



Building a Culture of Consent

PART 1: INTRODUCTION TO CONSENT



ROADMAP

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The components of consent and special considerations

02

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT

Consent in our daily lives and the intersection of consent and identity

03

BOUNDARIES

What are boundaries and how do we frame them?

04

MODELS FOR CONSENT

Goal-Oriented Model (Baseball Model) vs Pleasure-Centered Model (Pizza Model)

05

CONSENT LANGUAGE

The best language practices when having a conversation about consent

OUR TEAM



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She/Her/Hers

SHARE: Ed Team Student Staff



01

What is consent?

Stanford Policy

“Affirmative consent: affirmative, conscious, and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity. It is the responsibility of each person involved in the sexual activity to ensure that the person has the Affirmative Consent of the other or others to engage in the sexual activity. Lack of protest or resistance does not mean Affirmative Consent, nor does silence mean Affirmative Consent.”

Stanford Administrative Guide 1.7.1.2b

What consent is...

- ❖ Affirmative
- ❖ Verbally given, with non-verbal cues
- ❖ Informed and understood by all parties
- ❖ Freely and enthusiastically given
- ❖ Based on conditions
- ❖ Ongoing throughout the interaction



What consent is *not*...

- ❖ Not coerced
- ❖ Not silent
- ❖ Not assumed as a given just because of a past or existing relationship
- ❖ Not a box to check
- ❖ Not transferable between acts
- ❖ Not permanent or a blanket agreement
- ❖ Cannot be legitimately given if one or more of the parties is incapacitated



The background is a watercolor-style illustration. It features broad, horizontal washes of light green and teal, with darker green and blue accents. Scattered throughout are numerous small, semi-transparent dots in shades of blue, green, and purple. The overall effect is soft and artistic.

**consent is not
“one size fits all”**

Consent depends on:

- ❖ The people involved
- ❖ Their respective experiences
- ❖ The context they live in
- ❖ The nature of their relationship
- ❖ The situation as a whole



02

**Why is it
important?**

Pleasure is Personal

We all do different things for pleasure that don't involve sex

Friendships

Taking time for yourself

Being with family

Consent can apply to a lot of these situations, activities, and interactions



The intersection of consent and identity

Consent is often ignored with minoritized community members in everyday situations based on how people react to their identities

We have to challenge ourselves to act against societal norms and oppression not only on the social or political landscape, but also in our close and intimate relationships





Remember:

Building a Culture of Consent means prioritizing consent both on a personal level and a community level



03

Boundaries

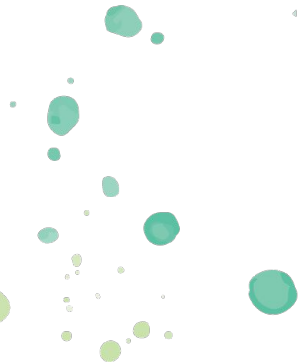
What are boundaries?

- ❖ Boundaries are limits and rules that are set to define the bounds of personal and community interactions.
- ❖ Boundaries can change across time & space and can differ across individuals, cultures, and communities.
- ❖ When boundaries are defined, we are living in the space of choice, instead of obligation.





Be mindful of:

- ❖ Power dynamics
 - ❖ Verbals and nonverbals
 - ❖ Intent vs impact
- 



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- ❖ Power dynamics
- ❖ Verbals and nonverbals
- ❖ Intent vs impact

Boundary type examples:

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| ❖ Material | ❖ Emotional |
| ❖ Physical | ❖ Sexual |
| ❖ Mental | ❖ Spiritual |
- 




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If we are more honest about what our needs and wants are, we encourage others to honor them and in turn, honestly express their own.



