

Dare to Care on Air Ep. 1: Flirting Transcript

tegan: Hello everyone and welcome to Dare to Care on Air. This is a podcast from the sexual assault prevention and sexual health peer educators here at Knox College. Our goal is to provide you with the tools and knowledge to make informed decisions about how you want to interact with others. Just as a content warning, today we will be talking about relationships, sex, and unwanted advances in the context of flirting. If you want or need support there are resources in the description of this podcast.

Intro for tegan and tori: just names

tegan: theme for today is flirting and we will be using situations both from online relationship threads and our anonymous form in order to discuss What is flirting for, some ways to do it, ways to deal with it when you don't want it.

Tori: So a question we got and I'm sure many others have is what is flirting for and how do i do it?

Tegan: definition can be different, but for me it is to: get friendlier with someone to help you figure out what you might want from the interaction. Different ways to do this depending on your strengths, goals, and the person you are flirting with

Tori: So what are some goals you can have?

Tegan: Flirting can be used to flatter someone, to directly communicate interest, or even to create tension. The tough part can be figuring out if it's working, which leads us into our next question. Would you like to read that, Tori?

Tori: I really like to use teasing or trash talk as flirting, but I don't really feel like people understand that I'm flirting. How do I fix that?

- Playful teasing and things like that only work if it's happening on both sides. The goal of teasing and trash talk is usually to create some kind of romantic or sexual tension, so if it's one-sided, it's usually just uncomfortable.
- insert example: mention tone
- you ideally should be getting just as much teasing back as you are giving out and if this isn't the case, it's probably best to stop it or try a different strategy
- ~~playful teasing, etc.~~
 - ~~goal of establishing tension perhaps~~
 - ~~should be mutual!~~
 - ~~goal is different~~
- How do I know when to stop flirting or hitting on someone?
- not knowing when to stop
 - very similar to what we were just talking about. there should be some back and forth with flirting. if not, stop

- something can happen after someone not being responsive to you flirting, but it sure as hell isn't going to happen right away. don't be pushy
- also, even if it is mutual, it can still change at any point. flirting is not always a clear sign of interest. you both might just be testing the waters. and that's a fine goal!
- Sometimes flirting does mean interest, which leads us to our next question:
- How do I move from flirting to something else?
 - This is a good place to be direct and communicate what you want and find out what the other person wants.
 - Even if flirting was going well, your interests might not align, and that's okay!
- Speaking of interests not aligning, what do I do when people are flirting with me and I don't want them to be?
 - can be a strange situation since you may be uncomfortable directly calling out their behavior as flirtatious if you maybe aren't sure
 - address the specific behaviors rather than calling them flirting
 - provide example
- power dynamics and flirting
- I got very close with a teacher in my school last year. He felt almost like a friend rather than a teacher. This year I was assigned him for English. What struck me as strange at first was that he let me know that I was in his class before I even had my schedule and was really excited to tell me when I ran into him in the hall. he would call on me a lot. so much that people in the class started to comment on it. He holds me back after class almost every day to ask if I'm looking for tutoring, or even just to chat. It started getting annoying this week. Whenever I sit with my friends he moves me to sit at the front. A girl in my class mentioned that he stares at me a lot. Everyone I confide in just tells me to be grateful "he's hot, you're so lucky" except for my guy friends. They think he's coming on strong. Is this a case of a teacher just liking a student and enjoying their company, or is he overstepping a boundary? I don't know what to do.
 - if you're uncomfortable you're uncomfortable. it doesn't matter what his intentions are.
 - people shouldn't be telling you you're lucky (maybe not healthy or good relationships with those people) they also seem to be dismissing your discomfort
 - tell
 - tell a faculty member who you trust what is happening. here at knox some examples are someone from health services and counseling or kim schrader herself.
 - flirting where power dynamics are involved can be really difficult to deal with on your own, so don't be afraid to get help from others
- confronting friend who is flirting with your significant other?
- How should i confront my best friend about flirting with my girlfriend ?

- I recently introduced my gf to my best friends. They all got along very well and everything was nice. When one of my friend went back to his place he stayed in contact with my gf, which is cool, she told me about that and i could trust them both with my life. Anyways. Several days of talking and exchanging funny tiktok, she tells me that she noticed several weird "signs", like hé could be flirting but, like, starting soft. (He does not know that I know they talk, from his point of view they are talking behind my back). So yea, somebody got an Idea ?..
 - depends on her comfort level mostly. if it's she's discussing things with you and you trust her, no need to bring it up
 - if it gets to the point where she is uncomfortable, say something!
 - this might not be the only place he is behaving this way, and it could be a good time to discuss boundaries with your friend if he doesn't seem to respect them
 - but make sure you aren't doing things on behalf of others if they don't want it!!
- wrong to see others while flirting?
- Is it morally wrong for me to hook up with other people while me and this girl are kinda flirting with each other? I've been interested with this girl for a month now and I'm pretty sure she likes me back, But with relationships I like to take them really slow so I don't run into anything I don't like and in pretty sure she's interested in me too, So would it be wrong for me to hook up with others?
 - this is... a suspici.
 - think about what you want out of the relationship
 - are you ready for that relationship?
- Is flirting cheating?
 - Discuss setting boundaries, communication, etc.
-
-
-
-
-

We hope this was helpful and maybe even a little fun. We do have a form open where you can submit your own situations. You can also use that form to ask questions about anything you heard today that was unclear or you maybe didn't agree with. Thank you so much for listening and be sure to attend the Sex Ed Mad Science fair on the 26th in Ferris Lounge

getting clarification on drunk events (do they really like me or were they just drunk?)

- be direct!
- doesn't have to be a weird question about what did that mean, etc
- just move forward and take steps to put the relationship where you want it to be
- ask a question at the beginning and get responses to read out at beginning of next section:
 - ideas for flirting messages/lines?
 - strangest flirting experience?
- What is flirting for? What are some ways to do it?
 - get friendlier with someone to help you figure out what you might want from the interaction
 - establish tension (romantic, sexual)
 - does it always have to lead somewhere?
 - flirting does not equal expectations, but you also don't have to flirt with intentions that may be normally associated with the act. your goals could just be to test the waters. flirting is not always a clear sign of interest
 - ways:
 - depends on your strengths
 - figure out your goals!
 - different types of flirting will work for different people
 - maybe insert some examples from Tori and Tegan
- going further in a relationship/ not being sure if ready
 - check in! only fun if it's fun for both
 - might need to discuss other factors such as how background will impact