teaching sexual health.ca

Grade 7

Learning Activity

Gender Stereotype Scenarios

Learning Outcome

W-7.12 Identify the effects of social influences on sexuality and gender roles and equity; e.g., media, culture.

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Mike

Read the scenario. Consider the questions below.

Mike is about to ask Lennon out for the first time. He plans to suggest they go out for pizza and then go to a movie. Mike is unsure if he should offer to pay Lennon's way on their date or just assume they'll split the costs between them.

What does paying on a date have to do with gender? Where do those ideas come from?

What do you think Mike should do?

How do you think people will react to this situation 20 years from now?

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Tshepo

Read the scenario. Consider the questions below.

Tshepo is babysitting a little boy named Ramone, age 6. Ramone's favourite toy is a Barbie doll he got from a cousin. Tshepo isn't sure if Ramone should be playing with a doll.

Why do you think Tshepo is unsure about letting Ramone play with a doll?

What beliefs do people have about dolls?

What do you think Tshepo should do?

How do you think people will react to this situation 20 years from now?

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Jordan

Read the scenario. Consider the questions below.

Jordan is in grade 8 and recently went through a breakup. They really liked the person they were dating and feel heartbroken. Jordan wants to talk to their friends about it, but are worried their friends will make fun of them or tell them to 'toughen up'.

Why might Jordan be afraid to talk about their feelings?

What beliefs do people have about expressing emotions? Do these beliefs differ depending on a person's gender?

What do you think Jordan should do?

How do you think people will react to this situation 20 years from now?

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Sam

Read the scenario. Consider the questions below.

Sam has been hanging out a lot with Morgan. They've gone on a couple of casual dates and always have fun together. Some of Sam's friends are pressuring them to make a first move and kiss Morgan, saying that's what you're 'supposed to do' after a few dates. Sam isn't sure if Morgan wants to be kissed and doesn't want to make things awkward by asking.

Where do ideas come from about when and how kissing 'should' happen in dating?

What gender stereotypes might be affecting how Sam and their friends are thinking about this situation?

What do you think Sam should do?

How do you think people will react to this situation 20 years from now?

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Alex

Read the scenario. Consider the questions below.

Your best friend, Alex, wants to get married and start having kids as soon as they graduate from high school.

What beliefs do people have about the right age to get married and have kids?

How would you react to this situation now?

How do you think people will react 20 years from now?

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Riley

Read the scenario. Consider the questions below.

Riley has a big crush on Casey and wants to impress them. Riley thinks they need to dress a certain way, flirt a lot and act more confident than they really feel because that's what they see in movies and on social media, but Riley doesn't feel comfortable being bold or flirty.

Where do people learn how they are 'supposed' to act when they have a crush or want to date someone?

What gender stereotypes might be influencing how Riley thinks they should act?

What do you think Riley should do?

How do you think people will react to this situation 20 years from now?

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