



Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review

Unequal Partners (Vol. 1)

Year Published: 2018

Publisher: The Center for Sex Education

Website: <http://www.sexedstore.com/unequalpartners/>

Full or Supplemental: supplemental

Grade Level: Age 10 to High School

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: 30 lessons for ages 10 to HS; Vol. 2 includes 19 lessons for college students

Format and Features: 1 book for ages 10 to HS, 1 book for college-aged students

Evidence-based/informed: Not available

National Standards Alignment: No

Consistent with Healthy Youth Act? Yes

Consistent with AIDS Omnibus Act? N/A

Bias Free Materials: Yes

Primary Topical Areas (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abortion | <input type="checkbox"/> Identity/Orientation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abstinence | <input type="checkbox"/> Online Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy & Reproduction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anatomy and Physiology | <input type="checkbox"/> Puberty/Adolescent Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Decision-making | <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal Skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Condom Use | <input type="checkbox"/> STD Prevention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contraception | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Healthy relationships | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIV Prevention | |

Reviewer Comments:

Reviewer 111: Grades 6-8, 9-12

I love how this curriculum is broken down into independent parts that can easily be picked and pruned to supplement already established curriculum. I teach a unit on unhealthy relationships and there is a lot of information in this book that I would add to what I am already doing. I strongly recommend purchasing a copy and making it a part of your permanent collection of resources to draw from!

Reviewer 103: Grades 6-8, 9-12

This curriculum is a great supplement to any sexual health curriculum. Activities are targeted to middle school or high school and clearly outlined. The theme of the book is HERR (Honest, Equal, Responsible and Respect) in relationships. This is a great framework to discuss challenging topics. There are many student scenarios to use and most of them are gender neutral names and representative of different types of relationships. The language is strengths based, teaching students how to be empowered in relationships. There is also information regarding the role trauma has in interpersonal relationships.

Reviewer 116: Grades 6-8, 9-12

Unequal Partners has quite a few lessons related to healthy and unhealthy relationships and includes content on consent, friendships, and goal setting. Teachers may see quickly that lessons are intentionally non-sequential, aimed at specific age groups, and therefore could be used to complement other curricula. Learning objectives are clearly laid out as are the assessments. There are solid tips for teachers who are facilitating the lessons. There are perhaps just a few pieces of the curriculum that may come across as outdated for some students (song references, graphic images, chosen fonts, and some descriptive language used in lesson scenarios). Some of the pair share activities within the lessons might require a higher maturity level from the students to be successful and a teacher who is comfortable leading role-play. There are only a few minor references to gender as binary (either/or) and heteronormative language. Most of the curriculum is very inclusive considering gender and sexual orientation. I have a reservation about one activity that instructs youth to open another's fist, as a metaphor for consent, with possible force used in the classroom. I feel this activity would have unintended consequences and is not trauma-informed work. Considering the available time most teachers have for their sexual health units, I think it would be challenging to include some of the lessons such as 'stories about adult-teen relationships.' Still, a teacher might really appreciate the breadth of lessons within this curriculum if wanting to pick and choose those that match the learning goals for their students. Another strength is that many lessons have some skill-based part of the assessment design.

Reviewer 117: Grades 6-8, 9-12

Well-constructed lesson plans on healthy relationships with many roleplay scenarios to enhance individual communication skills. Inclusive of LGBTQ+.

Reviewer 106

A wonderful resource that uses engaging methodologies to help students discover the meaning, nuances, and barriers to consent. This resource addresses issues of consent that I have never seen effectively addressed in other material. This material is aimed at a skill set that is hard to teach and its presentation is a guiding of students so that they are engaged throughout the process.

Accuracy Analysis Reviewer 101

This is a great resource for consent, healthy relationships, and looking at power dynamics in relationships. It's not useful as a way to teach about HIV or STIs and would need additional information to be used as such. It could be good in an HIV/STI lesson to add supplemental information about how to deal with dynamics of relationships, but this is NOT a scientific or medical teaching book/curricula.

Accuracy Analysis Reviewer 121

This is an excellent resource! I hope that it is used throughout middle and high school and that teachers are mentored and coached to support this curriculum's adoption. It is a positive trauma informed approach. No corrections are necessary.