

A virtual reality experience about sexual consent

YWCA Montreal is launching *Do You NO the Limit? – 360° of Consent*

Montreal, August 23rd 2016 – The YWCA Montreal and the Women’s Y Foundation are proud to launch *Do You NO the Limit? – 360° of Consent*, a virtual reality experience made possible by the Secrétariat à la condition féminine that explores the theme of consent among youth between the ages of 16 and 24. From now until March 2017, three virtual reality headsets will be touring events, festivals and CEGEPs in Montreal, with the aim of raising awareness with youth regarding this issue.

Through the use of 360° glasses, the individual is teleported into an alternate world, where they enter the shoes of a young girl who is experiencing a situation where sexual consent is brought into question. Film-maker and producer Emanuel St. Pierre, of Hit Films, recipient of the 2013 prize *L'égalité à l'œuvre*, had the idea to develop the project using virtual reality technology, permitting users to realistically live and feel the experience, thus provoking a deeper understanding of the issue. Actors Sandrine Poirier-Allard and Oliver Koomsatira play the main characters, two youth that meet to work on a group project for school, in a situation with an unexpected turn of events.

Sexual consent is a topic with many nuances and subtleties and deserves to be demystified in order to promote healthy relationships among youth; one of the most addressed topics of Youth Services at YWCA Montreal. «The messages that we want to convey are that one has to always make sure that both partners want the same things, one does not need a reason to say no, and can do so at any point in time. We are really looking forward to meeting with young people and having them experience consent through virtual reality, the latest technology!», remarked Delphine Berger, youth services coordinator, who developed the content of this project with her team.

The public can keep up with the tour dates and news of *Do You NO the Limit? – 360° of Consent* through the project’s [Facebook page](#), learn more about it at ydesfemmesmtl.org and on Twitter with the hashtag **#doyouNOthelimit**.

Since 1875, the YWCA Montreal has worked to prevent violence in the lives of women and girls, develop their skills, self-esteem and autonomy and encourage their personal growth. It has contributed to building a better future for women and girls in an egalitarian society where they have the power and opportunity to realize their full potential.

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