

SEX, FEELINGS AND VALUES--

six open-end films

DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR

SEX MORALS

13 minutes

An exploration of contrasting moral attitudes toward sexual behavior, and the relation of sex, love, and marriage.

produced by DIMENSION FILMS

distributed by CHURCHILL FILMS

662 North Robertson Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90069

film title: SEX MORALS

length: 13 minutes

PURPOSE: To help each student clarify personal moral values by comparing them with a wide range of others.

SYNOPSIS:

"When you have the possibility of making love, how do you decide?" Some feel they must be "in love." Others that they enjoy sex with friends. One boy says he has mixed feelings--sometimes he wants love, sometimes just sex. Others feel sex should be part of marriage, or at least after engagement. But marriage is doubted by some who've seen unhappy marriages, or who feel that the marriage contract is a symbol of distrust. To some, marriage is part of their religious beliefs. Others doubt that even love is a guide--they're not sure when they are really in love. Sex can be an end in itself.

INTRODUCING THE FILM:

Here is one approach--

Before we see the film, I'd like you to write something down for yourselves. It's not for me--I don't need to see it. Write a brief answer to this question: "When you're faced with a situation with a person that involves the possibility of your making love to them, or sleeping with them, however you want to put it, how do you decide?"

OK--some of your answers probably included moral beliefs, or personal values, or religious feelings. In this film, you'll see other young people try to find out how they feel about the same question.

AFTER THE FILM:

Usually someone is ready to start after seeing this film--

Any comments?

But, you may need to help them get going--

What do you think is most important about this film?

Was there anyone in the film that you disagreed strongly with?

Are there any other opinions you think were left out?

You may want to point out certain issues--

Several girls say being "in love" is different from "loving". Why is this difference important?

A couple of girls prefer to wait until marriage before having sex. What is the significance of waiting?

The terms "giving" and "taking" are used in describing sexual relations. In your opinion, how do you tell who is giving and who is taking?

Most people in the film feel that having sex causes major changes in a relationship, but they see those changes differently. For some it deepens a friendship, for others it may break up a friendship, etc. How do you see it?

Suppose a person doesn't want to get married. What do you think that person should do about sex?

One girl feels it is possible to be in love with different men at different times in her life; others want one, life-long relationship. How do you feel?

The boys in the film generally took a different view than the girls. How would you describe the difference? Were there any exceptions? How do you explain these differences?

Note: You may want to introduce the concept of the Commitment-Intimacy Ratio. What sort of Commitment does each partner demand of the other in return for what degree of Sexual Intimacy? Generally, but not always, the girls try to exact commitment from boys seeking intimacy.

Viewpoints about marriage conflict sharply:

- 1 Marriage is a "binding of love" and represents "the blessings of the Church"
- 2 "I've seen so many unhappy marriages, I just can't believe in it."
- 3 "It's the ultimate sign of distrust to say two people need a contract to live together."

How do you feel?

Do you agree with the boy who says that girls who ask for love are putting their sex drive "under covers"?

One boy, who likes to have sex with friends, says he has been accused of making sex into a toy. How do you feel about it?

Finally, if your class is ready, you may want to share more personal viewpoints.

I'd like you to look again at the brief statement you wrote before. Think for a minute, and decide if there is anything you would like to change or add. . .Would any of you care to share what you wrote?

Do you think your feelings about sex and morals will remain pretty much the same, or is it possible they will change? What might cause you to change?

How do you feel about others who disagree strongly with your viewpoint? Do you feel they are immoral, or misguided in some way?

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SEX MIS-EDUCATION

11 minutes

Young peoples' candid observations on the follies of sex education by parents and schools. They call for open, reliable information on intercourse, masturbation, human physiology, etc.

EARLY HOMOSEXUAL EXPERIENCES

11 minutes

A sharing of experiences which reveals that many boys and girls experiment with homosexual activities, and consider this an ordinary part of growing up.

PARENTS' VOICES

12 minutes

Mike and Sally role-play their feelings after sex; other young people in the group portray "parents' voices." Shows how parental influences affect sexual behavior.

SEX MORALS

13 minutes

An exploration of contrasting moral attitudes toward sexual behavior, and the relation of sex, love, and marriage.

SEX FEARS

15 minutes

An open sharing of sex fears by boys and girls. The group focuses on one girl whose professed fear of pregnancy is revealed to be something deeper.

SEX GAMES

8 minutes

Mike and Lyndal role-play a sex game in which each tries to reject the other first. "What are sex games and why do people play them?"

TECHNICAL ADVISERS:

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