Spring Courtship Flirting Consent Workshop at MC
Naming ourselves

Naming Exercise -

On your name tag, write down three words that describe yourself as a sexual being.

Or three words that describe feelings about communicating and negotiating consent.
CONSENT clear, knowing, voluntary, and gives permission. HAVE CONSENT before continuing.
Consent – a knowing, voluntary, and affirmatively communicated willingness to participate in a particular sexual activity or behavior. Consent may be expressed either by words and/or actions as long as those words and/or actions create a mutually understandable agreement to engage in specific sexual activity and are given by a person with the ability and capacity to exercise free will and make a rational, reasonable judgment. Silence or an absence of resistance does not imply consent. Consent can be withdrawn at any time. Additionally:

- Consent to any one form of sexual activity cannot automatically imply consent to any other forms of sexual activity (e.g., consent to engage in sexual activity with one person does not imply consent to engage in sexual activity with another).
- Previous relationships or prior consent cannot imply consent to future sexual acts.
- In order to give effective consent, one must be of legal age, as defined by applicable Maryland law.
- It is a violation of Policy 31001 to engage in sexual activity with someone whom one should know to be — or based on the circumstances should reasonably have known to be — mentally or physically incapacitated. To be incapacitated means that a person cannot make rational, reasonable decisions because he or she lacks the capacity to give knowing consent (e.g., to understand the “who, what, when, where, why or how” of their sexual interaction). Incapacitation may result from sleep or unconsciousness, temporary or permanent mental or physical disability, involuntary physical restraint, or the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Contact: Christopher Moy, Title IX Coordinator, for help and more information.
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While sex is everywhere on campus, real conversation about ourselves as sexual beings is scarce.

What if campus culture made it possible for such exchanges? What if we celebrated these aspects of ourselves more visibly? What if our sexuality were not so hidden and ‘private.’ How would this change the campus sex culture?
SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS

Radical inclusion
Dismantling Rape Culture

Sex & Flirting becomes more like Ordering, making, and enjoying a Delicious Pizza
Rather than a competition, with winners and losers.
Group Conversation:

• What is it like to center our desire and our sexuality in conversations with each other?

• What is it like to know these things about each other?

• What was surprising for you about this?

• How did you surprise yourself?
Water Bottle Exercise

In groups of two

Water holding Partner:
Keep serious face, keep body language neutral, say only, "No, you can’t have this."
Use a tone that is conversational, instructional, and a command tone.

Water-less partner:
Try to get a drink of water.
Be persuasive, argumentative, insistent.

NO PHYSICAL CONTACT
A word about consent, and children:

We’ve all been conditioned, as children, to accept touch we do not want. Using your words is a powerful choice! How to navigate consent and dismantle this toleration of rape culture. When people say "no", thank them for taking care of themselves.

**CONSENT** is clear, knowing, voluntary, and gives permission. **HAVE CONSENT** before continuing.
CONSENT for KIDS
In small groups, rank these words from least intimate to most intimate:

Penetrative sex
Making out
Cuddling
Showering together
Holding hands in public

Meeting your partner’s parents
Oral sex
Peeing (or farting) in front of each other
Talking about STIs
Talking about condoms

Would the order be different for a same-sex couple?
Consent and Communication: A Case Study: Alex and Chris:

Chris and Alex have had crushes on each other for ages. One day, Chris invites Alex over to hang out. They end up making out. Chris starts to unbutton Alex’s pants. Alex really likes Chris, but isn’t ready to move that fast. Not wanting to hurt Chris’s feelings, Alex tries to push Chris’ hands away, but keeps kissing, hoping to send the message that “making out is cool, but not anything more right now.” Chris thinks Alex is playing “hard-to-get” and is really turned on. Chris expects Alex to just say “no” or “stop” if something isn’t ok. So, Chris continues. The next day, Alex feels really uncomfortable with what happened. Was there Consent? Yes? No? Why?
Hidden Victims – Shaming of Male Rape Victims
MUSIC INTERMISSION

movement, stretching, dancing,
back to our bodies!!!!
Dating Practice

In groups of 2, try starting a conversation with one of these statements. Feel your response to saying and hearing these statements.

How do you feel about using condoms?

It would be nice if we went to get tested for STI’s together before we start a relationship.
What do you think?
I love you and we need to get tested together.

I think it’s time for us to take a break.

We’ve been seeing each other for awhile now.
I think we should establish some ground rules.
Can we talk about ________________.

Hi my name is _____________.
Would you like to ____________?

Are you open to trying something new?

What are some fetishes that you have?

One partner wants to have sex and talk about it and the other is not comfortable talking about it.
How do they find common ground?

How would you feel if I brought someone else to join us?

How do you feel about abstinence?

Tonight I am feeling special.
Let’s do something fun.

What do you think would be right for us now?
Closing group discussion

Ponder This

1. Under what conditions is consent impossible?
2. What needs to be present for consent to be offered?
3. What is in our campus, and culture, that makes offering consent difficult or charged?
4. Change from consent as a transaction to understanding consent as a caring, practice of engagement with others, in community.

What is one thing you’d do differently because of this workshop?
Consent at MC

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