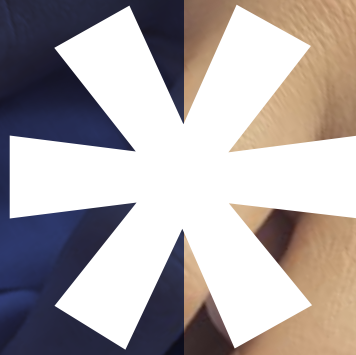




Ollscoil na Gaillimhe
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

THE KINDS OF SEX YOU **MIGHT** HAVE AT COLLEGE



A PLAY ABOUT:
WHAT YOU WANT, HOW YOU WANT, IF YOU
WANT IT AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T

ACTIVE*
CONSENT

CONTENT WARNING: THIS PLAY CONTAINS LANGUAGE OF
A SEXUAL NATURE AND THEMES OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE.



RETHINK
IRELAND



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

ACTIVE* CONSENT'S ORIGINAL PLAY THE KINDS OF SEX YOU MIGHT HAVE AT COLLEGE

A play about WHAT you want, HOW you want it, AND what happens when you don't

Featuring

Ikenna Anyabuike
MJ Devlin Larsen
Mark Heffernan
Gavin Friel
Ailish McDonagh
Ilana Semler

Director

Charlotte Mclvor

Movement Director

Jérémie Cyr Cooke

Stage/Tour Manager/

Producer

Lelia Connolly

Assistant Director/

Assistant Stage Manager

Michael Arrigan

Devised by Ikenna Anyabuike, Michael Arrigan, Ariyan Bhatti, Richard Brown, Fiona Buckley, Eibhleann Caffrey, Lelia Connolly, Darragh Cooney, Aoife Corry, Jérémie Cyr-Cooke, Mark Crumrine, MJ Devlin Larsen, Alison Dixon, Emily Dolan, John Donlon, Conor Duffy, Sam Ó Fearraigh, Gavin Friel, Michael Foley, Mark Heffernan, Marie Hegarty, Jim Hynes, Siobhan Jordan, Muireann Kavanagh, Alice Keane, Fionn Kenny, Ger Kelly, Peter Kenny, Nathan Mannion, Ailish McDonagh, Shannon McHugh, Charlotte Mclvor, Laura McNulty, Charlotte Moore, Chloe Naomi, Siobhra Ní Chianain, Megan O'Connor, Jonathan Ryan, Ilana Semler, Cristina Scobee, Jack Scullion, Rebecca Spelman, Sarah Vargo and Clarke Whitehead.

"The Kinds of Sex You Might Have At College Zine" written by Charlotte Mclvor and Gavin Friel.

ACTIVE* CONSENT TEAM

Padraig MacNeela, Charlotte Mclvor and Siobhán O'Higgins

Active* Consent Co-Leads

Kate Tierney

Active* Consent Project Manager

Rebecca Connolly

Active* Consent Administrator

Caroline West

Outreach Coordinator

Alex Black

Creative Content Producer and Campaign Lead

Lorraine Burke

Researcher

Active* Consent's original play *The Kinds of Sex You Might Have At College* has been under development since 2014 based on ongoing research and has been devised (i.e. collectively created and written) by over 40 University of Galway students, alumni and staff members and counting.

ABOUT ACTIVE* CONSENT

The University of Galway's Active* Consent programme supports young people and those that are important to them (teachers, parents, college staff and policy makers) in building their knowledge of consent as a key component of positive sexual health and well-being. We create original Irish data-led consent education training resources including workshops, eLearning modules, drama, videos, and social media campaigns for colleges, secondary schools and sports organisations. We do so in consultation with young people and other stakeholders, evaluating our resources and updating our data on an ongoing basis.

Learn more: www.consenthub.ie

Active* Consent is currently supported by Lifes2Good Foundation, Rethink Ireland, University of Galway, with project funding on consenthub.ie and the Further Education & Training sector from the Government of Ireland.

CONTENT WARNING:



This zine and our Active* Consent original play, *The Kinds of Sex You Might Have in College*, contain language of a sexual nature and discuss themes of sexual violence, assault and harassment.

