

Turning Points DVD

DVD Synopsis

The drama is about Peter and Emma who have been an item for more than two months. Peter is afraid he has an STI. He is convinced that he has AIDS but lacks the confidence to talk about it.

To celebrate their two months' anniversary, they have a romantic evening culminating in sex, which they both had planned but neither of them had discussed it with the other.

Emma has started taking the pill - they believed that this was sufficient protection as they both trusted each other.

Eventually, Peter, encouraged by his friend Clive, goes to the GUM clinic and is diagnosed with Chlamydia.

The programme gives information about STIs, in particular Chlamydia, and how GUM clinics work.

It also raises issues about:

- *When young people are ready for sex*
- *The importance of being able to negotiate and communicate with a partner*
- *The concept of commitment and trust in a relationship, and responsibility to self and others.*

Discussion Points Answers

1. Why did Emma go on the pill?

Emma went on the pill because Peter and her had been going steady for a few months. Emma loved Peter, she thought that they might have sex soon. Emma wanted to protect herself from becoming pregnant when they decided to have sex, she was sensible and got herself prepared.

2. Why did Peter not want to use a condom?

Peter thought if he suggested to Emma that they used a condom, that she would think he didn't trust her.

3. Why did Emma not want to use a condom?

Emma did not want to ask Peter to use a condom because she thought that it might look like she didn't trust Peter. Emma also thought that she was not going to get pregnant as she was on the pill.

4. Why should Peter and Emma have used a condom?

Peter and Emma should have used a condom because even though Emma was on the pill, the pill does not protect a person from getting a STI. Condoms are the method of contraception that prevents a person from catching a STI when used correctly, but they are not the most reliable method of contraception. Condoms should be used with a LARC form of contraception (Implant, IUD, IUS or Injection) this is known as 'Double Dutch.'

5. Why did Peter think he had an STI?

Peter thought that he had an STI as it hurt him when he was urinating; he had a burning sensation in his penis.

6. What STI did Peter have?

Chlamydia

7. How was the STI treated?

With a course of antibiotics.

8. Would Emma know if she had the same STI as Peter?

Emma may not be aware that she has an STI as some STIs can have no symptoms. Chlamydia, particularly in females, can often have no symptoms. Women can be infected for a long time without realising it and if it is left untreated it can result in women becoming infertile.