

Condom & Vasectomy True/False Game

The purpose of this activity is to debunk myths around condoms and vasectomies in order to both teach young people about these contraceptive methods and for them to begin understanding how to practice shared responsibility.

TOOLS AVAILABLE TO EDUCATORS

To discuss condoms and vasectomies, check out these tools on our website:

- [Vasectomy primer + video](#)
 - [Condom primer + video](#)
 - [Vas deferens primer + video](#)
 - [10 facts about male contraception primer + video](#)
 - [10 facts about vasectomy primer + video](#)
 - [Other Male Reproduction & Contraception primers + videos](#)
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HOW THE GAME WORKS

The facilitator will read each statement aloud and allow participants to choose whether the statement is true or false. This can be done in a number of ways, for example:

- “True” and “False” signs can be placed on opposite sides of the room and participants can walk over to either side after each statement is read.
- Participants can each have a red and green “flag” (piece of paper or any other item) that signifies true and false that they hold up after each statement is read. This can be done individually or in teams.
- Participants can do thumbs up/thumbs down for true or false. Again, this can be done individually or in teams.
- For virtual learning, facilitators can utilize polls for each statement, participants can use thumbs up/thumbs down, or participants can use reactions on Zoom.

After each statement is read and participants decide between true and false, the facilitator reads out the correct answer and explains why it is either true or false. Facilitators can involve the participants even more by asking them why they chose their answer before giving the correct answer.

Condom Statements

1. Condoms are the only method for men.

False. Sperm producers can use condoms and/or get a vasectomy. Also, internal condoms can be used vaginal and anal sex, so they can be used by anyone.

2. Condoms are the only method that protect against both STIs and pregnancy.

True. While other contraceptive methods can be very helpful at protecting against pregnancy, condoms are the only method that provides protection against both. Using a condom plus another contraceptive method can give you extra protection if you are having the kind of sex that could lead to pregnancy.

3. Condoms are almost 100% effective at preventing STIs and pregnancy.

False. Condoms can be very effective at preventing STIs and pregnancy, but sometimes people don't use them correctly. So, effectiveness for typical use is around 85% for external condoms (the kind you put on a penis) and 79% for internal condoms (the kind that go inside a vagina or anus).

4. Condoms are only for people who aren't in committed relationships.

False. Anyone can use condoms. People in committed relationships can still use condoms to protect against STIs and/or pregnancy, if they are in an open relationship, have other risks of STIs, have a chronic STI, or want to use a non hormonal contraceptive method.

5. Condoms are expensive and can only be bought by people over the age of 18.

False. There are no age restrictions on purchasing or getting condoms. You can get them at most pharmacies, convenience stores, and grocery stores, and should not be carded or asked your age at checkout. If you feel uncomfortable buying them in person, you can also purchase them online. Many health clinics also have condoms available for free and you can take as many as you'd like.

Vasectomy Statements

1. If you have a vasectomy, that means you can't ejaculate anymore.

False. Getting a vasectomy does not affect your sex drive or sexual functions. People who get vasectomies still have regular orgasms; there just isn't sperm in their semen.

2. Vasectomies are reversible.

Trick question, true and false. When a vasectomy procedure is performed, it is intended to be permanent. Vasectomies can technically be reversed, but the success rate of reversing a vasectomy varies between 40-90%.

3. Vasectomies are almost 100% effective at preventing pregnancy.

True. Vasectomies are about 99% effective at preventing pregnancy.

4. The procedure and recovery from a vasectomy is usually painless.

True. Generally, people who get vasectomies report experiencing minimal, if any, side effects. The same is not true for tubal ligation, the permanent contraceptive method/procedure for people with uteruses, which includes a longer recovery period and higher possibility for side effects and pain/discomfort.

5. You have to already have children to get a vasectomy.

False. You can have a vasectomy even if you've never had kids. If you know that you do not want children in the future and you know you want to have a vasectomy, then you can still have the procedure.