



There's No Place Like Home...

FOR SEXUALITY EDUCATION

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A sexually literate person:

- Has an accurate, well-informed, age-appropriate understanding of all aspects of sexuality - biological, cultural, social and ethical,
- Possesses a strong sense of personal values about sexuality and sexual health, and
- Demonstrates respect for the values of others.

Kids, Music & Sex: What's a Parent to Do?

"We can kick it and go puff on a bluuunt
Oh you don't smoke? Grab a pint of Hen' then we can get druuunk
It's up to you, I'm the man but baby just let me know
Cuz if you got an attitude I could treat you just like a hoe"

Chingy "One Call Away"

This popular song lyric talks about smoking marijuana, drinking beer and a man treating a woman like a prostitute. If that is not what you thought you read, it is time to listen more carefully to the music your kids are listening to.

Every kid & teen knows a few songs' lyrics by heart. When they are with their friends they sing along just like you

may have when you were young. Do you know what songs your children sing every word to?

If your child likes popular music, the good news is it is easy to listen and learn. Simply tune into your local popular music radio station. The most popular songs will be in "heavy rotation," meaning they are played frequently

throughout the day. That makes it easy to determine what your children are listening to in just a few rides home from work or the store.

Sometimes parents mistakenly believe that if they do not let their children buy music with "Parental Advisories," then their children are safe. But parents cannot shelter their children or

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A New Look for *There's No Place Like Home... For Sexuality Education*

We are rolling out a new look for *There's No Place Like Home...* beginning with this issue. We hope you will find the newsletter more appealing and easier to read, but with the same accurate information and

practical advice.

This issue also ends our series on various types of media, focusing on how adults can use the media to help talk to kids about sexuality.



Please complete survey, cut it out and return to any Indianapolis Planned Parenthood clinic or mail to:

Emma Seymour
Planned Parenthood
3209 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN
46208

“One positive thing about love in a song is that we all, as human beings, love the same and love is so very powerful.”

Survey for Parents and Teens

The Peer Educators, a group of teens volunteering at Planned Parenthood, are developing family-oriented workshops on sexuality that will encourage parent-child communication. By completing and returning this survey, you can help them plan effective programs.

Please check one: Teen Parent/Guardian

- Are you interested in or in need of some information about sexuality issues?
 Yes No
- What issues concern you most? Please check all that apply.
 Pressure to have sex Teen pregnancy
 Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) Other _____
- Do you feel sexuality issues should be discussed at home?
 Yes No
- Would you be willing to learn about sexuality with your parent/guardian or your teen?
 Yes No
- Are you comfortable talking with your parent/guardian or teen about sexuality issues?
 Yes No

Teens' Perspectives: Music & Sex

We asked a group of our Peer Educators to give examples of positive sexuality found in popular music.

Nas (formerly known as Nasty). He has very powerful and positive lyrics. Like in one of his songs he says that we as people are stuck on making our outside appearance perfect when we are ugly on the inside. And by fixing up our outside body with materialistic things, we are doing nothing but making the next man rich, while we are out here struggling.
Brittani, age 16

Dear Mama by Tupac. He thanks and celebrates his mother for all the hardships she went through as a young mother.

Bryan, age 17
First Time by Corey. What he's telling you is that it's his first time ever falling in love. He thought it was impossible for him to fall in love. But when he saw her, it felt like love at first sight.
T'Aunna, age 17

I'm Glad by Jennifer Lopez. Jennifer shows a lot of positive image because she is saying that she had found the one who is special to her and it tells that she's glad that she had found that special one. She is glad of how her special one makes her feel and she loves him.
Destiny, age 15

I'm Glad by Jennifer Lopez. When people give you a good compliment you feel good about yourself.