If you have been affected by any of the issues portrayed in our play or zine, please visit here <https://www.consenthub.ie/get-help/#i-am-college-student> for direction to national supports and services. These are intended for survivors of sexual violence but also those who are supporting them such as friends, family members and/or partners.

An Garda Síochána: 999 or 112

You can contact An Garda Síochána if you are a victim of, or witness sexual violence and wish to report the incident.

If it is an emergency, contact 999 or 112

You may also contact your local station in person or by telephone. [Find your local station »](#)

[For more information on what happens when you report an incident of sexual crime to the Garda - click this link »](#)

National Rape Crisis Centre 24-hour helpline: 1 800 77 8888

You can contact the national 24-hour rape crisis helpline to speak with a trained telephone counsellor. This service offers free and confidential support and is available to you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They can also put you in touch with your local rape crisis centre.

You can contact a rape crisis centre to get advice and support if you are impacted by a incident of rape or sexual assault as a victim or as someone who has been disclosed to by a friend, partner or family member.

[To find your local rape crisis centre, you can also visit this link »](#)

Sexual Assault Treatment Units (SATU)

SATUs are a free service that can provide you with a health check and forensic exam by forensic nurses and doctors. You can contact your local SATU 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can either contact the SATU directly, or you can be connected through the Gardai or a Rape Crisis Centre if you have already reported to them.

[To find your local SATU click here »](#)

College-Specific Services

Your University will have support services for you to contact for advice and support if you have been impacted by sexual violence. You can find the contact information on your university's student services website.

www.Hotline.ie

You can contact Hotline.ie to confidentially and anonymously report suspected illegal content, such as an incident of image based sexual abuse.

[You can report an incident here »](#)



INTRODUCTION: HOW TO USE THIS ZINE

This zine introduces you to the basic background of Active* Consent's original play *The Kinds of Sex You Might Have At College* - how we made the play, what we hope it will do, and who are the people involved in creating it.

We also break down each scene for you in terms of key messages and important connections to our research, Irish law on consent and/or sexual violence, and further resources on these topics.

We decided to call this a "zine" rather than a "programme," "study guide" or "resource" to capture the playful and energised spirit of collaboration and constant re-invention and improvisation that make Active* Consent's original play what it is.

To complete the Active* Consent pre- and post-play survey following your attendance at the play, [click here](#)



HOW DO YOU TURN RESEARCH INTO A PLAY?

THE STORY OF ACTIVE* CONSENT'S ORIGINAL PLAY *THE KINDS OF SEX YOU MIGHT HAVE AT COLLEGE*

The Greek word for where theatre audiences sat in ancient theatres is "theatron" which roughly translates to "seeing place." Active* Consent believes that we still can use drama today as a "seeing place" where we can gather audiences together to engage with our years of research in an embodied and emotionally engaged way. We created *The Kinds of Sex You Might Have At College* (*The Kinds of Sex...*) to share data and spark dialogue through an engaging piece of theatre written and shaped by students, recent alumni and our wider Active* Consent research team.

The Kinds of Sex... has been in development since 2014. The scenes within were created in collaboration with University of Galway Drama and Theatre Studies students or alumni working in the creative industries who worked with Active* Consent and other Irish data on consent, sexual violence and harassment to shape the stories and themes we tackle in this play. We do not tell anyone's real and complete story, but rather write and create scenes based on patterns that we see emerge in the data. For example, we know that a very high percentage of college students experience harassment

via electronic media. Therefore, we tell stories that address a partner sharing nudes non-consensually and harassment on dating sites among other topics.

When we work on the play, we write collectively, meaning that all members of the play team at that time feed in on what to keep or replace with new scenes or lines and how we stage each scene and create each character. Our choices are informed by the new data we have to respond to on students' consent attitudes or the current rates of sexual violence or harassment, but wider cultural conversations and events also shape our ongoing choice about what stories to keep or new perspectives to highlight. Over the life of this play, for example, we have seen a huge shift in awareness of the diversity of gender identity and expression for a perspective now included in this version. We also explicitly address image-based sexual abuse for the first time in a complete scene in this version.

