

# Liberating **CONSENT** Through Intersectional Perspectives

Theo Isoz – they | them | theirs

Goddess Tyescha - they | them | theirs

## 2024WARD: Building Brighter Futures for Today's Youth Leaders

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# CoSHI

Colorado Sexual Health Initiative



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# Objectives

Participants will be able to...

- Facilitate nuanced conversations about consent to both prevent harm and promote positive sexual development.
- Describe 2-3 ways some current consent models and lessons cause inadvertent harm.
- Create their own human sexual rights model for teaching consent.



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# Conversation Norms & Setting the Space

- Expect & accept non-closure
- Resist perfection & “getting it right”
- Try on some challenging conversations and new ways of thinking
- Thoughtful boundaries on our conversations
- Practice self-care, self-soothing, and self-awareness



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# Get To Know Each Other



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# What do we mean by “consent?”



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# Difficulties With Our Consent Conversations



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- We make the concept of “consent” do a lot of work
- We hold youth to standards that we don’t keep as adults
- Consent does not guarantee good sex
- We don’t know how to deal with our own experiences and mistakes

# What About Boundaries?

- Where do we have really clear boundaries?
  - Some types of abuse
  - Consciousness
- Where do we need clearer boundaries?



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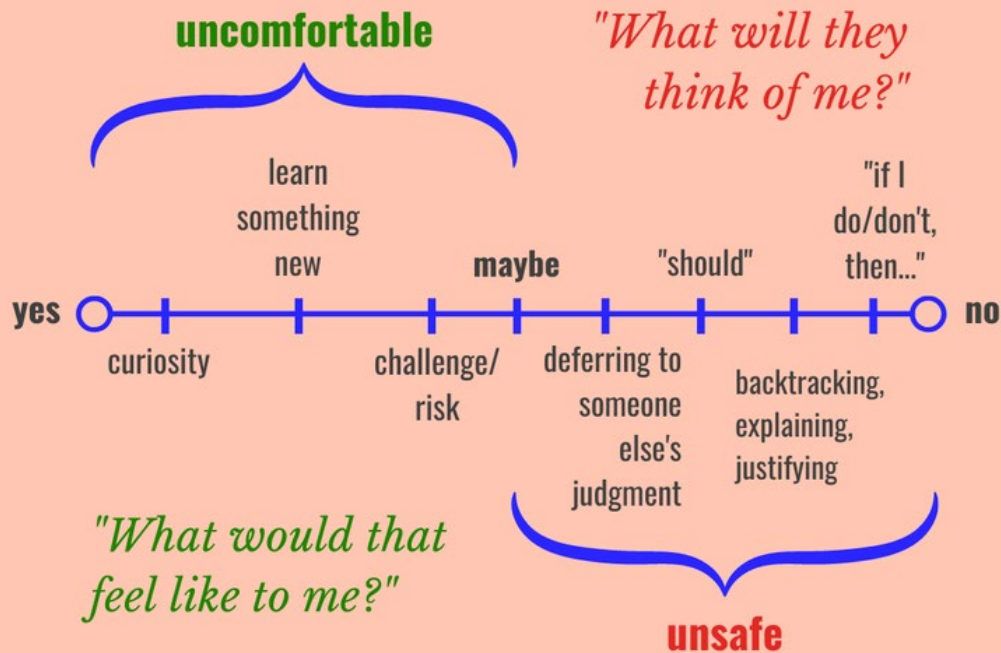


# What About The Messy Middle?



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# YES-TO-NO SPECTRUM



Share the load.

# What About Getting it Right?

**“Talking about our experiences with consent, our struggles, our mistakes and how we’ve learned, these are a part of a much larger revolutionary struggle.” - Cindy Crabb**

- White supremacy culture wants us tied up in perfectionism
- AND working toward a new culture and way of being with one another with regards to consent is a collective good

# Consent and Harm

**“The first step to healing is stopping the harm.” - Susan Raffo**

## Questions to Discuss

- What have we learned from social justice and abolitionist spaces about stopping and repairing harm? What does that mean for consent and sexual harm?
- What do we ask of the person who has caused harm?

# Consent and Power

**“There are many kinds of power, used and unused, acknowledged or otherwise.” - Audre Lorde**

**“How do we know when we have the power? How do we figure out how to shift power dynamics and what do we do when we use our power in fucked up ways?” - Cindy Crabb**

## Questions to Discuss

- Who has power and how much? How do we know that?
- What does effective and “good” stewardship of power mean?

# Consent and Safety, Desire, and The Erotic



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**“The erotic is ‘reaching across the distance and meeting with intense vulnerability someone who we will never fully know.’” - Clementine Morrigan**

## Questions to Discuss

- How do we know what we want?  
How does trauma and socialization impact that?
- What is sexy?

# Consent and Youth



## How do we teach this to youth?

- FRIES
- Tea
- Pizza
- Complicating Consent Activity



Follow QR code for some consent lesson resources or go to [bit.ly/CoSHIconsent](https://bit.ly/CoSHIconsent)



# Consent and Youth

## What about a framework of Youth Rights and Bodily Autonomy?

- What should be included in a Youth Sexual Health Bill of Rights?



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# Resources We Referenced

- [Consent Wizardry](#)
- [Learning Good Consent](#) zine by Cindy Crabb
- [Spark Fire](#) zine by Suzi Grishpul
- [Liberated to the Bone](#) by Susan Raffo
- [Emergent Strategy & Pleasure Activism](#) by adrienne maree brown
- [Screw Consent: A better politics of sexual justice](#) by JJ Fischel
- [Intimacy Directors and Coordinators](#)
- [Uses of the Erotic](#) by Audre Lorde