Shardai, age 13
One positive thing about love in a song is that we all, as human beings, love the same and love is so very powerful.
Katrina, age 16

Beautiful by Christine Aguilera. Tells you that you are beautiful even if you dress different, look different. The song tells you that you can be anything you want and you are still beautiful.
Angel, age 15

Bump, Bump, Bump by P Diddy and Omari. I think that this song celebrates women who are confident with their bodies and are sexually confident. I see that as being positive because many women are discouraged from being like that in today's society.

“Listening to the radio in the car is a great chance to talk about the music they enjoy.”

“The key to talking with your children about any topic is to be “askable.” Let your children know that they can ask you anything. And if you do not know the answer, you can find it out together...”

Kids, Music & Sex

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teens from music they find inappropriate, because they cannot be with them all the time. One of their friends may have the music, they might listen to it over the Internet, or maybe you allowed them to buy an edited version of the song.

Edited lyrics are deceptive. When kids or teens are together listening to edited music, they often will sing out the original lyric whenever an altered or edited word deemed “offensive” is played. This includes little kids that you may assume do not even know what the words really mean.

Trying to shelter your children from music you find inappropriate is nearly impossible. Better to know what your kids or teens are listening to so you can explore the situations portrayed with them.

Listening to the radio in the car is a great chance to talk about the music they enjoy. If your child is a teenager who also drives the car, maybe a few of their favorite CDs might be easily available as well.



You can ask them if they like the song or if they can explain some of the lyrics. Follow up with such open-ended questions as “Do your friends at school act that way?” or “Do you think that is OK?” or simply “What do you think about that line?” Once they get to talk, feel free to put in your opinions, but avoid talking down to them. Just explain how you feel and why. The “why” helps them understand your point of view.

Songs with lyrics that contain what you feel are bad examples for your child can be a learning experience as well. We learn from good and bad experiences. If kids get only good examples they may not have the tools to stand up for themselves and make good decisions when they are presented with opportunities that are not the best for them.

If you know your child or

teenager’s favorite band or song, you can use the Internet or call your local public library to get song lyrics. Reading song lyrics may be easier than listening, as it is sometimes hard to understand what the singer is really saying.

But, as always, the key to talking with your children about any topic is to be “askable.” Let your children know that they can ask you anything. And if you do not know the answer, you can find it out together using the library, books from home, the Planned Parenthood Resource Center, or the Internet.
—Kelly McBride



Kelly McBride is a sexuality educator and Peer Education Program Manager for Planned Parenthood and is based in Bloomington. She provides sexuality education in the surrounding area. Kelly can be contacted at 812-336-7050 ext. 1600 or kelly.mcbride@ppcsi.org.

Real Life
Real Talk



3209 N. Meridian St.
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317-927-3644

for educational information
1-800-230-PLAN
for medical appointments
www.ppin.org

There's No Place Like Home... for Sexuality Education is a publication for families edited by the staff of the Education and Training Department at Planned Parenthood of Greater Indiana, Inc.

Planned Parenthood strives to ensure that sexuality is understood as an essential lifelong aspect of being human, and that it is celebrated with respect, openness and mutuality.

Parent Resources

SOME GREAT MUSIC

LYRIC WEBSITES:

azlyrics.com
top100lyrics.com
elyrics.net
ohhla.com
lyrics.astraweb.com
80smusiclyrics.com
kissthisguy.com
lycos.com/lyrics

VIDEOS:

Dreamworlds II: Desire, Sex, and Power in Music Video.

Teen Sexuality in a Culture of Confusion.

Tough Guise: Violence, Media and the Crisis in Masculinity.

ARTICLES:

"Music, Sex and Responsibility: Kids' Quill." Moya Bailey. *Youth Today*. October 2003.

"A Prospective Study of Exposure to Rap Music Videos and African American Female Adolescents' Health." Gina M. Wingood. *American Journal of Public Health*. March 2003.

Videos and articles can be found at the Planned Parenthood Resource Center. Contact us at 317-927-3644 ext. 142 or betsy@ppcsi.org.

