Thanks to the efforts of advocates and educators around the country, consent education has gained traction as more and more states and school systems recognize its critical role in creating safe and inclusive environments. As teachers and advocates courageously work to introduce new or more comprehensive consent education in their schools and communities, they often face resistance or a lack of support. This presentation will help educators identify innovative solutions to the most common barriers and obstacles in consent education, supporting their work as champions of equality and inclusivity for the upcoming generations.

Justine Finn
Director & Founder, Relation-Shift

Justine Finn (she/her) founded Relation-Shift at the Harvard Innovation Lab in order to end sexual violence, promote healthier relationships and create safer schools. Justine has worked to advance equality, facilitating classes, workshops and seminars across the country on gender, media representation and the prevention of sexual and relationship violence and bullying.

What's New in Sexual Health Services?
Leah Coplon, CNM, MPH, Maine Family Planning | Sara Hayes, FNP, Maine Family Planning

This workshop will include an overview of the range of sexual health services provided by family planning clinics, and how these services have changed over the past year(s). Information will include updates on birth control, STIs, and related sexual health services, including abortion. Participants will also receive strategies for delivering education to youth on services available, and skills for accessing those services.

Safer Sexting
Cheyenne Robinson-Bauman, Next Step DV Project

Do you want to learn more about sexting and why people do it? Join me as we dig deeper into the risks associated with sexting, when does it cross the line from being healthy to unhealthy or abusive, and what happens when sexting goes public. We will discuss how and when consent enters the conversation with both hearing and saying NO. You will walk away with information, resources and tools to help you better understand sexting and how to raise it to the level of safer sexting, especially during these times of the pandemic.

Changing School Culture through Youth Leadership
Shael Norris, SafeBAE | Aela Mansmann, SafeBAE

This workshop will focus on engaging students as culture changers in their schools, utilizing free and youth-created content to teach about affirmative consent, bystander intervention, and advocating for sexual assault prevention and response policies in schools.
WORKSHOP SESSIONS

1:00 – 2:15 PM
Please choose one of the workshops to attend live; recordings of all sessions will be available after the conference.

Educators Championing Justice:
Three Ways to Disrupt Toxic Behaviors and Fight for Equality in Schools

Justine Finn, Relation-Shift
How, and when, should adults intervene when they witness what they think might be harassing language or behavior, whether in-person or online? How can just one or two educators create a safer and more equitable school system? How can we invite coaches, parents and other staff to join in our work? Using real-life examples, build your knowledge and skills to prevent, respond, and resolve relationship and sexual violence and harassment in schools and to create environments where all can thrive.

Consent at Every Age: Conversations We Should be Having
Vicki Preston, Maine Family Planning | Kathleen Paradis, Sexual Assault Crisis and Support Center
Join us in navigating the world of consent (or at least make a start)! By broadening the definition of consent beyond sex, we will help young people build stronger and healthier boundaries and respect these boundaries in others. We will do this by exploring strategies for incorporating consent into their sexual health education. You will leave with activities, as well as tools to start having much needed conversations around consent and healthy relationships.

Healthy Relationships for Queer, Trans & Non-Binary Youth
Mariah Reed, Through These Doors | Caroline Wheeler, Through These Doors
Attendees will leave this workshop with the knowledge, understanding, and skills to effectively engage LGBTQ+ youth. Topics to be addressed range from the unique challenges queer, trans, and non-binary youth face in forming healthy relationships, contextualizing conversations around consent to resonate with this community; and exploring how teen dating violence can show up in LGBTQ+ youth’s relationships. Attendees will be provided with a plethora of resources and skills to strengthen their ability to be a supportive person in the lives of queer, trans, and non-binary youth.

2:15 - 2:30 PM BREAK

2:30 – 3:30 PM PLENARY SESSION

In this interactive plenary, get a sneak peek of Speak About It’s flagship show and new digital programs. Program Manager, Oronde Cruger, and Communications Manager, Catherine Buxton, have nearly ten years of experience in consent and sex education, social justice, and the performing arts, and will lead a dynamic discussion on how to apply theatrical tools to teaching empathy and the communication skills necessary for forming healthy relationships.

Speak About It is a consent education and sexual assault prevention organization that uses theatre and dialogue to empower students to give and get consent, build healthier relationships, and make change in their communities. We have reached nearly 500,000 students in 29 states and 3 countries, including 22 schools in Maine! [www.wespeakaboutit.org](http://www.wespeakaboutit.org).

3:30 PM CLOSING AND DOOR PRIZES

This conference is funded by the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and New Beginnings, through a grant from the Maine Department of Education.

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