Lesson for
Should
Condoms Be
Distributed in
Schools?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
By the end of this lesson, students will be able to
1) Express their opinions and that of at least two
   other students about whether condoms should
   be distributed in schools.
2) Identify at least two correct facts about
   condoms and their use by teens.

TIME NEEDED
50 minutes

MATERIALS
• Copies of “Should Condoms Be Distributed in
  Schools?”—one copy per student
• Copy of “Forced Choice Statements”—one copy
  for facilitator
• One AGREE and one DISAGREE sign
• Masking Tape
• Copies of “Condom Quiz”—one copy per student
• Copies of “Condom Quiz Answer Sheet”—one
  copy per student

PREPARATION
Tape the AGREE and DISAGREE signs on
opposing walls in your classroom.

PROCEDURE
1. Introduce topic by explaining that some teens
decide not to have sex while in high school
while others decide to. Explain that abstinence is
healthiest, but for teens who choose to have sex,
using condoms is one of the most effective ways to
prevent both pregnancy and STDs. How those teens
get condoms can be controversial. [5 minutes]

2. Distribute copies of the article “Should Condoms
Be Distributed in Schools?” and read together with
your students. [5 minutes]

3. Next, explain to students that you will read
a statement, and they are to decide—without
discussion—if they agree or disagree with the
statement. If they agree with the statement, they
are to stand on the side of the room that has the
AGREE sign taped to it. If they disagree with the
statement, they are to stand on the side of the
room with the DISAGREE sign taped to it. They
must choose a side, standing in the middle is
not allowed. At the end of this activity, explain
that students should be able to understand why
someone might think differently from them on a
particular issue. Remind students of the following:

• There are no right or wrong answers, since
  these are opinions, not facts.
• Students may change sides at any time.
• Keep in mind classroom rules about respect for other people's opinions. [1 minute]

4. Read a statement aloud and instruct students to go to the side of the room that best reflects their opinion about that statement. Have students discuss with others why they have chosen that side of the room. (Facilitator’s Note: If any student ends up alone on one side of the room, the facilitator should go to that side of the room and talk with them about their reasons for choosing that side.) If no one is on one side, you can also ask students to make the case as to why someone might choose that side. [1 minute]

5. Give students from each side a couple of minutes to discuss their reasons with each other, and then ask for a few volunteers to share their opinions with the whole group. Remind the group that this is not a debate, but an opportunity to share opinions from a range of viewpoints. When done hearing from one side, turn to the other side and ask for volunteers to share their opinions. [5 minutes]

6. Continue through the rest of the statements, completing as many as you can with time permitting. You can choose to allow the discussions to continue if you think students are clarifying values or discussing opinions in a productive way. [8 minutes]

7. Ask students to return to their seats and process the entire activity with the following discussion questions:
   • Did anything about this activity surprise you?
   • In what ways did this activity help you clarify your values?
   • What opinions did you hear that you had not considered before this exercise? [5 minutes]

8. Next, distribute copies of the “Condom Quiz” and instruct students to complete the quiz with another student seated near them. Give students a few minutes to complete. [5 minutes]

9. Once students have completed the quiz, review the answers with them one at a time providing any additional information or clarifying misinformation as is warranted and time permits. Distribute copies of the “Condom Quiz Answer Sheet” to each student. [10 minutes]

10. In closing, ask students to brainstorm ten places where someone could get condoms and then end the lesson. [5 minutes]

Special thanks to Teri Tomatich, M.Ed. for her review of this lesson plan.

---

**Forced Choice Statements**

1. Condoms should be distributed in high schools.

2. Sexual intercourse is a behavior that is only appropriate for mature adults.

3. If condoms were easier to get, more teens would be likely to use them.

4. Distributing condoms in high schools will encourage more teens to have sex.

5. It sends a mixed message to both teach teens about abstinence and distribute condoms.
Condom Quiz

Please indicate whether you believe the following statements are true or false.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Teens don’t need to be a certain age, show ID or get their parents’ permission to buy condoms in a store.</td>
<td>True?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Most family planning clinics, like Planned Parenthood, offer free or low-cost condoms for teens.</td>
<td>True?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Condoms, if used correctly, can prevent the spread of most STDs.</td>
<td>True?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Condoms should be used during oral sex since STDs can be passed from mouth-to-genital contact.</td>
<td>True?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Latex condoms are the most effective type of condom, even better than “natural skin” condoms.</td>
<td>True?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Condom Quiz

Answer Sheet

1. **TRUE.** There are no laws that prevent a teen from buying condoms in a store, like Target, CVS, Walgreens or Stop & Shop, no matter their age or whether their parents know.

2. **TRUE.** Most family planning clinics, health departments, Planned Parenthood clinics and AIDS prevention organizations make condoms available for free or very low cost for teens.

3. **TRUE.** Condoms can best prevent STDs that are passed in sexual fluids (such as semen, vaginal fluid and pre-cum) and can prevent STDs that are passed via skin-to-skin contact as long as the condom covers the infected area.

4. **TRUE.** Since STDs can be passed during unprotected oral sex from one infected partner to another, condoms and latex barriers are very important to use.

5. **TRUE.** Latex is the most effective barrier against both sperm and STDs and should be used instead of natural or lamb skin condoms. Lubricated latex condoms work more effectively than non-lubricated condoms, and polyurethane condoms are available for those with a latex allergy.