Boodos, Minnies & Tuppies:new inclusive resources for sexual and reproductive health education

Authors:

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Background:

Resources illustrating sexual and reproductive organs for use in relationships and sexual health education (RSE) in school and community settings are either non-existent or often not fit for purpose. Traditionally resources have been medical, formal, are inaccurate and incomplete i.e., excluding the clitoris and many require high literacy and show only white bodies,

Enabling people to access knowledge, increase confidence and skills and reduce body shame requires accurate drawings that reflect a reality of bodies, body colour and variations and are non-confrontational.

Purpose:

To make widely available a suite of resources that are inclusive, accurate, show a range of natural variations of sexual and reproductive organs, are non-confrontational and show bodies of colour fit for purpose to be used in schools, youth groups, community settings, clinical education and counselling.

Approach:

Educators consulted with young people primarily Aboriginal young people, young people from migrant and refugee communities, young people not in formal education settings, with low or no literacy and young people in schools

Sexual Health Educators, Sexual Health Clinicians Sexual Health Clinical Educators and a Graphic Designer collaborated to design a suite of drawings

- range of skin colours
- o anatomically complete including the clitoris
- o accurate
- illustrating range of variation of bodies
- friendly

The collection includes

- Female sexual & reproductive organs, inside and outside views
- o Range of vulva's including inner and outer labia and clitoris
- Clitoris in situ,
- Clitoris stages or erection
- Menstruation
- o Insertion of a tampon & menstrual cup
- Male sexual & reproductive organs, inside and outside views
- o Penis: stages of erection, circumcised & uncircumcised

Outcomes/Impact:

¹Sexual Health Quarters, Perth, Western Australia

Resources have been trialled, evaluated, and refined.

Drawings are used in sexual education in community and in sexual health clinic 1-1 consultations and counselling.

Overwhelmingly positive responses.

Resources appropriate, engaging, non-confrontational, instructive.

Resources available

Innovation and Significance:

Culturally appropriate, accurate, non-confrontational and friendly drawings have enabled comprehensive sexuality education with young people in particular young people from vulnerable and marginalised groups.

May be one of the only collections available in Australia.