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## Safer Sex Without a Condom

(Ed. Note: The following article deals with sexual information in an honest and explicit fashion. Rather than censor what we feel to be important educational information, we leave our readers to exercise their own judgment in reading this piece.)

"I hate condoms! They're such a turnoff, they're too much work, and I can't stand the way they feel."

Tired of using condoms? Well, you don't have to, and you can still protect yourself against AIDS and HIV.

When people talk about safe sex, the focus is almost exclusively on condoms. Information campaigns, AIDS educators, and public health officials all remind us, in one form or another, "Don't forget your rubbers."

But these public health campaigns take a rather narrow view of our sex lives, presuming that all we know how to do is fuck, and ignoring the myriad of other ways that we really have sex.

While it is true that condoms are an essential part of protecting yourself and your partners if you are having anal or vaginal intercourse, there are countless other sexual activities that simply don't involve putting anyone at risk for infection.

Somewhere along the line, our heterosexual culture decided that it isn't really sex unless it involves a penis going into someone's body, and a lot of gay men have bought into that. But when it comes to sex, we can be more creative than that.

Simply put, there's a lot more to good sex than fucking. And lots of reasons to explore other activities.

Maybe you've just met someone and neither one of you has a condom handy, but you really want to go ahead and have sex. Maybe you're just starting a sexual relationship with someone and you don't feel ready for fucking. Maybe you don't trust condoms to really provide the protection you need. Maybe you and your partner are both "bottoms" or both "tops." Maybe one of you has a penis too big for the other one to take comfortably (a happy problem for some). Maybe you're tired of the "suck and fuck" routine and you want some variety. Maybe you've just plain never particularly liked anal sex in the first place.

Whatever the reason, safe sex without a condom is worth exploring: it can be every bit as hot, enjoyable and intense as intercourse, and can be a lot less predictable.

The possibilities are limited only by our imaginations.

Almost everyone has some experience with masturbation - at least by themselves - but the variations on mutual masturbation can be practically endless. For some men, the sight of another man jerking off is a major turn-on, and a pair watching each other even more so. For some the positions involved in this can enhance the excitement - straddling someone's chest and jerking off onto their chest or face is a common favorite. Perhaps you'll find you enjoy watching from across the room -where you are just far enough away from each other to tease yourselves with it. And, of course, more than two can play at this game - and sometimes a whole group of guys masturbating is a real visual and audio delight.

Watching each other can be made even more enjoyable by combining it with other turn-ons -- jock straps, slowly stripping, torn clothing, uniforms, cock rings, dirty talk.

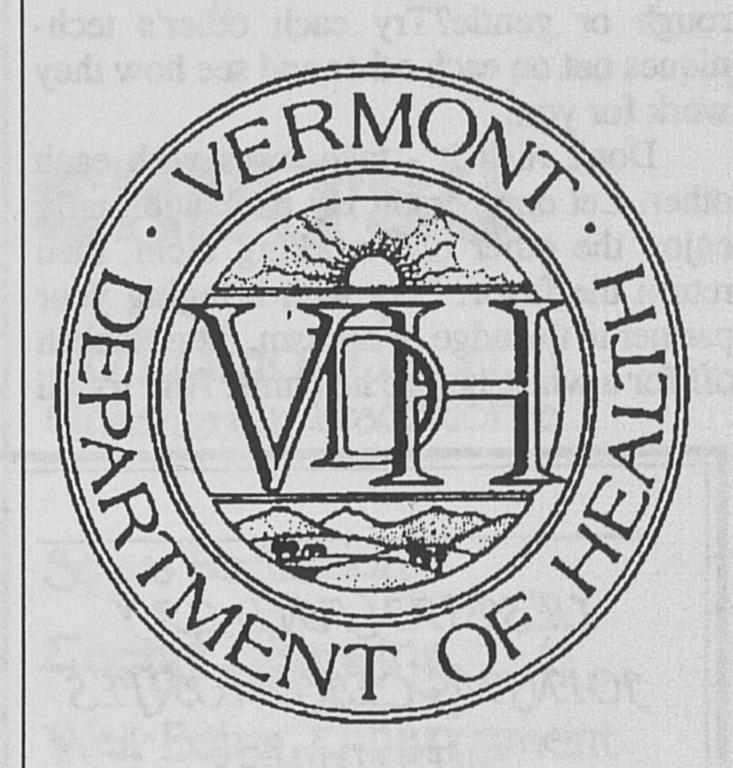
For some, watching each other masturbate is a turn-on because it reminds them of similar youthful experiences: the high school locker room, the camp-out trips with friends, etc. If that's a plus for you, play it up and fantasize about it - tell each other stories, remind yourselves what was enjoyable about it, act out favorite episodes of the sort from the past.

For others, this reminder of the days of surreptitious teenage sex is just as likely to be a turn-off. Just watching someone else isn't going to do it for them.

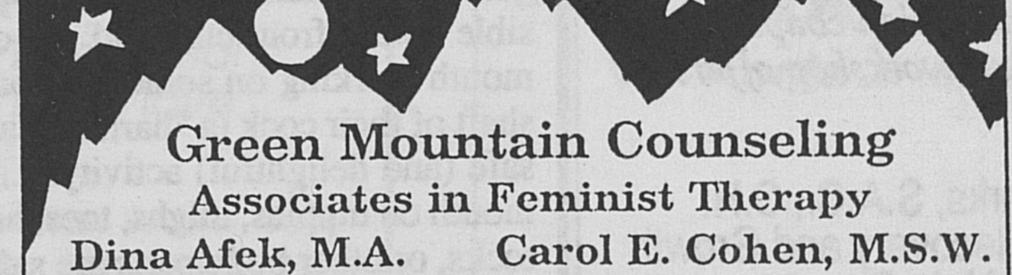
Holding another man's penis in your hand (or yours in his) is pretty damn safe, and once you've got it in your hand, there are all kinds of wonderful things to do with

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