

EXPLORING WOMEN'S SEXUALITY FILM AND LECTURE

Special Needs: DVD Projector and Screen

Target Audiences (single or mixed gender): Grades 11-12, College, General Public

Audience size: Small Group (15-40), Large Group (50-100)

Learning Objectives and Description of Presentation:

The learning objectives of this workshop are the same across each target audience. However, the method to achieve each objective is adapted to audience age and size.

After screening the film and discussing key areas addressed in the film, participants will be able to:

1. Discuss prominent themes related to perceived comforts and discomforts commonly experienced by women related to their sexuality.
2. Explore factors that explain differences in women's perspectives based on historical and cultural differences.
3. Identify shifts in female perspectives of their sexuality due to maturity.
4. Articulate goals for improving both male and female perspectives toward sexuality.

Each presentation begins with a screening of the documentary film, "FIRST" which is approximately 40 minutes long. Following this screening, the floor is open to questions from the participants. While these often begin about the filmmaking process, with the assistance of the facilitator, they move toward a discussion related to perspectives of female sexuality. For a smaller group or one where initial participation is limited by early feelings of embarrassment, index cards are handed out and each person is asked to write 1-2 questions which are collected and used to guide the discussion. If not addressed in either the open or written questions, participants will be asked to consider and discuss each of the key concepts presented in the objectives above.

Eve Waltermaurer, PhD specializes in research related to intimate partner violence and youth risk behaviors. She has had 18 years of teaching to college and high school aged students. Prior to her current position as an Assistant Professor of Sociology, she was a certified health education specialist (CHES) and conducted HIV prevention education in numerous high schools.

TESTIMONIALS

"First" offers young people an opportunity to embrace the stories of ten marvelous, brave women, who speak candidly about their "first" experiences - from kissing to sexual intercourse. These women represent diversity in age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, values, and more. Audiences will sit, transfixed and inspired, by these women's openness and willingness to share. It is a priceless tool for educators, social workers, or anyone involved with youth, as witnessing this movie inspires youth to speak freely, share openly, and listen respectfully to the diverse thoughts, feelings, and experiences of others. Linda Brotman, LMSW

With its candid and diverse stories of women's first sexual experiences, Waltermaurer and Gurland's documentary will surely spark excellent discussions in college women's studies and other sexuality-related courses. Karl Bryant, PhD, Women's/Sexuality Studies

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