

Sexual Life

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Stories about the risks of engaging in sexual activity.

Case #1

Adolescent Pregnancy: " One time is enough "

Anthony and Ann have been dating for three months. He's 17 and just graduated high school. Ann is 15 and in her sophomore year of high school. They both attended the same school where they met in Chemistry class.

Anthony plans to study computers and works part time at an internet cafe in his neighborhood. His mom is an elementary school teacher and has worked alone for years to provide for her family.

Ann's dad is a taxicab driver, even though he studied engineering. He just couldn't find a job in his profession. Ann's mom owns a corner store. Ann thinks she would like to be a journalist, but she's not 100% sure that's what she wants to do.

At first, Ann was not too sure about having sex with Anthony. She liked him a lot, but she didn't feel ready and was scared. After talking with her friends, she thought that maybe she would do it just once so that Anthony would leave her alone about it. She thought that if she only did it once there would be no harm. They had sex without using any form of birth control because Anthony didn't want to use a condom. He said that it was like taking a shower with your clothes on.

Now Ann thinks she might be pregnant. Ann feels all alone and she does not know who to talk to. If she tells her parents they will be mad at her. She also doesn't want to disappoint them. The truth is that she thinks that this is her problem and shouldn't bother Anthony with it. Besides, he won't even look at her now. Ann is not sure that she is really pregnant, but she would like to be able to count on him. She's going to tell him that they need to talk. She's sure he's just as scared as she is.

After talking, Anthony felt confused. After all, it isn't everyday that someone tells you that you're going to be a dad, especially when you are seventeen, like him. To make matters worse, he can't tell his mom. She is so proud of him graduating from high school. And his dad? Who knows? He only shows up once in a while; he can't count on him. Like his friend said, this girl can get around. It's true that he is older than her, but she's 15. She isn't a little girl anymore and she should know how to take care of herself. Should Anthony really have to worry about her since they were only dating for three months? What should he do? It also wouldn't be right to leave her alone with this problem.

Reflection Questions

1. Why did Ann and Anthony have sex without a condom?
2. How would you know if you were ready to have sex?
3. When you have sex, who should be the one to be concerned about birth control? Why?
4. In a sexual relationship, what does it mean to "be careful"?

Case #2

Sexually Transmitted Infections: "Information is not enough"

Robert and Cecilia are 17 years old. Six months ago they started having sex. To avoid getting pregnant, Cecilia gets birth control pills from the local health clinic. Two weeks ago, Robert went to a party. Friends convinced him to have sex with

another girl at the party. He didn't want to, but he thought if he didn't his friends would make fun of him. Now Robert has noticed a weird secretion from his penis, and it itches. He doesn't know what to do. He's scared and embarrassed to tell anyone. "It will probably pass", he says to himself.

Cecilia notices that something is wrong with Robert. He's changed.

One day they got information about the benefits of using a condom and how to avoid sexually transmitted infections (STI). Thinking about that, Cecilia asks Robert to use a condom. He gets mad and tells her that she is his girlfriend and only prostitutes or women who sleep around use condoms. He said he knows who he has been with, and with whom he should use a condom and with whom he doesn't need one.

Reflection Questions

1. Why is it so hard for Robert to talk about what happened, what does he fear?
2. What should Robert have done upon discovering the secretions and itching?
3. What was wrong with his statement that he knows with whom he has been and with whom he should use a condom.?"
4. How could Cecilia convince Robert to use condoms?