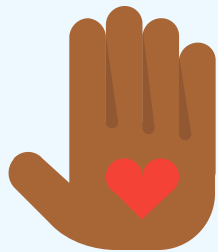


Doesn't Change

based on sex, gender, or sexual orientation



Silence is not Consent



Consent can be

Modified or Withdrawn

any time through clearly understandable words or actions



The Initiator is Responsible

the person who starts the act must get consent



Willing

NOT from threat of harm, coercion, intimidation, or by use or threat of force

Everyone is 17+ years old



For a Specific Sexual Activity

Get consent at every step (holding hands, kissing, touching, etc.)

Coherent



Does everyone know the who, what, where, and why of what is happening? If the initiator were a reasonable, sober person in the same circumstances, what should they have understood?

Enthusiastic, Verbal "Yes" is Best

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP DECISIONMAKING

Before kissing, touching, or having sex, ask...

What do I want

- How do I **feel** about kissing, touching, or other intimate activity with a partner?
- What **kinds of things** am I comfortable or uncomfortable with?
- When** do I think it would be right for me?
- Under **what conditions** would I be comfortable?
- What **kind of person** would I be comfortable with?

- How does my **partner feel**?
- How do **their feelings fit** with mine?
- Am I **comfortable with initiating** touching or kissing?
- How do I feel about the **other person initiating**?
- Is there any chance I am **pressuring my partner**?
- Could my partner be **pressuring me**?
- Could **someone else be pressuring** me or my partner (like friends)?

What does my partner want

What do we want together

- Do I **trust my partner**? Completely?
- Can I be vulnerable** with my partner, like tell them what I'm afraid of?
- What do I **expect it to be like**?
- What do I **expect to happen after**?
- What does my **partner expect** it to be like? To happen after?
- What if I **don't like** it? What if my partner doesn't like it?
- How can we make the experience **safe and comfortable** for both of us?