

Sexuality Decision-Making Scenario (for boys)

(read and answer questions together)

Jake (who is in grade 11) and Vanessa (grade 10) have been dating for eight months. They were really good friends even before they started seeing each other, so it is pretty easy for them to talk about important issues. One thing they agree on is that they don't want to have sex yet. Sometimes, Jake's friends bug him about being a virgin but it doesn't bother him because he feels good about the relationship with Vanessa and knows they respect each other.

Jake has an older cousin, Todd, who is in University at a nearby city, and invited Jake to visit for the weekend. Jake has been looking forward to it for a long time—they are going to a football game and he will stay over with his cousin in residence.

The weekend visiting Todd got off to a great start. They went to the football game, and all of Todd's friends were great. One of them even gave Jake a beer. He doesn't normally drink, but he drank the beer so that he wouldn't feel out of place. That night, Jake and Todd ordered pizza and had a few beers. They decided to go to a party. At the party, a really pretty first year student named Tina started talking to Jake. She laughed at all of his jokes and was getting very friendly and close to him, flirting quite a bit. She asked him to go outside so she could get some fresh air. Once they were outside, she started kissing him and invited him back to her room. Jake felt a bit trapped – on the one hand, he felt very attracted to Tina, and was curious to get more sexual experience, but on the other hand, he really cared about Vanessa and didn't want to cheat on her. Jake was certain that Vanessa would never find out about anything that went on during the weekend unless he told her.

Discussion questions:

1. What are some of the possible choices Jake has?
2. What information should he use in making his decision?
3. What do you think is the best outcome Jake could hope for?
4. What is the worst outcome that could happen?
5. Why would some of the decisions be hard to make?

Handout – Jake’s Decision – Outcome 1

Jake feels a little guilty about what is happening, but he really wants to go back to Tina’s room. He’s sure that Vanessa won’t find out, and what she doesn’t know can’t hurt her. Besides, he figures that if he has sex with someone else, he will know what to do when he and Vanessa finally decide to have sex. He goes back to Tina’s and they start kissing again. Tina starts to undress Jake and although he is really nervous, he unbuttons her shirt, too. Once they are completely naked, Tina whispers to Jake, “Don’t worry, I won’t get pregnant, I am on the pill.” Jake and Tina end up having sex.

1. How do you think Jake is feeling when this scenario ends?

2. How will he feel the next day when he goes home to see Vanessa?

3. What pressures make it hard for a guy to say “no” to the opportunity to have sex?

4. Has Jake acted in a safe way? Why or why not?

5. Will his actions affect his relationship with Vanessa assuming that she doesn’t find out about what happened?

6. How do you think he justified his actions to himself?

Handout – Jake’s Decision – Outcome 2

Jake is really attracted to Tina, but he is already feeling guilty about some of his actions. He steps away from her and tells her that he is going to go back inside to find his cousin. Tina tells him that Todd won’t be worried, but Jake insists on going back in. Jake finds his cousin and says that he is ready to go home. When Todd asks if he isn’t having fun, Jake says that he is tired and isn’t feeling well. Todd looks a little disappointed at leaving the party so early, but he grabs his jacket and they leave.

Discussion questions:

1. How do you think Jake is feeling on the way back to Todd’s?

2. Do you think Jake will regret not going to Tina’s? Why or why not?

3. Is there a point in the evening where it would have been easier to avoid the situation?

4. Why do you think Jake gave Todd excuses about being tired and not feeling well instead of telling the truth? If the genders were reversed, would it have been easier for Jake?