

TEACHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY: PLAYDOUGH ART

Give two students a small bag of play dough as they enter the room. Ask them to sit at some desks or a table at the front of the room facing the rest of the class. Assign them to "sculpt" something--it can be anything--and take just a few minutes to do it.

After they are finished, let the class take a good look at their art work and have the students pass their work around the class to observe the pieces carefully. Tell the other class members that they are free to make changes in the sculpted works if they feel strongly that the piece needs some redesigning.

Let the art work make its way around the class or at least part of it, then bring the sculpted pieces back to the front of the room. Ask the class to observe any changes that have been made in the art works.

Ask the original artists these questions:

- How did you feel when I gave the class permission to change your art work?
- How did you feel as changes were made?
- How do you feel about your art work now?
- Do you still have the same pride in your work now?
- Do you still want the artwork? Why?
- Can you fix it back the way it was?

Major concept: We don't appreciate other people making changes in our lives (as was represented by the artwork) without our permission. If too many changes occur, we might find our life (or our artwork) entirely different than we had anticipated it to become. It may bring feelings of anger, hostility and bitterness.

This activity illustrates the idea that sometimes by our actions or by others, the choices we make lead us into consequences that we have no control over. In this section we will address such topics as they relate to our decisions concerning sexual choices and their consequences.

Deciding to be sexually active opens up a huge variety of consequences and most of them require sacrifice. The 60s idea of "free love" doesn't exist anymore. It is not free and not without the possibility of serious consequences.