

Minnesota Sexuality Education Resource Review Panel

Summary of Panel Review

Review Date – June 2010

Love U 2: Dating Smarts

A Bit More Than Friends for Younger Teens (2008)

Format: Curriculum

Target Audience: Stated audience: Grades 5-9

Recommended by panel: Panel agrees with Distributor

Cost: \$170, plus shipping

Distributor: The Dibble Institute

P.O. Box 7881, Berkeley, CA 94707 • 1-800-695-7975 • www.dibblefund.org

The Minnesota Sexuality Education Resource Review Panel **Does not recommend** use of this curriculum for the following reasons and with the following reservations:

Review Summary:

Love U 2: Dating Smarts is a resource created by the Dibble Institute and *Dating Smarts* is just one resource in the Love U 2 series. According to the Dibble Institute, the goal of *Dating Smarts* is to help young people acquire practical skills and useful knowledge for forming emotionally healthy, mutually respectful and ethically sound relationships. Dibble sees this resource as a piece to build the assets of young people along with the series of resources mentioned above. *Dating Smarts* consist of six lessons (four are core and two are strongly recommended) to be delivered to middle school students.

The panel **does not recommend** *Love U 2: Dating Smarts* for the following reasons:

- References research but work is not cited. Panel questions if drawn conclusions are factual or slanted to authors beliefs. Curriculum mentions “sex always involves the possibility of creating a child – a simple fact that is often ignored” (page i), panel disagrees and argues not all sex leads to pregnancy.
- Reinforces gender roles and excludes GLBT students or students with parents who are GLBT.
- Questions in activities appear to be opinion versus scientifically based.

The panel appreciates the following elements of *Love U 2: Dating Smarts*

- Inclusion of youth development concept.
- Activities provided opportunity for good conversation with a strong facilitator.
- Use of supplemental materials like *My So Called Life*.
- Activities – Maturity Scale and Parent-Teen Dialogue.

Overall, the panel **does not recommend** *Love U 2: Dating Smarts* for use as a sexuality education resource.

Assessment Criteria	Mean Score (1-5)	Additional Information
Information is medically accurate and presented using the correct terminology	.9	Terminology not medically updated
Focuses on clear health goals: prevention of STI, HIV and/or pregnancy	1.8	<u>This resource focused on:</u> Relationships

Does the material guide participant or learner to acquire new skills?	2.0	<u>The panel acknowledges that this resource guides the participant/learner to acquire the following skills</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision making • Respect • Assertiveness
Does this resource address multiple factors affecting sexual behaviors?	1.4	<u>According to the panel, this resource addresses the following factor(s) that affect sexual behaviors(s):</u> The panel unanimously agreed this resource does not address factors that affect sexual behavior
Create a safe social environment for youth to participate	1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLBT students, students with parents who are GLBT or students that do not want to get married may feel unsafe or excluded • Resource encourages conversation amongst participants, but does not allow for any variety in acceptable answers
Employs instructionally sound teaching methods and activities that engage learners	2.5	<u>The panel recognizes the following elements are present in this resource as a way to engage learners:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short lectures • Class discussions • Small group work • Role plays • Competitive games • Student centered activities • Surveys of attitudes and intentions • Problems-solving activities • Worksheets • Homework assignments to talk with partner or other adults
Target audience	5 – 6 grades 7 – 9 grades	<u>The panel feels the following people group and/or demographic area were considered in this resource:</u> Suburban
Culturally and developmentally appropriate	1.6	Resource excludes diverse viewpoints and seems to focus on a limited scope for a limited audience
Organization of resource	3.4	<u>The panel finds the resource:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covers topics in a logical sequence • Is well organized with clear, thorough instructions for discussion guide • Minimal assembly or preparation time required
Facilitation Skills Required How knowledgeable and skilled must the facilitator be to use this resource effectively?		Requires leader with moderate content knowledge and group skills
Presentation Quality How appealing is the resource, e.g, up-to-date graphics, appealing to look at, easy to read, etc.	2.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text heavy and no graphics • Guide is easy to use and instructive
Overall Recommendation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommend Highly - 0 ▪ Recommend - 0 ▪ Recommend with Reservations - 0 ▪ Reject - 15

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