

Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review 2024

Ten Signs of Relationship Abuse

Year Published/Revised: Not indicated

Publisher: HRM Video

Website: www.hrmvideo.com

Full or Supplemental: Supplemental

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: 28-minute video

Format and Features: Online video, physical or digital copy of the curriculum along with a teacher's resource book, student handouts, and pre/posttests in digital format.

Materials Provide Support for online or in-person learning: Yes

Available in Multiple Languages: Subtitles for videos available in Spanish

Evidence-based/informed: Not indicated

National Standards Alignment: Not indicated

Consistent with WA Health Education Standards? Yes

Consistent with Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Law? With modification

Consistent with AIDS Omnibus Act? N/A

Inclusive Materials/Strategies: With modification

Bias-Free Materials: No



Primary Subject Areas and Topics Covered:

- Anatomy and Physiology, Reproduction, and Pregnancy (Pregnancy for Grade 6+)
- Growth and Development/Puberty
- Self-Identity (gender stereotypes, gender identity, sexual orientation, etc.)
- Prevention (general):
 - HIV/AIDS Prevention
 - Pregnancy Prevention
 - STD Prevention
 - Health Care and Prevention Resources
- Healthy Relationships (general):
 - Affirmative Consent
 - Bystander Training
 - Intrapersonal and Interpersonal Communication Skills for Healthy Relationships
 - The development of meaningful relationships and avoidance of exploitative relationships
 - Understanding the influences of family, peers, community, and the media throughout life on healthy sexual relationships

Reviewer Comments:

Reviewer 351

strengths: many different speakers from different racial backgrounds are featured. Structured in an easy-to-understand way. Features speakers who experienced relationship abuse sharing their stories, as well as an expert. Explains the seriousness of relationship abuse by featuring an example of a case that ended in murder.

shortcomings: very heteronormative; all relationships (even hypothetical ones) are assumed to be straight. The possibility of women abusing men is acknowledged and one man shares his experience, but all other speakers are women and this man doesn't get to talk along with the others; instead, he is featured just one time. Lack of instructional materials around trauma means that teachers may struggle to support students for whom this is traumatic, and there are a lot of triggers. Instructional supports are only a short True/False quiz and a list of learning objectives.

Reviewer 355

This video describes the 10 signs of relationship abuse (RA) and features young people sharing their personal stories about RA. These stories are interspersed with a clinical psychologist discussing what relationship abuse is. The personal stories feel relatable to the viewer. The video primarily features the stories of several cisgender women discussing their abusive relationships

with men. The video did include only a brief aside and short vignette with a cisgender man discussing being the victim of abuse in a heterosexual relationship. There is zero discussion or representation of non-heterosexual relationships. This limited discussion about abuse in different types of relationships is a major shortcoming of this resource. At one point in the video the clinical

psychologist says, "...because if he calls you these names, and they are demeaning and hurtful, don't be surprised when he starts treating you that way because you have passively consented to it". This was a major red flag and perpetuates victim blaming. This video does not discuss what a healthy relationship looks like, it exclusively describes unhealthy/abusive relationships. Having more discussions about what healthy relationships look and feel like should be included when discussing relationship abuse. The video and video editing feels outdated and may not resonate with young people. I don't recommend this resource.

Reviewer 359

Males can also be victims of domestic violence; the numbers are not as high for men. This topic should be covered in the video as well.

Reviewer 361

The supplemental materials video is a strong resource to learn about signs of an abusive relationship. The examples and stories that were shared stories that students can relate to and understand. The stories were predominately female, however, one male told his story. The parent story was powerful and emotional.

The Sample Resource from the teacher resource book included the program summary, learning objectives, and pre/post test, however, there wasn't additional resources to stop and engage during the video, follow up questions/reflection opportunities, as well as next steps for staff to share resources at the school and community. Maybe those are included in the actual materials once they are purchased.

Med/Sci Reviewer 367

Video is narrated by Dr. Jill Murray a psychologist and national expert in the field of relationship abuse, especially abuse among adolescents. Psychologically accurate information presented regarding the ten most common tactics used by the abuser. The video uses the voices and experiences of young people to share their stories of being in an abusive relationship. The organization www.loveisrespect.org is cited at the end of the video which is a reputable organization and one of the leaders in providing information and raising awareness around the issue of IPV. The limitations of the video are that it never mentions same sex relationships and is very heteronormative in all of its examples and messaging. The video was created in 2008 and does not provide the most up to date language with regards to inclusivity around gender and

sexual identities.

Not all of the stories shared are appropriate for middle school aged students. Some of the graphic descriptions of violence and sexual assault as well as the as the general scare tone used by Dr. Murray, do not feel age appropriate. I do not think enough information was provided about getting help and how to avoid victim blaming for example, one of the objectives states, "learn how to end an abusive relationship" but this was not made clear enough in the video.

Med/Sci Reviewer 369

Would have benefitted from seeing non-hetero situations portrayed since abuse exists in the queer community too.

OSPI Comment

Reviewers expressed concerns that this product does not use inclusive language/strategies related addressing all protected classes