

Minnesota Sexuality Education Resource Review Panel

Summary of Panel Review
Review Date – June 2009

Bitter Memories (2009)

Format: DVD & Lesson Plan
Target Audience: Stated audience: Not Stated
Recommended by panel: 7th grade – College and Parents
Cost: \$89.00
Distributor: Scenarios USA
80 Hanson Place Suite 305, Brooklyn NY 11217 • 718.230.5125 • www.scenariosusa.org

The Minnesota Sexuality Education Resource Review Panel **Recommends with Reservation** use of this video for the following reasons and with the following reservations:

Review Summary:

As part of the annual Scenarios USA “What the REAL DEAL” writing contest, a young woman wrote **Bitter Memories**. The video depicts a young man who grows up watching his father abuse his mother. Because of the violence the young man witnesses, he is forced to confront the violent tendencies within himself. According to Scenarios USA, **Bitter Memories** examines masculinity by addressing responsibility, relationships and the cycle of domestic violence. The video can be viewed online and lesson plans can be downloaded for free online.

The panel **recommends with reservations** **Bitter Memories** for the following reasons:

- This resource necessitates an experienced and strong facilitator, who is competent to discuss all issues related to the video and familiar with the audience.
- Realistic setting, story line and excellent actors. Resource is up-to-date.

The panel has concerns about the following elements of **Bitter Memories**:

- Study guide and video do not relate well with one another.
- Video could perpetuate negative stereotypes.
- Resource should be used in addition to other material and not as a stand alone piece.

Overall, the panel **recommends with reservations** **Bitter Memories** for use as a sexuality education resource. One panel member said of **Bitter Memories**, “this is the best Scenarios video we’ve even seen...video and production quality are fab.”

Assessment Criteria	Mean Score (1-5)	Additional Information
Information is medically accurate and presented using the correct terminology	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video is about dating violence, so category is not applicable
Focuses on clear health goals: prevention of STI, HIV and/or pregnancy	2.7	<u>This resource focused on:</u> Sexual violence and relationships
Does the material guide participant or learner to acquire new skills?	2.9	<u>The panel acknowledges that this resource guides the participant/learner to acquire the following skills</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem solving/Conflict resolution • Decision making • Respect
Does this resource address multiple factors affecting sexual behaviors	1.5	<u>According to the panel, this resource addresses the following factor(s) that affect sexual behavior(s):</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perception of peer norms about sex and perception of peer sexual behavior
Create a safe social environment for youth to participate	2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video and Study guide leave it up to the Facilitator to create a safe environment
Employs instructionally sound teaching methods and activities that engage learners	2.5	<u>The panel recognizes that the following elements are present in this resource as a way to engage learners:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class discussions • Small group work • Role plays • Competitive games • Student centered activities
Target audience	7 – 9 grades 10 – 12 grades College + Parents	<u>The panel feels that the following people group and/or demographic area were considered in this resource:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race/Ethnicity: Latino/a/Hispanic • Urban • Suburban • People with disabilities
Culturally and developmentally appropriate	3.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culturally appropriate for Hispanic young people
Organization of resource	3.3	<u>The panel finds the resource:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covers topics in a logical sequence • Study guide is not well organized with clear, thorough instructions. • Requires more than minimal assembly and significant preparation time required
Facilitation Skills Required How knowledgeable and skilled must the facilitator be to use this resource effectively?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires leader with strong content knowledge and group skills
Presentation Quality How appealing is the resource, e.g, up-to-date graphics, appealing to look at, easy to read, etc.	4.4	
Overall Recommendation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommend Highly - 0 ▪ Recommend - 7 ▪ Recommend with Reservations - 11 ▪ Reject – 0