After workshop showings in 2014, 2015 and 2016 at the University of Galway, *The Kinds of Sex...* did its first national tour of third level institutions from September 2019 to February 2020, conducting a pilot test and gathering data on that run, before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The show went through a second phase of development and re-writing in August 2021 using newly collected data, as well as anonymous feedback collected during the initial pilot, with another new group of writers and collaborators. We then gathered again in August 2022 with another new group to fully restage the new version of our original play which you are seeing during this autumn 2022 tour.

By continuously gathering new data and bringing new voices and perspectives into the room to make and re-make the play, *The Kinds of Sex You Might Have At College* aims to remain fully alive and fully relevant as a piece of theatre written in the student voice that aims to start and continue difficult conversations about consent and sexual violence, as well as spark joy (and even laughter) in audiences.

WHY IS EVERY SCENE IN *THE KINDS OF SEX...* SO DIFFERENT? WHY NOT JUST TELL ONE STORY?

We believe that in order for this play to be relevant to all genders, relationships and sexualities, we have to include as wide a range of stories and perspectives as possible.

We also know that given the high rates of sexual violence and harassment in our society that individuals could play a variety of roles over the course of their lifetime- bystander, survivor, perpetrator. This is why we made the choice to have the actors play multiple roles over the course of the play and not just tell one person or group's story as our central focus.

We also chose a wide range of theatrical styles from realistic to abstract, comic to dramatic. We do this very intentionally to keep audiences engaged and looking at these issues from multiple perspectives and in different ways.

We also choose to use poetic language and movement and to not have stories of individuals always resolve clearly in terms of where blame is placed or what should or will come next. We do this to empower you as the audience to think critically about the stories and characters that we portray.

We believe poetic language and movement allow us to look at our world in a heightened way that may allow us to see or understand something new.

We also feel that stories that don't resolve or characters whose motives seem confused encourage us to get clear on what WE feel about a situation or what WE think should happen next or what WE need to find out more about to understand.

WHY DO YOU USE STATISTICS BETWEEN THE SCENES IN THE PLAY AND WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

Our statistics communicate information about students' attitudes about consent and sexuality and/or experiences of sexual violence and/or harassment at college and secondary school level in Ireland today.

Statistics are presented before scenes in order to give audiences information about the stories and themes that are being explored in the scene that follows. The statistics we chose are intended to help audiences put what they are about to see in a broader context in terms of what others think, feel or have experienced.

Many of our statistics also deal with what is called a social norm gap- the difference between what an individual thinks is important and how important they think their peers feel it is. For example, we have found consistently over many years that college students feel that while consent is important to them, it is less important to their peers. This "social norms gap" means that someone might choose to not discuss consent with a partner if they assume it is not also important to them. This could be why people sometimes think asking about consent is embarrassing or awkward to talk about.

The statistics presented within the show are sourced mainly from Active* Consent's own reports including:

- *Active* Consent For School Communities: Overview of the Schools Program and Research Findings*, (Active* Consent: MacNeela, McIvor, Achteresch, Bharath, Dawson, Burke, Connolly, D'Eath, Foden, McGrath, O'Rourke, Tierney, & O'Higgins, 2021).
- *The Sexual Experiences Survey*, (Union of Students in Ireland and Active* Consent: Burke, O'Higgins, McIvor, Dawson, O'Donovan & MacNeela, 2020).
- *Are Consent Workshops Sustainable and Feasible in Third Level Institutions?*, (Active* Consent: MacNeela, O'Higgins, McIvor, Seery, Dawson & Delaney, 2019).

These and other Active* Consent research reports are available at: <https://www.consenthub.ie/research/>

Other data used within the show, include:

- *Report on the National Survey of Student Experiences of Sexual Violence and Harassment in Irish Higher Education Institutions* (Higher Education Authority: MacNeela, Dawson, O'Rourke, Healy-Cullen, Burke & Flack, 2022)

Read the full report here:

<https://assets.gov.ie/214116/d10de859-4e3f-47e6-a1e3-4811e698146d.pdf>

- *'Storm and Stress': An Exploration of Sexual Harassment Amongst Adolescents* (Rape Crisis Network Ireland: Walsh, 2021)

Read the full report here: <https://www.rcni.ie/storm-and-stress-an-exploration-of-sexual-harassment-amongst-adolescents/>

***“OUR STATISTICS
COMMUNICATE
INFORMATION
ABOUT STUDENTS’
ATTITUDES ABOUT
CONSENT AND
SEXUALITY AND/
OR EXPERIENCES
OF SEXUAL
VIOLENCE AND/
OR HARASSMENT
AT COLLEGE AND
SECONDARY
SCHOOL LEVEL IN
IRELAND TODAY”***



THE KINDS OF SEX YOU MIGHT HAVE AT COLLEGE

SCENE BY SCENE

Relive the play and engage with the stats from each scene.

