

ACTIVITY: *The Continuum of Teen Sexual and Reproductive Coercion*

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Preparation:

- Set up three large poster boards or flip sheet papers
 - Typical Things Partners Do
 - Not OK, But Not Coercion or Violence
 - Sexual/Reproductive Coercion or Violence
- Make two sets of index cards with one of the items from the attached list on each card; also include several blank cards. It may make things simpler if you paperclip each card to its duplicate, since you will need to mix them up and then distribute both copies of each card. Cards can be changed to meet the specific needs of the group, for example the items may be adapted to teen survivors.

1. Have participants work in pairs. Shuffle the cards and divide them up into even groups, and give each pair a stack of cards and the duplicates of those cards as well as a roll of tape (blue painter's tape is easy to remove). Tell the group that each card represents a reaction that a teen might have when his or her partner does not want to have sex and s/he does. Have the participants decide where each card belongs and tape it to the appropriate poster. Suggest that they can use the blank cards for other actions if they think of some things that have been left out.

2. If the members of a pair "agree to disagree" about where a particular item should be posted, or if they believe that an item belongs in more than one category they may use the duplicate cards to post copies of the same item in different locations

3. After all the cards are posted, review each poster. Ask the group for reactions. Make it clear that there are no right or wrong answers, but do encourage discussion of why a particular card was placed on a particular poster and where else it might have been placed.

Doesn't pressure partner to have a baby if she is not ready to do so

Doesn't get partner drunk before sex

Is open to discussing birth control and comes to a mutual agreement on using birth control and condoms

Asks partner how s/he feels about sexual activity and respects the other partner's wishes.

Does something to encourage a more positive atmosphere in hopes of having sex

Asks partner repeatedly to have sex after having been told "no"

Begins sexual touching even if partner has said s/he is not interested

Takes the condom off after having agreed to use one

Whines and begs for sex

Complains that the condom doesn't feel natural and s/he prefers a natural feeling

Says, "If you don't want to have sex with me, you don't really love me and I think we should break up"

Says, "If you don't have my baby someone else will"

Promises a treat if partner will have sex

Promises to pull out and then does not

Begins behaviors that precede violence like slamming walls or throwing things, if partner refuses to have sex

Upon finding birth control, throws it out or pulls it out

Verbally demeans partner, calls her frigid or withholding or selfish if she doesn't want to have sex

Tells partner she will get fat and no one will want to have sex with her if she takes birth control

Threatens to post explicit photos on Facebook in retaliation for partner refusing sex

Threatens to tell everyone partner had an abortion if she refuses to have one

Threatens to hurt partner if s/he does not have sex

Threatens to hurt partner if he finds out she is using birth control

Threatens to be unfaithful

Threatens to break up with her if she does not become pregnant

Actually is unfaithful and blames it on partner

Actually does get a different girl pregnant and blames it on partner

Physically holds partner down and has sex

Physically hurts partner in order to cause a miscarriage

Threatens use of or actually uses a weapon when sex is refused

Threatens use of or actually uses a weapon to force partner to have abortion

Is cruel and creates physical pain during unwanted sex

Has unprotected sex for the purpose of deliberately exposing partner to STI/HIV

Says something to make partner feel guilty for not wanting sex

Encourages partner to drink or use drugs in hopes of lowering resistance to having sex

Acts sexual toward someone else to encourage jealousy

Goes out and gets drunk or high and blames it on partner's refusal to have sex

Tells Partner "I want you to have my baby so we can be together forever"

Threatens to harm or kill a partner if she does not carry the child to term

Tells partner, "All your friends are having babies, you don't want to be the only one without one do you?"

Asks partner once more to consider having sex after having been refused

Acts huffy or withdraws if partner refuses sex

Tells partner he or she is sexually unappealing anyway after he or she says s/he doesn't want to have sex

Cries or acts depressed when partner refuses sex

Changes plans to punish partner: "We wont go to the party tomorrow if you don't want to have sex tonight."

Engages in sexual activitites that offend partner, like internet porn

Threatens to spread hurtful rumors ("I'll tell everyone you had sex with me anyway")

Hits or otherwise physically harms partner when sex is refused