







A young girl comes in to report a rape. Merilyn and Edward have very different ideas about what rape means.

Activity 1. READING



5-10 mins pairs

Read this section with a partner. Boys and girls can read either part.

MERILYN

Rape is being forced to have sex. Can you imagine what that means? It happens to children, and men too. But you men seem to think it's a joke.

EDWARD

Women rape men?

MERILYN

Men rape men, idiot.

EDWARD

Who would want to do that?

MERILYN

It happens... all sorts of horrible stuff happens. And we are supposed to protect people.

EDWARD

Yeah, but this girl's complaining about her boyfriend.

MERILYN

Husbands can rape their wives! Can't you men understand? Rape means that someone is forced to have sex when he or she doesn't want to.

Who is right? Go on to Activity 2 to find out what people think!

Activity 2. AGREE/DISAGREE/DON'T KNOW



10-15 mins full group

See page 20 for how to run this activity.

Who is right, Edward or Merilyn? Use these statements to see how people feel.

BOYFRIENDS CAN RAPE THEIR GIRLFRIENDS

HUSBANDS CAN RAPE THEIR WIVES

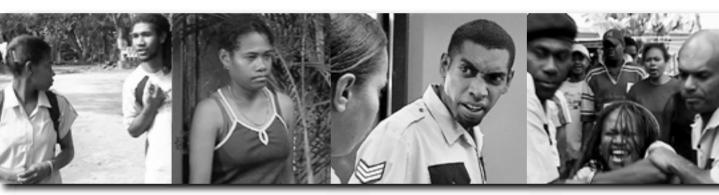
IF A WOMAN GETS RAPED, IT'S HER FAULT

WOMEN OFTEN MAKE FALSE REPORTS ABOUT RAPE

IF A GIRL/WOMAN IS RAPED IT CAN AFFECT HER FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE

MOST WOMEN DON'T REPORT RAPE

Do boys and girls think the same or differently?



Activity 3. FINDING OUT



WHAT ARE THE LAWS ABOUT RAPE IN YOUR COUNTRY?

homework pairs

Find out from your local police or women's centre. With a partner, write down a series of questions you want to ask the police, hospital, legal centre or women's centre about rape.

Here are a few things you might ask:

How many women/girls reported rapes in the last month?

How many of these were under-age girls?

How many were married women?

Do men ever report that they have been raped?

How many cases go to court?

What length of sentence do rapists get?

Go and make a visit after school. You can write a short report of what you find out and then read it out to the class.

Activity 4. WHY DO THEY DO IT?



10-15 mins full group

WHY DO MEN TOUCH WOMEN WHEN THEY DON'T WANT TO BE TOUCHED?

Robert touches Rita's leg in the police car. She shouts at him, but he continues. When they come back to the police station she tells them what he has done.

- Ask the whole group whether Robert has the right to do this or not.
- Write each phrase on a paper and place them in different places in the room (or write them on the blackboard).

To show they have power over them

They're too shy to talk to girls

They can't control their desires

They think girls like it

They hate women

They think they can do what they want to women

As a joke

Because of their clothes

Some other reason

- Ask people to walk round and look at the papers or silently read the ideas. Write the ideas on the blackboard if you have no place to put papers.
- They have to choose the idea they think is true and either stand next to it or write it down.
- Ask all the people with the same belief to sit together.
- Look at the groups. Do girls and boys believe the same things?
- Let the groups explain why they believe as they do and ask the other group questions.

When everyone has finished talking, ask the boys in the group to give the girls some ideas of what to say or do if boys touch them when they don't want to be touched.





Activity 5. WRITING



30 mins individually

Write a poem or a story about a girl who is touched when she doesn't want to be touched and how she feels about it.

Give the poem a strong title.

Activity 6. DOES IT HELP TO UNDERSTAND?



20 mins 1 or 2

Amanda and Pauline are talking about the boys who asked Amanda if she wanted to have sex.

Read the passage overleaf silently to yourself or with a partner.

AMANDA

Why do they say those things?

PAULINE

They want to make you feel bad!

AMANDA

They said they wanted to... have sex.

PAULINE

Yeah... that's what they want. Boys can't keep their hands to themselves!

continues overleaf



AMANDA

If they touch you... does that mean...

PAULINE

Mean what?

AMANDA

If they touch you when you're... does that mean..

PAULINE

What are you talking about, Amanda?

Answer the questions below with a partner:

- 1. What do you think Amanda understands about sex?
- 2. What should she know about sex at her age and why?
- 3. If you were a parent what would you tell your children about sex? When the pairs have finished their discussion, ask one pair to give the answer to the whole group and discuss.