

Ray Volkin

Elizabeth Bleicher

Teens Need More Than Sex: An Introduction to Romantic Health and Relationship Education

'Ships: a film by Ray Volkin

'Ships was made to teach students how to enter and maintain a healthy romantic relationship.

College is a time where many serious romantic relationships start and continue to evolve, yet many teens do not have the proper resources to maintain a relationship. Two surveys were conducted among Ithaca College students, for those in a relationship and for those who are not. The studies unraveled many myths about college relationships such as the prevalence of hook up culture. While many college students, such as the ones interviewed in the film, believe such dating myths, the surveys proved just the opposite in many cases.

The video first addresses the challenges in finding the right person and brings to light many common myths of college culture. From there, *'Ships* analyzes the nature of high school relationships, what goes wrong in them, how they go wrong, and how to fix it. To wrap up all of the findings conducted for this film and to prove that sex education is just one small step in developing relationships, *'Ships* presents the three components of relationship education. Both teachers and parents should address the sex talk, mental health, and love learning to students. Love learning is a new concept in showing and explaining healthy behaviors in a relationship, whether its learning from example or defining love. While the video emphasizes love learning, all three are essential in understanding how to go about a romantic relationship. However, Sex Education is overly emphasized in teaching adolescents healthy behaviors when it should instead be considered more of an afterthought to healthy adolescent romances.