Scene

1

"THE KINDS OF SEX YOU MIGHT HAVE AT COLLEGE"



IN THIS SCENE: We explore the different (positive) sexual experiences students *may* experience during their time in college, from the pleasurable and romantic, to the socially awkward, to the complicated and inebriated.

"THE 'WHAAAAAT IS SHE DOING DOWN THERE' KIND

"THE 'WHAT DO I DO WITH MY HANDS' KIND?"

"THE 'IS THIS REALLY THE TIME?' KIND"

"NAH!"

Scene

2

"THEY WEREN'T GOING TO TELL ME WHAT I NEEDED TO KNOW"

IN THIS SCENE: We meet four different characters, (Conor, Patrick, Aisling & Rebecca), who finally get to discuss the things they always wanted to know about sex BEFORE coming to college. Each character comes from a unique perspective, whether that's by gender, orientation, or level of sexual knowledge and experience.



STATS FROM THE SCENE:

Only 23% of Irish college students recently agreed or strongly agreed they were satisfied with the sex education they received in school.

64% reported that they felt sex education classes left out crucial and important information.

Those who identify as LGBTIQ+ frequently report even higher levels of dissatisfaction than their heterosexual peers.

Source: *Are Consent Workshops Sustainable and Feasible in Third Level Institutions?*, (Active* Consent: MacNeela, O'Higgins, McIvor, Seery, Dawson & Delaney, 2019).

Scene

3

"HOW I LEARNED ABOUT CONSENT"

IN THIS SCENE: We hear from four people who try to remember where they learned about consent, often in unexpected or strange ways. From the previous scene, we know that most college students aren't satisfied with their sex education, so where are we learning what we DO know?



STATS FROM THE SCENE:

Only 26% of male and 14% of female teenagers strongly agreed that they possess knowledge and skills for consent.

Almost one-third of respondents agreed that people their age would think talking about consent is odd...

And one-fifth of teenagers agreed that they would find it hard to talk about consent with a partner.

"THERE WAS A GROUP OF LADS AT THE TEEN DISCO. THEY KEPT FOLLOWING ME AROUND THE CLUB ASKING, 'G'WAN, WILL YOU SHIFT MY MATE?' 'C'MON, HE'S A FRIGID!' 'JUST 30 SECONDS!'. THE WORDS 'NO' AND 'LEAVE ME ALONE' WEREN'T ENOUGH THE FIRST TIME, APPARENTLY."

Source: *Active* Consent For School Communities: Overview of the Schools Program and Research Findings*, (Active* Consent: MacNeela, Mclvor, Achteresch, Bharath, Dawson, Burke, Connolly, D'Eath, Foden, McGrath, O'Rourke, Tierney, & O'Higgins, 2021).

Scene

4

"AM I RIGHT TO BE UPSET?"

"WHY IS IT SO EASY FOR EVERYONE ELSE?"

"...THE WAY THIS PLAYED OUT WAS ALL ON ME."

IN THIS SCENE: A couple deals with what happens when the male partner shares an explicit image of his girlfriend with his friends without her consent.



DID YOU KNOW?



If you have experienced image-based sexual abuse (the sharing of images without your consent), you can report this at <https://www.hotline.ie>.

STATS FROM THE SCENE:

26% of male students, 32% of female students and 58% of non-binary students recently reported experiencing sexual harassment through different kinds of electronic mediums since beginning college.

The kinds of harassment reported included but was not limited to being exposed to unwanted sexual comments, jokes or pictures and having unwelcome sexual rumours or negative comments about sexual orientation spread about them.

