

Bedfellows is a group of people making tools together to re-educate each other about sex. The tools include a discursive forum to get political about sex called SEX TALK MTG; a queer porn screening with discussion, dinner and dancing called Porn as Pedagogy; a series of workshops for practicing consent and an open-access research centre called Clubhouse.

- [Check out our research at wearbedfellows.org](#)
- [Tweet us @WeAreBedfellows](#)
- [Instagram us @BedfellowsResearch](#)
- [Email us bedfellowsresearch@gmail.com](#)

C O N T E X T

We're human. We're sexual and sexualised. We hurt, we love, we want, we fear, we burn, we fight, we cry, we wonder, we imagine. The sex education we receive every day from people in our families, on our TVs, in our House of Commons etc. etc. is pretty sexist, racist, heteronormative, it assumes that 'perfect' human bodies can have sex, and upholds the narrative that things like class, race and gender dictate your sexual worth (think of how different the media treats the rape of an upper-class white woman versus a working-class black girl).

We're interested in the deep, nuanced intersections of the blatant messages we receive and that seeps in through both pop culture and formal education. Let's take mainstream pornography as a really obvious example of this informal sex education.

pornographers are doing this and so we learned from their practice, their politics, their fair-trade work policies and their imagery to think critically about porn and its potential. If it's being looked to as education anyways, we wanted to know what we could bring back to the classroom. We looked to them for inspiration and hope.

This resource is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution, Non-Commercial-Sharealike 3.0 Unported License (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0). This means that this material can be reused freely with due credit.

Published in January 2019.

Designed by **In the shade of a tree** (Sophie Demay & Mael Fournier-Comte).

Printed by **Graphius** in Ghent, Belgium.

Developed by **Chloe Cooper**, **Phoebe Davies**, and **Jenny Moore**, co-founders of **Bedfellows**, with **Serpentine Education**.

1 RESOURCE

SERPENTINE GALLERIES

CRACKS IN THE CURRICULUM

SEX (RE) EDUCATION

BEDFELLOWS:

Consent! It doesn't come down to just one person: In every sexual interaction everyone is responsible for asking and telling each other what they want and don't want to do. But don't worry, you can change your mind. There should be no pressure. Accept and respect everyone's desires (including your own)! Listen to your body! Listen to your heart!

- How do you know if you're feeling good?
- How would you know someone else is enjoying themselves?

* Heteronormative is a term to describe the promotion of heterosexuality as the 'normal' sexual orientation. For more definitions visit the scarleteen website

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

- If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too! Your body is your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

2

- Who decides which bodies are on our screens?
- Does everything that looks good, feel good?

1

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Here's a bunch of things that came up for us when talking to teachers, talking to students and taking to ourselves about pornography:

Bodies! We all have bodies! We all watch screens. The bodies we watch on our screens don't necessarily look like the bodies we have.

• Who decides which bodies are on our screens?

• Does everything that looks good, feel good?

• How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!

• What are the pros and cons of exploring your desires solo?

• If there were no penises and no vaginas but there was still sex, how could someone lose their virginity?

But waaaaait!... some of us don't use that combination of body parts! Some people use the words 'first time sex' instead of 'virginity' since that allows for quite a few more experiences to be included. We hear people talk about 'normal sex' a lot. Some acts and feelings might be common (like rushing blood, heavy breathing, enlarged genitals and wetness) and some acts might be less common, but 'normal' just doesn't exist if we accept the beautiful, wide spectrum of human sex.

4

3

- How can someone make their own masturbation is your own, your own, your fantasies is your own, your Masturbation is sex too!
- What are the pros and cons of exploring

HUMANIFESTO

THIS HUMANIFESTO CALLS FOR A SEX EDUCATION THAT IS LIFELONG AND COMPLICATED.

NORMATIVITY IS A MYTH.

THIS HUMANIFESTO CALLS FOR THE END OF SWEEPING THINGS UNDER THE CARPET: LET'S ACKNOWLEDGE SEX.

LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX,
LET'S SING ABOUT SEX.
LET'S WRITE ABOUT SEX.
LET'S LAUGH ABOUT SEX,
LET'S CRY ABOUT SEX,
LET'S DANCE ABOUT SEX.

THIS HUMANIFESTO CALLS FOR A SEX EDUCATION THAT REFLECTS WHO ALL OF US ARE: ALL OUR BODIES, ALL OUR DESIRES, AND ALL OUR COMPLEXITIES.

SPECIFICALLY THIS HUMANIFESTO CALLS FOR A FEMINIST, QUEER, TRANS-INCLUSIVE, ANTI-RACIST, ANTI-ABLEIST, ANTI-CLASSIST, AND INTERSECTIONAL SEX EDUCATION.

THIS HUMANIFESTO CALLS FOR A SEX EDUCATION THAT ACKNOWLEDGES SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, RAPE AND ABUSE.

THIS HUMANIFESTO CALLS FOR A SEX EDUCATION THAT TAKES PLACE IN SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, WORKPLACES, HOMES AND SHOPPING CENTRES. ON THE PHONE, IN THE POOL, IN THE CLINIC, ON THE INTERNET. IN THE FLESH, IN THE MIND, IN THE HEART, IN OUR IMAGINATIONS.