Using media literacy to address issues of sexual health among youth.

# **LESSON:** The Gift Of Sexuality

## **Overview**

After discussing their own perspectives as to how expressions of sexuality change throughout an individual's lifetime (The Gift of Sexuality, Part 1), participants use images taken from print ads to make a collage illustrating how the media portrays sexuality.

#### **Objectives:**

- To identify media messages about sexuality
- To reflect upon the ways in which sexuality is packaged in the media for the purpose of selling a product

Level: Middle / High School

Time: 1 class period

#### **Preparation and Materials:**

- · White Board
- Magazines, paper, glue, scissors OR Access to the Web
- · Slide: Properties of Sexuality
- Handout: Gift of Sexuality

#### **Procedures**

- 1. To begin a guided discussion, view the **Gift of Sexuality** video clip. Write "Gift of Sexuality" on a white board, and remind the group of Dennis' words about the wonderful gift of sexuality.
- 2. Ask the group to comment on what they think Dennis meant when he talked about the "wonderful gift which is sexuality." Points to consider include:
  - · A gift brings pleasure
  - A special gift is to be treasured

Be sure to record student responses on the flip chart.

- 3. On the white board, draw a box around the letters s-e-x, and state that sexuality is much more than just these three letters. Ask the group to define what they think sexuality means. Points to consider include:
  - How does a baby act in a relationship?
  - How does a baby show love and affection?
  - How does a baby feel about their bodies?
  - Who is a baby attracted to?

### **Activity**

Have each student choose a partner. Remind the class that sexuality is a gift that celebrates who we are biologically, emotionally, and spiritually from the moment we are born and continues throughout our whole life. Then distribute the **Gift of Sexuality** Handout. Ask each pair to draw in each box some of the ways they feel children express their sexuality at the various stages throughout childhood.

#### Assessment

Responses to the handout sheet for this lesson.