Source: *The Sexual Experiences Survey*, (Union of Students in Ireland and Active* Consent: Burke, O'Higgins, Mclvor, Dawson, O'Donovan & MacNeela, 2020).

Scene

5

"YOU THINK HE'D HAVE NOTICED"

"HOOKING UP OVER DATING APPS IS MENTAL. IT'S LIKE NETFLIX FOR THE RIDE."

IN THIS SCENE: A young man takes us back to his first experience hooking up online through an app. Through reliving this experience, he begins to question whether he gave full consent in the encounter.



STATS FROM THE SCENE:

19% of college students recently reported that they would have a hard time verbalising their consent in a sexual encounter due to shyness.

And 18% think that verbalising sexual consent is awkward.

Scene

6

"THE HAVE-TO'S"



"I THOUGHT I HAD TO, I THOUGHT I KNEW WHAT SHE HAD TO DO."

IN THIS SCENE: The scene shows three very different perspectives: a young cisgender woman who is unsure who she is attracted to or whether she wants to become sexually active, a young man who wants to act immediately and decisively when his friend discloses sexual violence to him but learns he needs to reflect before acting, and a non-binary person struggling with how to talk about this identity shift with their boyfriend. Although the stories are all very different, each character feels trapped at first by what they think they HAVE to do in each situation before they find a different and more productive path.

STATS FROM THE SCENE:

75% of male and 41% of female teenagers said they were comfortable with touching over clothes with someone they had met at a house party

But 81% of male and 80% of female teenagers thought others would be comfortable with the same behaviour.

Source: *Report on the National Survey of Student Experiences of Sexual Violence and Harassment in Irish Higher Education Institutions* (Higher Education Authority: MacNeela, Dawson, O'Rourke, Healy-Cullen, Burke & Flack, 2022).

Source: *Active* Consent For School Communities: Overview of the Schools Program and Research Findings*, (Active* Consent: MacNeela, McIvor, Achteresch, Bharath, Dawson, Burke, Connolly, D'Eath, Foden, McGrath, O'Rourke, Tierney, & O'Higgins, 2021).

Scene

7

"NO BIG DEAL"

IN THIS SCENE: This scene asks audiences to critically examine what sexual harassment is, how and where it might occur in our everyday lives and normal college social settings, and what happens if we continually downplay the things that happen to or around us.

"IT'S THE 'GREY AREA' BEHAVIOURS THAT ARE THE PROBLEM, AND HAPPEN ALL THE TIME AND ARE JUST SHRUGGED OFF."

SEXUAL EXPERIENCES SURVEY, 2020.

"MAYBE YOU'RE JUST OVERTHINKING IT, NO BIG DEAL."



STATS FROM THE SCENE:

In a recent study, 80% of Irish adolescents disclosed being subjected to some form of sexual harassment.

68% of LGBTIQ+ adolescent participants in this study experienced physical or extreme sexual harassment compared with 20% of the whole population.

Another recent study of college students found that majority of students described at least one experience of different forms of sexual harassment since beginning college: 50% of males, 62% of females and 76% of non-binary students.

Sources: 'Storm and Stress': An Exploration of Sexual Harassment Amongst Adolescents (Rape Crisis Network Ireland: Walsh, 2021).

The Sexual Experiences Survey, (Union of Students in Ireland and Active* Consent: Burke, O'Higgins, Mclvor, Dawson, O'Donovan & MacNeela, 2020).

Scene

8

"ONE EVENT, MANY PERSPECTIVES"



IN THIS SCENE: This scene brings to life the thoughts, the fears, and the should haves of a group of four friends after a night out, where one becomes the perpetrator of another's sexual assault. In the aftermath, each group member recounts the events from their own perspective, as the survivor, the perpetrator, and the bystander, as this one act of non-consensual sex affects all involved.

STATS FROM THE SCENE:

Only 24% of female college students recently reported feeling safe when socialising at night, with this figure dropping to 13% of females who had experienced sexual misconduct since joining college.

Of those who experienced sexual misconduct, 47% of students reported that the perpetrator was a student at their college...

And 26% reported that the harassment happened on campus.

Two thirds of females and 70% of males reported that the perpetrator had been using alcohol and / or drugs just prior to the incident.

