

Minnesota Sexuality Education Resource Review Panel

Summary of Panel Review

Review Date – June 2008

The Choices We Make (2007)

Format: DVD & Lesson Plan (16 Minutes)
Target Audience: Stated audience: No Audience Stated
Recommended by panel: 10th - 12th Grade
Cost: \$89.00
Distributor: Scenarios USA
80 Hanson Place, Suite 305, Brooklyn, NY 11217 • 718-230-5125 • www.scenariosusa.org

The Minnesota Sexuality Education Resource Review Panel **Recommends** use of this DVD for the following reasons and with the following reservations:

Review Summary:

The Choices We Make is a video written by a 17 year old, it follows two young lovers struggles to make the right decision about becoming parents. Scenarios USA, the distributor of *The Choices We Make* states that the video addresses relationships, fatherhood and unintended pregnancy. The video can be viewed online and lesson plan can be downloaded for free online.

The panel **recommends** *The Choices We Make* for the following reasons:

- The situation portrayed in the video felt realistic from a youth perspective.
- Parents have an active role and seem to be involved.

The panel has concerns about the following elements of *The Choices We Make*:

- Video includes a graphic sex scene, which may be inappropriate for school classrooms and some student groups.
- Story is more entertainment than educational lesson, but the video would be a great conversation starter for a discussion on pregnancy options and the lesson plan provides good teaching strategies and activities.

Overall, the panel **recommends** *The Choices We Make* for use as a sexuality education resource.

Assessment Criteria	Mean Score (1-5)	Additional Information
Information is medically accurate and presented using the correct terminology	2.3	
Focuses on clear health goals: prevention of STI, HIV and/or pregnancy	2.9	<u>This resource focused on:</u> Pregnancy & Relationships
Does the material guide participant or learner to acquire new skills?	2.0	<u>The panel acknowledges that this resource guides the participant/learner to acquire the following skills:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Problem solving/Conflict resolution• Decision making

Does this resource address multiple factors affecting sexual behaviors	2.0	<p><u>According to the panel, this resource addresses the following factor(s) that affect sexual behavior(s):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge, including knowledge of sexual issues, HIV, other STI and pregnancy (including methods of prevention) • Personal values about sex and abstinence • Attitude towards condoms (including perceived barriers to their use) • Perception of peer norms about sex and perception of peer sexual behavior • Communication with parents or other adults about sex, condoms or contraception • Intention to use a condom
Create a safe social environment for youth to participate	1.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good activities are provided in lesson plan, but video may make students uncomfortable • Lesson plan offers good opportunities for discussion
Employs instructionally sound teaching methods and activities that engage learners	3.0	<p><u>The panel recognizes that the following elements are present in this resource as a way to engage learners:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class discussions • Small group work • Student centered activities • Forced-choice activities • Problems-solving activities
Target audience	10 – 12 grades College +	<p><u>The panel feels that the following people group and/or demographic area were considered in this resource:</u></p> <p>Race/Ethnicity: African American, Latino/Hispanic Urban Suburban</p>
Cultural & developmentally appropriate	3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If shown to young people 16 years and over
Organization of resource	3.1	<p><u>The panel finds that the resource:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is well organized with clear, thorough instructions or discussion guide • Minimal assembly or preparation time required
Facilitation Skills Required How knowledgeable and skilled must the facilitator be to use this resource effectively?		Requires leader with strong content knowledge and group skills
Presentation Quality How appealing is the resource, e.g, up-to-date graphics, appealing to look at, easy to read, etc.	4.2	Video up-to-date & well made, professional looking
Overall Recommendation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommend Highly - 0 ▪ Recommend - 7 ▪ Recommend with Reservations - 5 ▪ Reject - 4

Review Summary of *The Choices We Make* (2007)