

BINGO – You’ve got consent! Introducing a spiral teaching resource for Stages 4 and 5 based on real teacher expertise

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Background

Consent education was added to the mandatory F-10 curriculum in 2023, following high profile news stories and advocacy from the likes of Grace Tame and Chanel Contos. 4 million students a year are now set to learn about consent education (ABS 2022), and it is crucial to provide teachers with time and resources to implement this curriculum change.

Approach

Rather than offering generalised recommendations, this talk proposes a teaching resource which is concrete, specific, and based on teaching in real sex education classrooms. It draws on teacher expertise, using video data from sex education classrooms at a high school in Sydney.

Outcome

This talk introduces the consent checklist, a freely available spiral teaching resource for consent. This resource is designed for teachers in Stages 4 and 5 from across key learning areas and from all states and territories. It is a dynamic resource which can be adapted for different ages and jurisdictions, and which is adaptable for different scenario-based discussions.

Innovation and significance

This resource breaks consent down into its component parts, including how people are feeling (e.g. relaxed/uneasy) and how people are behaving (e.g. acting freely/being pressured). It covers the legal definition of consent, but also extends beyond what makes sex legal to also consider what makes sex pleasurable. It includes practical examples of what consent isn't (i.e. what 'no' looks like), but also examples of what consent is (i.e. what 'yes' looks like) as a way of understanding and fostering sexual experiences which are positive, communicative and mutually respectful.

References

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (2022). *Schools*.

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/schools/latest-release#:~:text=New%20South%20Wales%20802%2C776%20Government,%3B%20292%2C174%20Non%2DGovernment%20enrolments> [accessed 7 September 2022].

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