## PROTECT YOURSELF!

## ABSTINENCE FROM ALL FORMS OF SEX IS THE ONLY 100% EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT AN STI.

- STIs can affect anyone. About 3 million teens get STIs every year; that means about one-quarter of sexually active teens gets an STI every year.
  - You can get an STI by having any kind of sex, including vaginal, oral, and anal sex. Some types of STIs can be transmitted by skin-to-skin contact or even just plain old kissing. This means that it's super important to know your partner before being intimate with them.
  - It is often impossible to tell if someone has an STI. Even if you can't see signs of infection, STIs can still be passed to another person.
- Some STIs can be treated and will go away, but others can't be cured. In these incurable cases, you can only try to suppress the symptoms and manage the condition. Left untreated, some STIs can lead to serious health complications, including pelvic inflammatory disease, organ damage, infertility, cervical cancer, or even death. If you think you have a problem, you need to see your doctor right away.
- There are 4 STI's that are incurable;
  Human Papillomavirus, Herpes, Hepatitis B
  and HIV are lifelong viruses.

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