PANEL DISCUSSION SCRIPT

INSTRUCTOR: Good day everyone, my name is Hanekyne M. Patalinghug, and I am your instructor. Today, we will present to you a panel discussion. Let us now proceed to our panel discussion, let me call on our moderator, Ms. Tanza.

MODERATOR: Good day, my name is Kacey Leanne Tanza, and I am your moderator for today’s discussion. We will have an active discussion, on the topic of Sex Education. For our house rules, each panelist will be given a maximum of one minute to share their thoughts on the topic.

MODERATOR: While a panelist is sharing, other panelists are prohibited to interrupt. The audience will also be given time to ask their questions, only after all panelists have concluded sharing.

MODERATOR: To formally introduce our panelists, we have: Ms. Arce, Ms. Benablo, Ms. Hilamon, Ms. Nicasio, Ms. Magnetico, Ms. Tangarorang, Ms. Villanueva, Mr. Jandonero, Mr. Lopez, and Mr. Pino. We have Ms. Karen Gail Amoin and the class as our audience.

MODERATOR: For the first question, sex education essential?

JOSH: Sex education is essential because it can help us increase our knowledge about our sexual and reproductive behavior, it can also help us improve our attitude about it and most importantly this can help us prevent from getting sexually transmitted diseases like HIV, AIDS and many more.  
  
ALFRED: Yes, I think that it is essential. I believe that sex education should be taught in schools due to the large-scale exposure to media nowadays, whether television, print, or the internet, children nowadays can access easily to sexually explicit content that is why they tend to gather knowledge in the wrong way. Furthermore, according to plain-international.org, one of the causes of teenage pregnancy is the lack of information about sexual and reproductive health and rights. Therefore, I believe that sex education is essential.  
  
JOHN RUSSEL: Yes, sex ed is essential and should be taught in schools, in this way students feel more informed and make safer choices and have healthier outcomes. Such education helps young people to reduce their risk of potentially negative outcomes, such as unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Sex education is necessary in schools because it provides correct information about of reproductive health, related organs, about adolescence and sexually transmitted diseases. As well as it creates awareness to protect people from the misconceptions about various sex related issues.

Julia: It is essential as it covers a wide range of issues related to health, sexuality, safety, gender norms, identity, respect, kindness, self-expression and power dynamics which are not just about sex. It teaches us about the variation in human bodies, how our bodies work and the rights that we have over our body.

MODERATOR: Brava! That was an eye-opener. Thank you to the panelists. So, for the next question, in your community, have you observed sex education being implemented properly?

ANGELINE: Not at all. most of the time it's seen as a taboo subject because most see sex as a vulgar thing. Something to be saved after marriage. Because of that, sex education is hardly tackled properly because educators feel the need to protect younger students from things like this. They particularly believe that teaching them about sex education can lead them to explore it and even engage in things like that.

CHRISTINE: No, I don't believe sex education is practiced in our community. In our town, sex education is hardly discussed. It's not that they dismiss it or don't care; it's simply that they don't discuss it in the same manner that we discuss politics and other topics. It's not a common issue to discuss.

BAYE: Yes, but not much, Years back when the topic was brought up by my teachers, we were only kept in the tip of the iceberg, teaching us only parts of the reproductive system.  Of course, this is helpful information to us students to know our bodies better, but whether they like it or not, we will still learn sex, so why not teach the topic to us earlier to make sure of our safety?

MODERATOR: Great responses from our panelists, let us now move on to our final question and our final set of panelists. Should we support sex education?

MALINE: First and foremost, accurate and balanced sex education - including information about contraception and condoms - is a basic human right of youth. Such education helps young people to reduce their risk of potentially negative outcomes, such as unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Such education can also help youth to enhance the quality of their relationships and to develop decision-making skills that will prove invaluable over life. This basic human right is also a core public health principle that receives strong endorsement from mainstream medical associations, public health and educational organizations.

ARIELLE:

I believe that offering consistent and accurate information to all young people from an early age and embracing diversity can help to positive behavior change through comprehensive, whole-school sexuality education. Young people will eventually learn about sex. It's unavoidable. A quality sexuality education curriculum can educate children for real life rather than relying on the media or their misguided peers. Giving them accurate and age-appropriate knowledge will better prepare them for a lifetime of mutually pleasurable and safe relationships. If education policies, programs and resources are available to assist young people, they will be able to make informed decisions regarding their sexual health.

ALEXA: Contrary to what people think, sexuality education doesn't actually increase the sexual activity of young adolescents as stated by UNESCO. It also doesn't encourage them to have sexual intercourse but instead, it informs them or gives them knowledge about sexual and reproductive health behavior. It teaches them the possible effects of their decisions. It introduces them to safer options. In fact, Sexuality education was introduced because abstinence-only education failed. And the teenage pregnancy rate is still slowly increasing all over the world. According to POPCOM, in 2019 2,411 young adolescent girls aged 10-14 gave birth. Researchers from the University of Washington found that adolescents who receive comprehensive sex education are significantly less likely to become pregnant than adolescents who receive abstinence-only-until-marriage or no formal sex education.

MODERATOR: Thank you for that Ms. Hilamon, so that concludes the sharing of thoughts from the panelists. The panelists have spoken and their answers are:

* Sex education is essential because children are not learning from educators themselves, but from explicit content through the internet which could lead to improper perceptions, whereas if learned appropriately, it will lead to a positive outlook on sex education.
* As for proper implementation of sex education in our community, it is absent, and rarely recorded. It is also viewed as taboo, and not discussed the same way as other topics, like politics.
* In conclusion, the panel agrees on one verdict: YES! To sex education.

INSTRUCTOR: Thank you panelists, we are getting close to the end of our discussion. The panel is now open for questions from the audience. So for our first question from…

(questions)

PANELISTS: I can answer this question…

: I’ll be more than happy to answer your question…

INSTUCTOR: (another question) Thank you, our next question is from…

(end of questions)

INSTRUCTOR: Thank you for that answer (name sa panelist na ni answer pag last question). I really wish we have more time to discuss this topic, but sadly, we don’t have enough time. Nevertheless, that was an exciting discussion. I really hope the viewers understood the exchange of views and ideas.

INSTRUCTOR: Thank you for listening, and we really appreciate your interest on this very important issue. Have a great day everyone!