

Sample vignette and related discussion probes used to examine female adolescents' perspectives regarding primary STD prevention strategies

My boyfriend and I have been going together for two years. We started hooking up about a year ago. The other day, after school, he picked me up, and we went back to his crib to watch videos. We started messing around on the couch, and I knew we were going to do it. He didn't have a condom, and he didn't ask if I had one. He said I didn't need to worry since we had been together so long, and I think it feels better without one anyway. I love my boyfriend a lot and didn't want to make him feel like I was dirty or didn't trust him. I feel weird about not using protection (a condom). Should I?

Discussion probes

- Should she have asked her boyfriend to use a condom? Why?
- Do girls your age ask boys to use condoms? Why or why not?
- Who usually brings up the subject of condoms: the boy or girl?
- Would a boy mind if a girl asked him to use a condom?
- Whose responsibility is it to have condoms?
- Is it okay to not use a condom every time? If so, when?
- When in a relationship might condom use get discussed?

Sample vignette and related discussion probes used to examine male adolescents' perspectives regarding primary STD prevention strategies

I was driving home after school one day when I saw Crystal, one of the finest girls at school. I don't know Crystal all that well, but she has tried to holler at me in the past. We hung out a few times, but she has a reputation. It was raining, so I pulled up and asked if she wanted a ride home. She said yes. On the way, I had to run to my crib. It was early, so she didn't mind. When we got there, she came inside, and we started watching TV. It was only a few minutes before we started kissing and things got a bit heated. Although I wasn't trying to be her man, it felt good, so I kept going. Should I have?

Discussion probes

- What do you think he should have done in this situation?
- Would it be different if Crystal were his girl?
- Do you think that Crystal is safe to mess around with? Why or why not?
- How do boys decide if a girl is safe to go out with or to date? Safe to have sex with?
- What types of things might a girl do that puts her at risk of having an STD or HIV?
- How would a boy know if a girl does things that put her at risk of having an STD or HIV?
- Do girls usually ask boys about their past sexual behaviors?
- What if he already has a girlfriend? Is it okay if he's messing with Crystal this one time?
- Does having more than one partner at a time increase your risk of getting an STD? How?
- Under what circumstances might a boy be messing with more than one girl at time?
- Under what circumstances might a girl be messing with more than one boy at time?