



Native VOICES Parent Information Letter

Dear Parent,

This letter is to inform you that your son/daughter will be participating in a sexual health education program for 12th graders at Quincy High School called Native VOICES. Instruction will be led by a trained facilitator during one lesson in the student's second semester English class.

While it can be difficult to discuss, sex and sexuality are important aspects of our health and wellbeing. We believe this program will provide valuable information to our students.

Native VOICES is a [23-minute video](#) that was designed to encourage condom use among heterosexual and LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Queer) American Indian teens and young adults 15-24 years old. The culturally-tailored video covers important sexual health topics, including:

- Waiting to have sex
- Talking to your partner about sex
- STD testing
- Defining & enforcing personal values, and
- Healthy relationships

The evidence-based video has been approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and is designed to prevent HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Your child's participation will involve watching the Native VOICES video and participating in discussions and activities that will help students process the information, think about their personal beliefs and attitudes about sex, and practice related skills.

If you or your child chooses not to participate in the program, there will be no penalty (it will not affect your child's grade, etc.). Your child's participation is voluntary.

To opt out, [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the QSD page for Sexual Health Information and find the Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Opt-Out form.



Native VOICES Supplemental Videos

Oregon Health & Science University Prevention Research Center



A Prevention Research Center Tool Showing Evidence of Effectiveness

Overview

The Native VOICES project is an HIV prevention program, which the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) developed for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth. They adapted Native VOICES from Video Opportunities for Innovative Condom Education and Safer Sex (VOICES/VOCES). The program uses videos and role play to decrease the rates of sexually transmitted infections among AI/AN youth through greater use of barrier methods. The tool kit of materials for a single group session includes the following:

- Native VOICES video
- User's guide

RESEARCH RESULTS

Surveys showed that in response to showings of the video in 2013, 66% of viewers were motivated to increase condom use.¹ In 2014, the NPAIHB



conducted a study to evaluate the effectiveness of the Native VOICES program. Nine US tribes and nearly 800 youth participated in the study. A large percentage of participants in the study felt more positive toward using condoms (78%) and dental dams (61%) and were more motivated to get tested for STDs/HIV (82%). The study also showed that, on average, participants scored a point higher on an 11-point test of sexual health knowledge and reported greater confidence in their intention to use protection.²

TOOL LOCATION

<http://www.npaihb.org/home/voices/external icon>

To request a tool kit, e-mail npaihb@npaihb.org

Download the printable [PDF version pdf icon](#)[PDF – 2 MB] of this web page

References

1. Rushing SC, Gardner W. Native VOICES: adapting a video-based sexual health intervention for American Indian teens and young adults using the ADAPT-ITT model. *Am Indian Alsk Native Ment Health Res.* 2016;23(1):24–46. <http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/PublicHealth/research/centers/CAIANH/journal/Pages/Volume23.aspxexternal icon>. Accessed February 4, 2017.
2. Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) website. 2015 Native voices community report. <http://www.npaihb.org/home/voices/#1450680778115-32a4bc94-cd3dexternal icon>. Accessed February 4, 2017.