

Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review 2024

What is Sex Trafficking

Year Published/Revised: 2019

Publisher: Amaze.org

Website: Personal Safety: Sex Trafficking: What Is It? - Amaze

Full or Supplemental: Supplemental

Grade Level: 6 - 8

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: 1 4-minute video with discussion questions.

Format and Features: Video (Amaze.org or YouTube), discussion questions & resources for educators, parents, youth on Amaze.org site

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

Available in Multiple Languages: Mongolian subtitles are available

Evidence-based/informed: Not evident

National Standards Alignment: Not evident

Consistent with WA Health Education Standards? Yes

Consistent with Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Law? Yes

Consistent with AIDS Omnibus Act? N/A

Inclusive Materials/Strategies: Yes

Bias-Free Materials: Yes



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 352

This material is engaging, digestible, and age-appropriate with a few additional resources for educators (a few different translations may also be available). However, it overall falls short—especially considering the new content criteria described by the legislature in SB 5355 (2023).* The video offers a very basic introduction to help students define and recognize and respond to signs of trafficking and grooming. Representation of different bodies/illustrations feels somewhat lacking. Conversations around race, gender, and socioeconomic status are simplified or do not occur.

I would not recommend using this material on its own but it could be combined with others.

Does not offer or lacks detail on:

- the disproportionate impact of sex trafficking on girls/women of color,
- stereotypes and stigmatization that obstruct effective prosecution and prevention of sex trafficking,
- reporting systems and community responsibility to combat trafficking.

The educator might have the burden of organizing a lesson around the video that fills in all of the gaps. There are some discussion questions and a link to another curriculum, 3Rs (which may meet national but not necessarily state standards).

Reviewer 354

For the video

- Site doesn't specify an audience age, likely ranges from Middle to High school
- It's very brief, but seems like a great introduction of the concept
- Tone of the video and the graphics make this topic very approachable for youth.
- Does not rely on scare tactics or 'intense' depictions to get people invested out of discomfort and fear.
- Focuses on young people helping their peers
- Language is inclusive, but the animation attempts to not imply race for any students and does not show students with diverse bodies and abilities

As for the additional materials:

- Nice talking points for youth, parents, and educators
- In several places list the national Human Trafficking Hotline
- Helpful that they link to a more robust lesson plan from Advocates for Youth's RRR curriculum, that lesson is specifically labeled as Grade 7 and is 50 minutes. So if an educator has more time for the topic, or notices that their students were responsive and/or had a lot of questions about this shorter video they could opt to do more on the topic.

Reviewer 357

Amaze.org provides a 4-minute video on the concept of human sex trafficking which may serve as a good introduction to the topic. This free video explains what sex trafficking is, who can be trafficked, ramifications of trafficking, signs of human trafficking, and what to do if you suspect trafficking has or is occurring to someone. The video promotes student advocacy and awareness along with providing quality national resources for students to utilize. This supplement does show a variety of different characters with various ethnicities and does not promote stereotypes. Teachers may find the discussion questions on the educator tab of the website helpful to facilitate classroom discussions on this topic.

Reviewer 359

The scenario of the story could be improved. This is supposed to be focused on 6-8 graders, however, they talk about going to a physics class. Physics is not taught until high school. I think this is a barrier to capturing the attention of youth, the scenario should be made more relevant to youth between 10-13 around activities that would be common for most that age. It makes a difference in how youth listen if they think it is made for them and they can see themselves in the story related to their everyday life.

Reviewer 364

The material was a solid and appropriate "snapshot" of the basics of sex trafficking. The video was high quality and appropriate for 6-8 graders. The discussion questions provide a good knowledge check for what was communicated in the video, however do not expand on the material or allow for critical thought, processing, or personal reflection. Though included in the resources below, this video does not provide methods of reporting sex trafficking or finding out additional information, aside from seeking support from a trusted adult. The material is missing acknowledgement or discussion of the groups most impacted by trafficking. Overall, I believe this video is a good primer for the topic area, though would encourage that it not be used as the sole resource as there are several important aspects of trafficking not mentioned.

Med/Sci Reviewer 367

Video is age appropriate, and information is presented based on credible research and up-to-date facts. The lesson plan resource comes from Advocates for Youth and uses current statistics. The discussion questions include accurate information. The Human Trafficking Hotline is provided as an additional resource. The overall tone emphasizes the victim is not at fault and provides general warning signs. The serious nature of the topic is not diminished yet it is presented in an easy to understand and clear manner that is not overly alarming or dramatic.

Med/Sci Reviewer 368

Medically spot on, just really don't like how at the end of the video the character laughs it off with the distraction of getting back to their show.

Med/Sci Reviewer 369

Very subjective and not full of real data, which may just not be possible given the subject matter.