

Positive Sexual Health Youth Consultation Results



Youth Work Ireland

As part of Youth Work Ireland's national campaign on Positive Sexual Health, we carried out a national youth consultation with 37 youth groups around Ireland in April & May 2018. In this consultation we asked young people to identify the topics, in relation to positive sexual health, they wanted to **Learn About, Be Heard On** and **Change**. Here are the topics they identified, which will inform the next stage of our **Positive Sexual Health Campaign**.

Learn About

Health & Safety 20%
Sex Education 17%
Contraception 17%
Law 15%
Morality & Values 9%
Relationship 8%
Teen Pregnancies 7%
Other: 7%

Change

Sex Education 25%
Law 19%
Morality & Values 12%
Contraception 10%
Teen Pregnancies 8%
Relationships 8%
Privacy 6%
Other 3%

Be Heard On

Sex Education 18%
Law 17%
Morality & Values 13%
Teen Pregnancies 11%
Relationships 10%
Privacy 10%
Contraception 8%
Health & Safety 8%
Other 5%

Positive Sexual Health

From the poster activities we received back, we collated the issues young people had identified and sorted them into general categories. Below are the general category listings and the issues they contain.



Youth Work Ireland

Category	Description of Category
Sex Education	Young people want reliable, accurate and consistent information regarding sex. They also want a voice in curriculum design so topics relevant to their generation are included.
Health & Safety	Young people want to know how to be safe sexually and how to stay safe, particularly when it comes to protection against STIs.
Law	This category refers to young people wanting to have their voices heard on how laws are designed and implemented, as they feel current legislation does not adequately address sexual issues of their generation like protection against homophobic bullying. This category also includes age of consent.
Contraception	Young people want reliable information on the methods, choice and uses of contraception availability and they want free access to contraception.
Values	This category includes issues of morality and values such as what is right and wrong legally when it comes to virginity, also included are issues of consent and other topics like 'sexting'.
Teen Pregnancy	Young people want to learn more about the consequences of teen pregnancies and how to prevent it. They also referenced destigmatising teen pregnancy
Privacy	This category refers to personal sexual choices and the freedom of expression around sexual orientation. Young people spoke of fears of being bullied at school & elsewhere because of their sexual orientation. Sexuality should be an individual private choice for all.
Relationships	In this category young people referred to the need to respect different types of relationships, both sexual and non sexual, healthy & unhealthy as well as LGBTI+ and Trans.
Other	This category includes issues of abortion, gender roles, self-esteem, trans rights, feminine hygiene, peer pressure, porn and the availability of counselling for teen pregnancies.