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RELATIONSHIPS CARDS – GAME INSTRUCTIONS

This is a conversation game. It's about sharing ideas and opinions. It should be fun and interesting.



- Sit in a circle with a small group of 3-6 people. Make sure everyone in the class has a group.
- Every group uses a set of cards to play independently. One person in each group takes a card and reads out the top section. Then ask each question one at a time in your small group.
- Stop after each question so everyone in the group can share their opinion.
 Make sure everyone who wants to respond gets the chance.
- It's ok to have different opinions. Everyone should listen and show respect. No one has to share an opinion or read out the questions; it's fine to pass.
- Then another person takes a card and asks the questions on it.

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Does the other person feel the same?

You're at a party and someone you **really like** walks into the room. You haven't told them you like them, but you want to make your move and let them know.

- **A.** What are some ways you could find out if they feel the same way about you?
- **B.** What kind of body language shows they might like you?
- **C.** What kind of body language means they might **not** be interested in you romantically?
- **D.** What might you say to them to find out if they like you too?



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Relationships include freedom too

A healthy relationship should bring more happiness than sadness or stress. It should allow people to keep some important freedoms. This includes those listed below.

Talk with your group. Why are each of these freedoms important?

- A. The freedom to see family and friends
- **B.** The freedom to control your own money
- C. The freedom to make decisions about your own body
- **D.** The freedom to follow your own cultural practices, religion or spiritual beliefs
- **E.** The freedom to have your own hobbies or interests



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Human rights

In Australia today, same-sex and queer couples have the same rights as heterosexual couples, at least on paper!

This is a major milestone, and a human rights achievement for us all to be proud of.

However, sometimes these rights aren't realised in real life.

- **A.** Why is it important that same-sex and queer couples have the same rights as heterosexual couples?
- **B.** What impact can sexual and gender discrimination have on people?
- **C.** What can be done in a school environment to help protect the human rights of people who are in same-sex or queer relationships?

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Controlling behaviours

People may think relationship abuse is all about physical violence, but there are other negative behaviours that are forms of abuse or control.

Talk with your group. Do you think each one of these behaviours is controlling and/or abusive? Why or why not?

- **A.** Telling your partner they aren't allowed to wear a certain outfit because it is 'too sexy'
- **B.** Telling someone the colour they're wearing looks great on them
- **C.** Secretly reading your partner's messages, diary or other personal things
- **D.** Telling your partner that they see their friends too much and that they shouldn't
- **E.** Asking someone if they are free on Friday night because you'd love to go to the movies with them

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Breaking up

It can feel so sad to break up with a partner, or when they break up with you.

It really hurts to have your heart broken! But sometimes it can be for the best in the end.

- **A.** What are some circumstances in which it may be best for a couple to break up?
- B. What are some ways to break up respectfully?
- **C.** If a person is feeling depressed about a break-up, where can they get support?
- **D.** If one of your friends was depressed about a break-up, how could you support them?



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Balance in relationships

Sometimes when people have a new partner, they spend almost **all** their time together. This can be fine for a while, but if it goes on too long a person can become overly dependent on their partner or lose touch with friends or family members.

- **A.** What are some of the issues with becoming overly dependent on a partner?
- **B.** How can people keep other parts of their life strong outside of their romantic relationship?
- C. How might an unhealthy relationship feel?
- **D.** How might a healthy relationship feel to the people in it?

