Basic Info on STDs

STD = Sexually Transmitted Disease
2. Today there are over **25** different STDs. [1]

3. Some STDs cause minor problems like skin irritations while others can cause various forms of **cancer** or lead to **infertility** (not being able to have **children**). [2]

4. Some STDs can be passed from **mother** to **child** during pregnancy or delivery, which can cause serious problems and may be fatal. [2]

5. Some STDs show no **symptoms**. [2]

6. Some STDs are **treatable** and **curable**. Others are **not**. [2]


While so called “safe sex” (condoms, etc.) can reduce the risk of getting some STDs, it cannot guarantee 100% protection. [1]

Because some STDs can be passed along by skin-to-skin contact, the only real 100% guarantee of protection is practicing chastity. [2]

“Condoms reduce the risk of contracting HIV by 85% (and just 50% for most other STDs). If I had a skydiving company and the parachutes opened 85% of the time, would you go skydiving with me?”

- Chris Stefanich [3]


1991: 22% infected
Abstain
Be Faithful
Condoms as a last resort
1999: 6% infected
“When you have sex with someone you are having sex with everyone they have had sex with for the last 10 years, and everyone they and their partners have had sex with for the last 10 years.”

- Dr. C. Everett Koop, former U.S. Surgeon General

As quoted by “Safe Sex?” (Boise, Idaho: Grapevine Publications, 1993)
Don’t rely on popular media to give you the best advice regarding STDs. In fact, the full consequences of being unchaste are very rarely talked about in magazines, books, TV shows, and movies.
Your task: find the false or misleading information

Every day, 1,000 kids are infected with HIV. The Secret Life of the American Teenager’s Shailene Woodley wants you to help fight the deadly virus.

Why it matters:

“Two years ago, I heard that about two million kids are living with HIV—most get it from their moms during pregnancy or breast-feeding. And half of all babies born with HIV around the world will die by their second birthday if they don’t get treatment. I

Shailene wants everyone to protect themselves:

“If you’re having sex, use condoms and get tested for HIV.”
In real life: You can get an STD any time you have unprotected oral sex or sexual intercourse, so before every new partner or reunion with an old one, you need to talk about your past sexual history and get tested for STDs. (And always use condoms to protect against both STDs and pregnancy—you never see that on TV!)
A love story...
HPV (Human papillomavirus)

Can lead to cervical cancer, genital warts, and be passed on to children, leading to warts on their throats which will need up to 20 laser surgeries over a number of years to remove.
Super Popular Sybil

Sal

Gonorrhea

Can lead to bladder cancer, cause infertility in both men and women, and be passed on to children, which can lead to blindness, joint disorders, and life-threatening blood infections.
Chlamydia

Can cause infertility in both men and women and/or lead to pelvic inflammatory disease in women, which could potentially cause death while giving birth.
Herpes

Can lead to lesions (wounds) appearing where the virus was contracted. These lesions usually begin as small blisters before breaking and becoming painful ulcers (open sores).
Sorry Honey Sal

STDs

Sweetheart Sally
SUMMARY

1. Just staying a virgin (someone who has never had sex) does not automatically protect you from STDs (some can be transferred by skin-to-skin contact).

2. Many people who have STDs don’t even know they have them until years later (8 out of 10 people who have an STD don’t know they are infected).

3. STDs can completely change your life. In some cases: Infertility, cancer, death, etc.

4. There is no such thing as “safe sex”. It’s a big fat lie that you’ll probably be told til’ the day you die. Abstinence is the only truly safe way.

5. “Messing around” with someone (even once) can link you to literally hundreds of other people who may or may not be infected with an STD.

6. STDs are just plain GROSS.
So what is the only FOR SURE way to keep yourself, any future boyfriends/girlfriends, and your future spouse STD-free?

**ANSWER:**

**LIVING ACCORDING TO GOD’S PLAN BY PRACTICING CHASTITY IN ALL OF YOUR RELATIONSHIPS.**
THE PURITY LADDER

1. Puts self into tempting situations and does whatever "feels good".
   - The Conscience Killer

2. Puts self into tempting situations and then tries to fight the temptation.
   - The Stupid Fighter

3. Avoids tempting situations by "running away", turning away, etc.
   - The Smart Runaway

4. Is able to look at and treat someone with all the love and respect that they deserve.
   - The Pure of Heart

GOAL: "To the heights!"

* We should ALWAYS be above this rung *
EXAMPLE 1

You go to wild and crazy college parties where there are tons of people getting drunk, wearing very little clothing, hooking up, and getting in other kinds of trouble. The pressure to be cool and fit in is so strong that you almost always give in and get drunk or hook up with someone or regret what you did the next day.

Where is this person on the Purity Ladder? How come?
EXAMPLE 2

You bring your laptop or your phone into your bedroom late at night (after your parents go to bed), close and lock your door, and then Google for inappropriate pictures and videos.

Where is this person on the Purity Ladder? How come?

1. The Conscience Killer
   - Puts self into tempting situations and does whatever "feels good".
   - "To the heights!"

2. The Stupid Fighter
   - Puts self into tempting situations and then tries to fight the temptation.
   - Keep going!

3. The Smart Runaway
   - Avoids tempting situations by "running away", turning away, etc.
   - * We should ALWAYS be above this rung *
   - Keep going!

4. The Pure of Heart
   - Is able to look at and treat someone with all the love and respect that they deserve.
   - Keep going!

Where is this person on the Purity Ladder? How come?
EXAMPLE 3

The story of Bishop Nonnus and Pelagia

Where are the bishops in this story on the Purity Ladder? How come?

THE PURITY LADDER

4. Is able to look at and treat someone with all the love and respect that they deserve.

3. Avoids tempting situations by "running away", turning away, etc.

2. Puts self into tempting situations and then tries to fight the temptation.

1. Puts self into tempting situations and does whatever "feels good".

* We should ALWAYS be above this rung *

The Pure of Heart

The Smart Runaway

The Stupid Fighter

The Conscience Killer