

CONSENT

What is consent?

When you agree to something freely and voluntarily, because you want to.

What is NOT consent?

- Silence
- Being threatened or tricked into something
- Being too drunk to make informed choices
- A person under 16 cannot legally consent to have sex
- A person with an intellectual disability cannot legally consent to have sex

Withdrawing consent

Withdrawing consent is when you agree to do something and then change your mind.

This is OK! You can withdraw consent at any time.

You can...

- Say 'yes'
- Say 'no'
- Say 'yes', then change your mind and say 'no'
- Take time to think and make a decision
- Make whatever choice is right for you!!

Different ways that people say 'NO'

All of these things mean NO:

- I have a boyfriend
- I have my period
- I have a headache
- I'm not in the mood
- I'm feeling sick
- How about a movie instead?
- I'm not ready
- It's getting late
- I want my first time to be special
- I have to go now
- Rub my back instead
- I'm scared
- This isn't what I had in mind
- If you loved me you wouldn't ask
- Let me think about it
- I'm waiting for the right person
- It's against my religion
- My parents would kill me
- I just want to be friends
- I said NO and I MEANT IT
- I don't feel comfortable
- My parents are up
- I don't know you very well
- I just want to HOLD you
- I DON'T WANT TO
- Go away
- Maybe later
- My favourite show is on now
- It's against my values
- I'm too tired
- This isn't the right time
- Not tonight
- My friends will be here any minute
- I don't want our relationship to be just about sex
- Let's wait
- STOP NOW!

