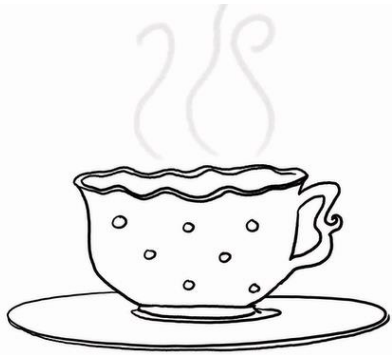




What if when your friend was over at your house last Saturday they said yes to tea then.

Does that mean they want the tea all the time?

No. You still need to ask them. They don't want you to come around to their place and make them tea and force them to drink it saying, "BUT YOU WANTED TEA LAST WEEK."



What if you bought the tea just for them because you thought they would want tea?

Does that mean they have to have tea with you?

No; they still have a choice to decide if they want to have tea. You should not assume because you did something nice for them, even something that costs money, that they are going to have tea.

IT'S THE SAME
WITH
SEX.

Now, replace the tea with sex.

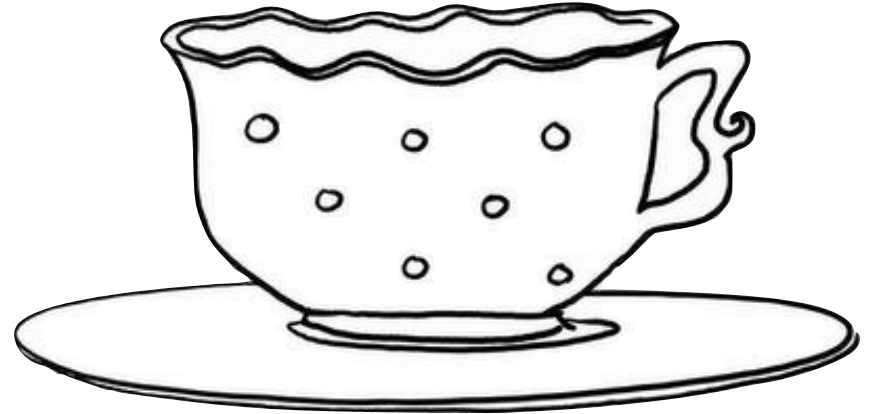
What is different or stays the same if you had these responses from a partner with whom you wanted to have sex?

The approach to sorting out whether the other person wants sex—or wants to hold your hand, or kiss you—are the same as figuring out if they want tea. You always have to ask, the other person needs to agree; and if they do not agree, you must respect the decision they make.

CONSENT
IS EVERYTHING.

CONSENT

IT'S AS SIMPLE AS TEA



A VHUTSHILO 2 RESOURCE: #5

Consent is a very important part of a healthy dating relationship. Consent means giving permission for something to happen or agreeing to do something. In a dating relationship, when you are trying to decide with your boyfriend or girlfriend how you want to show that you love each other, consent gets a little tricky.

To help understand consent, some clever people* made a cartoon to help you think about it more clearly by comparing it to having tea. We are going to look at these cartoons and talk about how saying yes or no to tea is the same as saying yes or no to sex. It is all about giving consent.

* Watch the animation online at: <https://vimeo.com/128105683>

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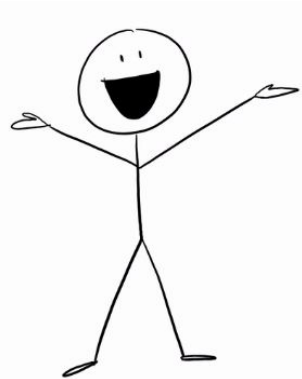
ASPIRES



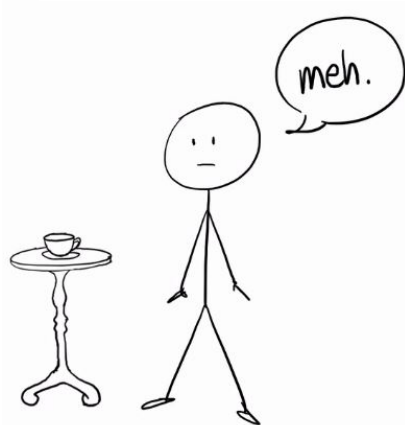
Each of the cartoons helps us think about how we say yes or no to drinking tea. At the end of the cartoons we talk a little more about what it means to give consent or say NO.



Imagine you are with your friend, someone you have romantic feelings for. You want to have some tea and decide to offer them some tea too. You say, "Hey, would you like a cup of tea?"



Imagine your friend says, "Oh my goodness, yes, I would LOVE a cup of tea! Thank you!"
What do you think? Do they want tea? What are you going to do?
They definitely want tea and you get it for them.



If you say, "Hey, would you like a cup of tea?" and they um and ahh and say, "I'm not really sure..."
What are you going to do?
If they say they're not really sure and you still make them tea, be aware that they may not drink it. You cannot blame them for you making tea when they said they were not sure they wanted tea.



If they say, "No, thank you."
If they say no to tea, don't make them tea. Don't try to convince them to have tea and don't get cross that they don't want tea.



What if your friend says, "Yes, please, that's kind of you," and then when the tea arrives they actually don't want the tea at all."
Then what are you going to do?
You do not force them into wanting the tea. It's annoying as you've gone to the effort of making the tea, but they do not have to drink the tea. They did want tea, now they don't. Sometimes people change their mind and it's okay for people to change their mind.



What if your friend fell asleep or passed out and you want tea?
Do you make them tea?
If they are sleeping or unconscious, don't make them tea. Unconscious people don't want tea and cannot answer the question, "Do you want tea?" Even if they might have wanted tea before they feel asleep, you cannot make them drink tea when they are unconscious. Put the tea down and make sure they are safe.