

The safer sex debate

People use all kind of pretexts against condom use. The aim of this exercise is to bring those pretexts to the surface and find valid counter arguments.

Objective: Discussing condom use, pros and cons.

Duration: 30 to 45 minutes

No. of participants: Minimum 6, maximum 20

Material needed: Two different viewpoints

Exercise outline:

- Split the group in two, one group pro condom use, one group opposing condom use
- Each group is handed the participants' worksheet, see: "Short stories PRO"
- The groups prepare their assignment for 10 minutes
- The groups then come together and sit face to face.
- The group opposing condoms gives their first reason for not using them. The 'pro' group is then given the opportunity to respond to that. The reasons for and against condoms are then exchanged, one by one, as many as possible.

Write down the arguments for condom use one by one and keep in mind that your partner will probably not agree with you.

Short stories PRO

"You have been watching this attractive person for a couple of weeks. Now you both have met and have fallen in love. After an exciting night out, you find you have both ended up in bed together, willing to make love. You want to use a condom but are not sure how to raise the subject. The last thing you want to say is that you are HIV positive. Convince your partner to use the condom".

"You are having your period. It's the first day and it is a heavy flow. It is your last night on holiday, and your last chance for romance with the sexy man you have met in the bar at the harbour but he's told you he has a history of drug use and a regular partner with high risk



behavior. It's 01.30 in the morning and you have only one hour before he has to return home to his fiancé. There are no condoms available. What do you do?"

"After months of heavy quarrels about money and drug use with your partner, the situation has become unbearable and you leave the house. You are lucky to find a place to sleep at one of your friends' houses. After being his guest for a week, your friend wants to see some 'rent'. He wants you to have sex with him. When you are in bed with him it appears that he does not want to use a condom".



This document as well as the harmreduction.eu website, was created within the joint action '677085 / HA-REACT,' which has received funding from the European Union's Health Programme (2014-2020).