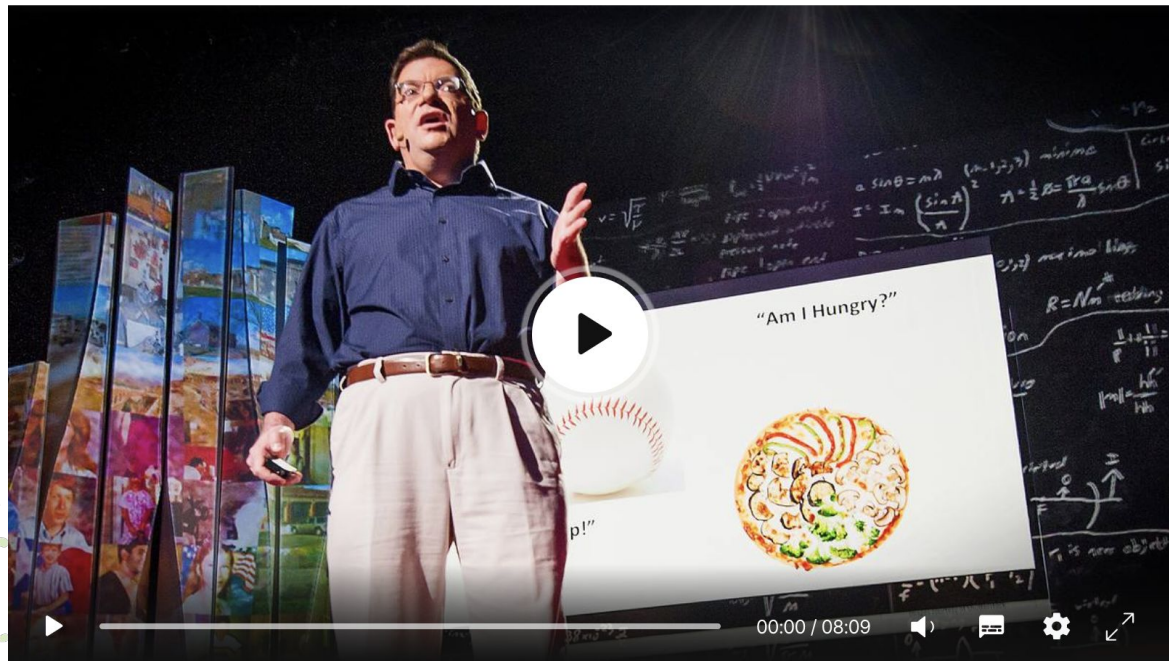


04

**Models for
Consent**

“Sex Needs a New Metaphor”

TED Ideas worth spreading





The Baseball Model or the Goal-Oriented Model



Think about some baseball terms that are commonly used in sex and relationships

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- ❖ The Bases
- ❖ Scoring
- ❖ Batting for the other team
- ❖ Batting for both teams
- ❖ Pitcher or a Catcher



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These euphemisms are flawed and they make interactions between people **goal-oriented**

The problem is...

- ❖ The goal is to win; run the bases as fast as you can and score as many runs as you can
- ❖ The rules are predetermined
- ❖ In baseball your desires and needs don't really matter; when you agree to play, you agree to everything happening in the game.

Implications

You and your partner are on opposing sides

Implications

Agreement to participate means agreement to any and all terms

Implications

There doesn't need to be a lot of discussion because there is already a predetermined structure for the interaction

Implications

The goal isn't personal pleasure or partner satisfaction; it's about finishing the game according to the rules that were laid out



The Pizza Model or the Pleasure-Centered Model



**Think about what you do when you decide to
order pizza with someone**



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order pizza with someone**

You Talk!

- ❖ Are you hungry?
- ❖ Preferred toppings
- ❖ Allergies
- ❖ Dislikes
- ❖ How many pizzas
- ❖ New flavors?

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Notably:
You have to figure out all of this *before* you order the pizza



The goal is mutual satisfaction!



Implications

Consent is not universal and just because you consent to one thing you like doesn't mean you're consenting to everything

Implications

Consent requires discussion and agreement

Implications

Consent can be revoked

Implications

Your own personal pleasure and the pleasure of your partner are the most important factors to consider.



05

Consent Language

Ask questions:

- I like this, what do you think?
- I've never tried this, but can I try it with you?
- I don't like this, but I'd be open to x, what about you?
- Would you feel comfortable doing x, y, or z?

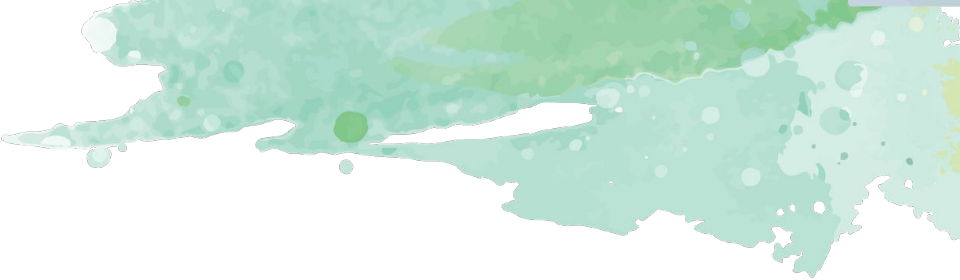


Language Structure

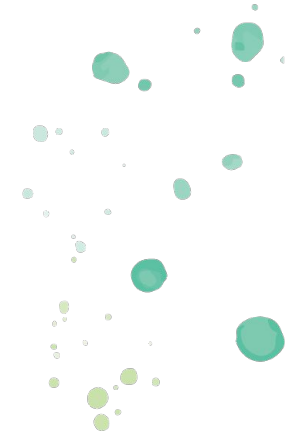
- ❖ Yes
- ❖ Yes, and
- ❖ Yes, but



- ❖ No
- ❖ No, and
- ❖ No, but



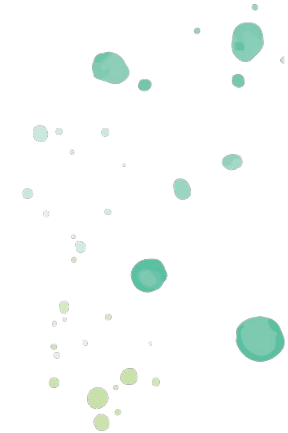
Saying no and hearing no can be
difficult





Saying no and hearing no can be
difficult

BUT



The more comfortable you are with saying
no, the more comfortable you are with
hearing no and vice versa.

THANKS FOR LISTENING AND LEARNING

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Remember that the Confidential Support Team (CST) is available to help you navigate resources no matter where you are or what your living situation is.

Find CST at vaden.stanford.edu/cst