"I CAN'T HELP BUT RELIVE IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN, AND THINK OF ALL THE THINGS I COULD HAVE DONE DIFFERENTLY."

Source: The Sexual Experiences Survey, (Union of Students in Ireland and Active* Consent: Burke, O'Higgins, Mclvor, Dawson, O'Donovan & MacNeela, 2020).

Scene

9

"HEALING ISN'T LINEAR"

"I'M NOT COMPLETE, BUT NOT BROKEN"



IN THIS SCENE: This scene explores two survivors' perspectives on their healing journeys following experiences of sexual violence. Their intertwined monologues give voice to their complex, circular and/or frustrating processes of healing as well as show the beauty that survivors can still access in engaging with the world, and with each other.

STATS FROM THE SCENE:

There are many reasons why an individual does not disclose experiencing sexual violence- they may think the incident wasn't serious enough, or they felt shame or embarrassment.

Others may think they would not be believed, or that they would be blamed for it.

Many individuals handle it themselves, but of those who did tell someone, 79% told a close friend.

But unfortunately, only 26% of college students said they knew where to go to get help on campus if they or a friend experienced sexual violence and/or harassment.

Source: *The Sexual Experiences Survey*, (Union of Students in Ireland and Active* Consent: Burke, O'Higgins, McIvor, Dawson, O'Donovan & MacNeela, 2020).

Scene

10

"THE WEAKEST KINK"

STATS FROM THE SCENE:

7% of females, 22% of males and 3% of non-binary college students said that if a girl initiates kissing or hooking up, she should not be surprised if a man assumes she wants to have sex.

And while 88% of college students felt that sexual consent should always be obtained before the start of any sexual activity...

Only 62% thought that most other people they care about feel that asking for sexual consent is something they should do.



IN THIS SCENE: The concept: a rabidly randy hurler from Kilkenny; an Insta hunny influencer extraordinaire from Galway; a game show host from Dublin who you'd just love to punch; and an average Joe pulled straight out of his sitting room on a Saturday night in. You put them all on a game show where the question category is the do's and don't's of consent etiquette. What gets revealed in between the laugh tracks? This scene confronts some common consent expectations we may have head on, and lightly suggests a better alternative from our resident cast of crazies!

"WHAT PART OF ANY OF THIS MADE YOU THINK THIS IS A GAME?!"

Source: *Report on the National Survey of Student Experiences of Sexual Violence and Harassment in Irish Higher Education Institutions* (Higher Education Authority: MacNeela, Dawson, O'Rourke, Healy-Cullen, Burke & Flack, 2022).

Scene

11

"ALL THE DIFFERENCE"

"THEY ASKED ME IF THIS IS WHAT I WANTED, BECAUSE THEY DEFINITELY DID. IT WAS."



IN THIS SCENE: This monologue explores two formative sexual experiences in a young woman's life: one where she felt overwhelmed by the experience, and one where she felt totally comfortable and able to communicate. The audience follows her through the lows and then highs of learning to communicate directly about what she really wants and the pleasurable sexual connection with a partner that follows.

STATS FROM THE SCENE:

Although 86% of college students would ask their partner if they are interested in engaging in sexual intercourse,

26% also said that they would just keep moving forward in sexual behaviours or actions unless their partner stopped them.

Source: Report on the National Survey of Student Experiences of Sexual Violence and Harassment in Irish Higher Education Institutions (Higher Education Authority: MacNeela, Dawson, O'Rourke, Healy-Cullen, Burke & Flack, 2022).

Scene

12

CONSENT

IN THIS SCENE: This final scene explores: "What does consent look like?" "Sound like?" "Feel like?" We celebrate the sensory feelings. The confidence and joy we can experience in the moment. The comfort. The little moments of checking in. The exploration. Most importantly, the connection.



"CONSENT IS NOT ONE MOMENT, IT'S ALL OF THEM, ONE AFTER THE OTHER."



ACTIVE* CONSENT

To complete the Active* Consent pre- and post-play survey following your attendance at the play, [click here](#)

For more information and further resources, visit www.consenthub.ie

To contact us about trainings, workshops or for further information:

Email: activeconsent@universityofgalway.ie

Follow us: @ActiveConsent

