

## Minnesota Sexuality Education Resource Review Panel

Summary of Panel Review

Review Date: March 2007

### ***Private Lives: HIV/STI Education (2003)***

Format: DVD/CD (30-45 minutes)

Target Audience:        Stated audience: *ages 12 to 22*

Recommended by panel: grades 9 – 12 and potential college freshman

Cost: \$99.00

Distributor: Northwest Media, Inc.

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

### **Review Summary**

***Private Lives: HIV/STI Education*** is a surprisingly truthful and humorous animated story that follows six newly trained STI/HIV peer educators in their private lives and as they prepare for an upcoming health fair. As the story progresses they learn that no matter how much they think they know, they may not know enough. They come to understand that everyone, no exceptions, is susceptible to contracting a STI or HIV and that education, without exception, is the first tool in the line of defense.

The panel recommends ***Private Lives: HIV/STI Education*** for the following reasons:

- It illustrates various safe, healthy and respectful communication scenarios between partners, peers and peer educators and other youth.
- The focus and message were consistent through out: abstain from sex, but for those choosing to be sexually active - use protection every time and that testing is important.
- It includes diverse characters, for example one central character is a teen in wheel chair and other characters from adopted families.

The panel expressed the following concerns about ***Private Lives: HIV/STI Education***:

- The study guide includes discussion questions but no activities to engage students.
- The DVD lacks GLBT representation.
- The DVD needs a clearer definition of abstinence; DVD alludes to it, but does not define it.

The distributor states that the intended audience ranges from ages 12-22. The panel recommends, however, that a more appropriate audience is grades 9 – 12 and potential college freshman.

Overall, the panel **highly recommends** ***Private Lives: HIV/STI Education***. Panel members conclude that ***Private Lives: HIV/STI Education*** is engaging, fun and full of good content.

*Private Lives HIV/STI Education (2007)*

Assessment Criteria	Mean Score	Comments
<b>Accuracy of Information</b> - Provides basic, accurate information about teen sexual health, e.g., risks of teen sexual activity, ways to avoid intercourse or use methods of protection against pregnancy and STDs, human growth and development, relationships, etc.	4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ STI/HIV information very accurate; hit on myths/risks.</li> <li>▪ More birth control options could have been discussed.</li> </ul>
<b>Focus</b> - Focuses on ways to promote sexual health e.g., reducing one or more sexual behaviors that lead to unintended pregnancy or HIV/STD infection; understanding healthy physical/emotional development; developing healthy relationships, etc.	4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Nice example of a healthy relationship where folks talk about sex.</li> <li>▪ Good communication, consistent healthy messages.</li> </ul>
<b>Messages</b> - Delivers and consistently reinforces a clear message, e.g., states message multiple times in multiple ways.	4.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Message that everyone choosing sex should use protection was clear. Message about STI's good and accurate.</li> </ul>
<b>Addresses Social Pressures</b> – <b>Video</b> demonstrates social pressures that influence sexual behavior. <b>Guide</b> includes activities that address social pressures that influence sexual behavior.	2.2 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Really the weakness of the video. Could be clearer.</li> <li>▪ Guide includes no activities besides discussion questions.</li> </ul>
<b>Communication Skills</b> – <b>Video</b> provides examples of being assertive, using negotiation and refusal skills, making decisions, etc. <b>Guide</b> includes activities to practice assertive skills, negotiation and refusal skills, decision-making skills, etc.	4.2 2.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lots of modeling of communication skills in video.</li> <li>▪ Showed characters being honest and open about STI infections, getting tested etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching Methods - Engages participants and helps them personalize information</b>	4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Showed characters in multiple challenging situations.</li> <li>▪ Teacher needs to be prepared for upfront content &amp; reactions of viewers.</li> </ul>
<b>Appropriateness for Audience</b> - Incorporates behavioral goals, teaching methods, and materials that are appropriate to the age, sexual experience, and culture of the students (as stated by publisher.)	3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Age range too broad. Would mainly use with high school age.</li> </ul>
<b>Multicultural Perspective</b> – This resource is most appropriate for the following audiences.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Characters from varied backgrounds, ethnic, racial and economic. People with disabilities shown realistically and respectfully, but missing representation of GLBT youth.</li> <li>▪ Use of the word “partner” is good (as opposed to girlfriend/boyfriend)</li> </ul>
<b>Teacher-Friendly</b> - Is well organized with clear, thorough instructions or discussion guide. Minimal assembly or preparation time required.	4.1	
<b>Facilitation Skills Required</b> - How knowledgeable and skilled must the facilitator be to use this resource effectively?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It would be good to have a strong facilitator - to get most out of video.</li> <li>▪ Lots of information included and facilitator needs background in it.</li> </ul>
<b>Presentation Quality</b> – How appealing is the product (e.g. visual quality, sound quality, graphics, etc.)?	4.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Easy to watch</li> </ul>
<b>Overall Recommendation</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Recommend Highly - 14</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Recommend – 5</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Reject – 0</b></li> </ul>