

verbally and/or by nodding of one's head; an example is marriage vows when a husband and wife give consent with their "I do")

Consent is about communication and respect. Communication leads to better relationships with friends, peers, and family members. Consent is about knowing and respecting your own boundaries and those of others. Consent is about having the skills to avoid or leave a situation that feels uncomfortable and respecting when others want to do the same.

It is important for the students to understand the following about communication and consent:

- We must be clear with others about our ideas and feelings.
- We need to listen attentively to what others are saying to us.
- We need to interpret body language, tone of voice, and facial expressions correctly.
- We need to respect signals of agreement or disagreement.
- We need to negotiate with others in a respectful manner.
- We need to determine consent or lack of consent.
 - a clear "yes," freely given, is a signal of consent;
 - a response of "no" or an uncertain response or silence needs to be understood as no consent.

Read the following statements to the students and allow them to decide if consent has been freely given or if there is no consent given. Invite student responses asking them to justify their position:

- Joseph shakes his head as his friends throw rocks at the store windows, breaking them.
- Donnie tells Jimmy that he has to let him play with his basketball at recess or he will report him to the teacher.
- Jo-Anne doesn't want to hurt Theresa's feelings and shrugs her shoulders when Theresa asks her to go to the movies.
- Ed and Jim invite Mary-Ann and Janet to the amusement park and they nod their heads and say "yes."
- Cecile is offered a cigarette and tries not to take it but Annette puts it in her hand.
- Stan hesitates when Betty asks him to help her sneak liquor out of her parent's cabinet.

In each of the above situations, what could the individuals have done to clearly show consent or lack of consent? What signals could the other person have been paying attention to, to show respect for the consent or lack of consent being communicated?

Note: The students need to understand the importance of knowing if, and when, consent has been given.

Health and Physical Education expectation D2.6