

Let's Talk About DIY Sexuality Zines!

11/14/15 2pm Lucky Cat Gallery MKE Zine Fest 2015

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OLD SKOOL:

- **Our Bodies, Ourselves**

<http://www.ourbodiesourselves.org/publications/our-bodies-ourselves-2011>

The ORIGINAL DIY Women's/Gynecological Publication (first published by Boston Women's Health Book Collective in 1971!)

- **ACT UP! Zines from the 1990's (Specifically YELL! zines)**

The NYC Youth Education Life Line (YELL) formed in 1989 and their zines are DIY health guides AND historical documents about the rise of the HIV/AIDS crisis in the 80's/early 90's. Queer (cis)dude focused but full of important information on safer sex, reality-based/no bullshit HIV/AIDS education, and political action.

You can find YELL! through QZAP:

http://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/187

TOO KEWL FOR SKOOL:

- **HotPantz Zine - Do It Yourself Gynecology**

<https://www.indybay.org/uploads/2010/04/06/hotpantz.pdf>

A DIY Guide to Cunt Care! Definitely written from a ciswoman-centric view but an awesome resource for anyone looking for information on menstruation, pregnancy prevention, STIs & other infections, HIV/AIDS, herbology and more!

- **Take Back Your Life Zine - A Wimmin's Guide to Alternative Healthcare by Alicia non Grata (originally published by Profane Existence)**

Another DIY Guide to Women's/Wimmin's/Cunt-haver's health. Also written from a ciswoman-centric view but a good resource for alternative healthcare.

Topics range from pregnancy prevention, vaginal infections, food choices/healthy vegetarian diet, and HIV/AIDS.

- **Wive's Tales Zine by Britton**

An oldie but a GOODIE! From 1993, Wive's Tales has information on alternatives

to mainstream birth control, information on herbal abortion, fun with speculums and mirrors (aka self exams!) and a lot more. Copies of this zine are housed in various zine libraries and can be found online:

<https://archive.org/details/WivesTales>

CHOICE! (ABORTION RIGHTS):

- **MINE - An Anthology of Women's Choices by MerryDeath (2002)**
Stories about CHOICE, ABORTION, and the PERSONAL BEING POLITICAL. These are personal stories about pregnancy termination and they are beautiful!
- **DORIS ZINE by Cindy Crabb (Cindy Ovenrack/Cindy O)**
I cannot sing the praises of DORIS enough. A personal zine, NOT a DIY Health/Sexuality zine but many stories about choice, abortion, and being a person living with a heart, a brain, and a cunt. Cindy also talks a LOT about CONSENT in her zines.

PERIODS! (MENSES FOCUSED FUN!):

- **Adventures in Menstruating by Chella**
This SLICK zine from the UK sings the praises of those who bleed! Witty, wry and wonderful. It's part humor mag, part owner's manual, and all fun.
<http://www.chartyourcycle.co.uk/>
- **Radical Menstruation (2004-ish)**
A DIY Gynecology POWERHOUSE of a zine that challenges the shame and stigma of those who menstruate. Full of information on alternatives to tampons/pads, herbal remedies, and includes a big section on MENSTRUAL EXTRACTION.

HPV! (YEAH YOU KNOW ME!):

- **HPV Zine from DC's Down There Health Collective**
<http://anarchalibrary.blogspot.com/2010/09/hpv-zine.html>
This zine is all about the human papillomavirus and how to care for ourselves. While it does discuss some prevention tips (safer sex, etc.) it is moreso about living with HPV and that's awesome because 80% (or more!) of the population has been exposed to it and it's time to talk honestly about this sexual health reality. It's written for all genders and sexualities and gives information about

cancer/pre-cancerous cells, PAP smears (even ANAL PAPs! WOW!), safer sex, and how to talk to healthcare providers. I LOVE THIS ZINE!

CONSENT (IS SEXY!):

- **Learning Good Consent (Riot Grrrl Press)**

All about CONSENT. Cindy Crabb (of Doris Zine) is the genius curator of this zine that is more of a workbook than “just a zine”. Pretty damn inclusive in terms of gender/sexuality and is a clear and concise go-to for EVERYONE.

<http://www.phillyspissed.net/sites/default/files/learning%20good%20consent2.pdf>

- **Just Say YES! (Coalition for Positive Sexuality)**

Out of Chicago, this zine should be in EVERY teen drop in center, high school nurse’s office, etc. It is accessible and chatty and though it is very cis-centric (& painfully gender binary) it’s a great starting point for any discussion about CONSENT.

<http://www.positive.org/JustSayYes/>

TRANS/GENDERQUEER/AGENDER/YAYGENDER!:

- **Trans Bodies, Trans Selves (Oxford University Press)**

<http://transbodies.com/>

from their website: “*Trans Bodies, Trans Selves* is a resource guide for transgender populations, covering health, legal issues, cultural and social questions, history, theory, and more. It is a place for transgender and gender-questioning people, their partners and families, students, professors, guidance counselors, and others to look for up-to-date information on transgender life.”

- **Gender Trash From Hell (Edited by Xanthra Phillippa & Jeanne B. 1993)**

Hailing from Canada, Gendertrash “gives a voice to gender queers, who’ve been discouraged from speaking out & communicating with each other” Big focuses on trans sexuality, safe spaces, “passing”, and has a resource list that is awesome (but not really helpful for 2015!)

http://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/337

RESOURCES:

- **QZAP (Queer Zine Archive Project) www.qzap.org**

- **AnarchaLibrary** <http://anarchalibrary.blogspot.com/>
- **Unreproductive Zine Library**
<http://zinelibraries.info/2013/07/20/unreproductive/>
- **Cindy Crabb!** <http://www.dorisdorisdoris.com/>