

# Voices of Sexuality Education

Giving voice to the experiences and opinions of a diverse range of young people, families and communities

**Authors:** Stephens K,<sup>1</sup> Ollis D,<sup>2</sup> Tomnay J<sup>1</sup>

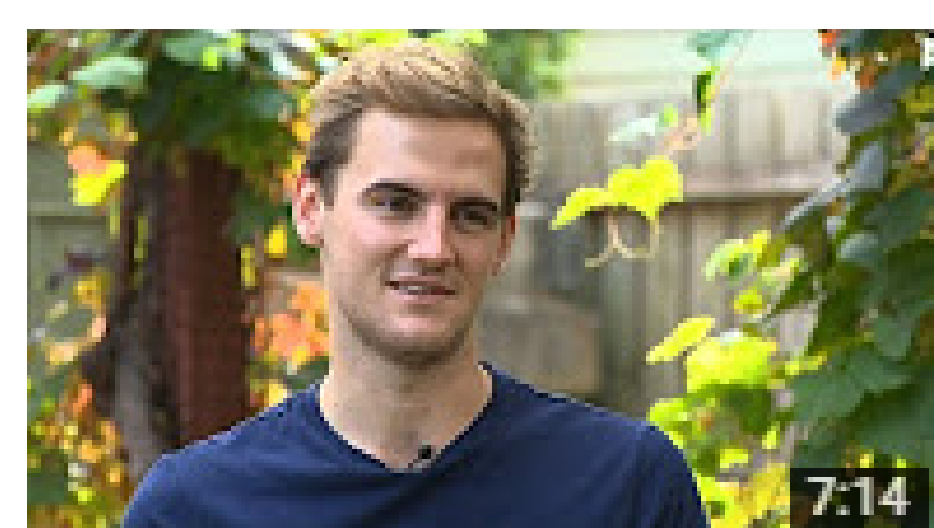
1 Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health, University of Melbourne

2 Deakin University



## Background

A **challenge** for teachers and community workers is to provide **sexuality education and sexual health support** that is **inclusive and relevant** for all young people. **Sexuality education** in schools and other settings can shine a light on **deeply felt beliefs** by different groups of people and the **range of expectations** that families and communities have of sexuality education.



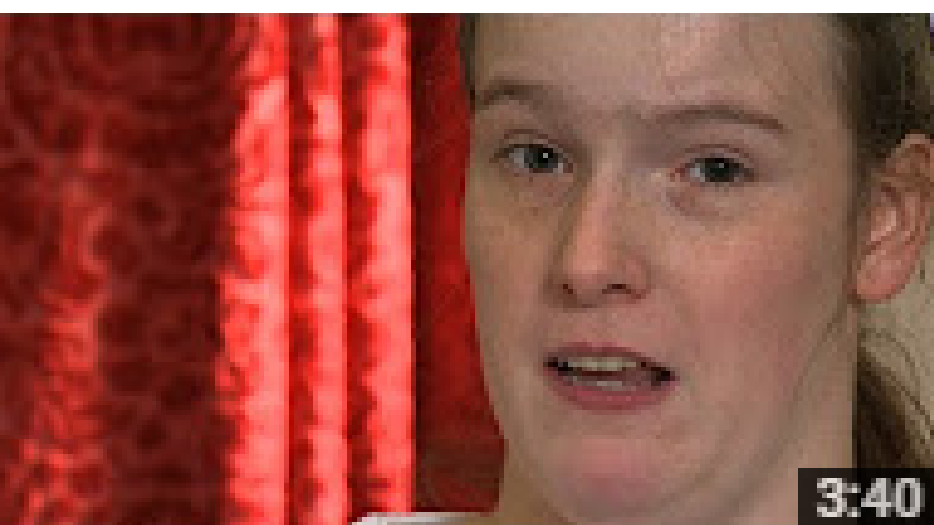
Rural young people and their communities



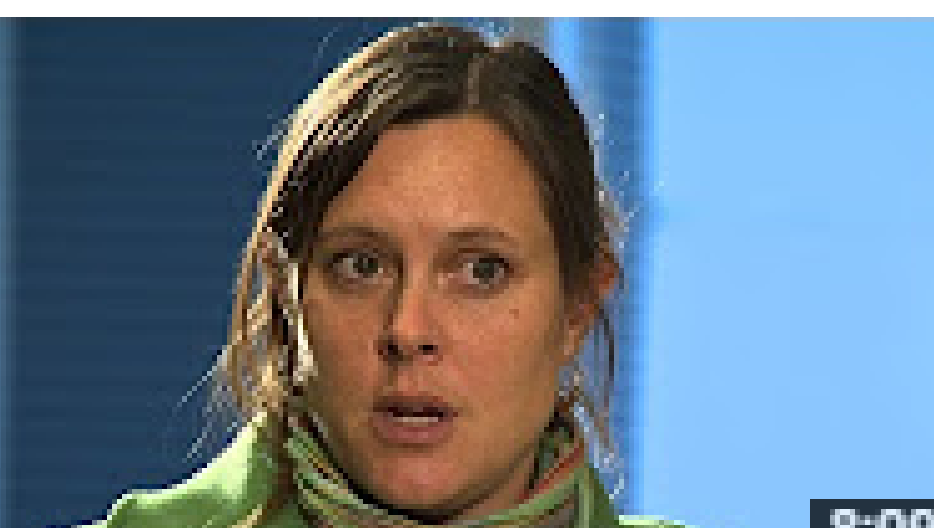
Same sex attracted and gender diverse students and families



Culturally diverse families



Students with a disability



Pornography, young people and sexuality education

## Method

CERSH **collaborated with over 20 organisations** across the education, youth, health and community sectors to **produce an on-line resource for educators**. **Sexuality education professionals** provided advice on the project, featured in the clips and ensured the resource was theoretically informed.



## Results

A collection of **23 YouTube clips** that portray the **sexuality education experiences of a diverse range of young people** and their parents/carers. It has been utilised in a **range of learning contexts**, with a **variety of audiences**, including teacher training curriculum, multicultural health settings, a community of practice and as a tool to engage parents/carers in conversations.

### The resource:

- prepares educators to teach sexuality education
- provides opportunity for educators to critique and reflect on their practices
- aligns with contemporary sexuality education resources
- provides resource links and prompt questions to engage educators in critical reflection

## Conclusion

The resource **gives voice to the opinions of diverse young people** and parents/carers, **highlights emerging issues** within sexuality education, and **provides practical ideas and resources**. The **project resulted in collaboration** across multiple and diverse intersections, settings and systems to produce **constructive learning resources** for contemporary sexuality education.



**View the resource at [www.cersh.com.au/voices](http://www.cersh.com.au/voices)**

Contact Kylie Stephens, CERSH  
[kylies@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:kylies@unimelb.edu.au)



CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE IN RURAL SEXUAL HEALTH

**CERSH**