

Coercive relationship – scripted role play (2 sections)

Four people – Natasha, Megan, Harry and Jake - each to read a part. First, read the description of the situation.

Megan and Harry have been going out for 2 months. He's told her he has changed his status to 'single' on Facebook and that if she doesn't sleep with him this weekend the relationship is permanently over. Natasha is good friends with Megan. Natasha sees Harry's status change and goes to see if Megan is ok and if they have broken up.

Natasha: Hey hun are you okay? Thought I'd check in and see how you are

Megan: I'm ok (crying), I think Harry's breaking up with me

Natasha: Is this about Facebook?

Megan: Yes, he's changed his status and if I don't sleep with him this weekend, it's over.

Natasha: How do you feel about that?

Megan: It's just so embarrassing, look, I didn't want anyone to know, but I'm still a virgin, I wanted my first time to be special and not like this and I'm not sure I feel it yet for Harry.

Natasha: So what is he saying? Is he trying to pressure you?

Megan: Yeh, if I don't do it this weekend he'll go with someone else, you know how popular he is, and he said he'll spread it all over facebook that I'm frigid and a virgin.

Natasha: That's terrible. He wouldn't do that if he really cared about you. You know my Jake was really patient and understanding and he waited no problem and just was really supportive about the whole thing. You can't sleep with him if you don't want to, if you're just doing it cos he's pressuring you then you're not really consenting are you? It'd be like rape.

Megan: I just don't know what to do

Natasha: I really think you have to consider whether you want to continue with this guy. It's not normal to threaten someone you're supposed to care about.

Megan: Yeh, I know.

Natasha tells her boyfriend Jake, who is a friend of Harry's. Natasha and Jake bump into Harry on campus.

Natasha: Hey Harry, Megan's a bit upset, is everything ok with you guys?

Harry: Yeah, we're fine.

Natasha: Sure? I saw you changed your Facebook status to single, what's that about?

Harry: Well you know, all relationships have their ups and downs.

Jake: Well we've all been there, but mate, Megan told Tash that you've been trying to pressure her to have sex when she doesn't want to and that you were going to spread Facebook rumours about her? Is that right?

Harry: Well, I'm just getting a bit fed up of her excuses. If she really loved me she would do it and there wouldn't be a problem.

Natasha: Jesus it's the twenty-first century, I can't believe anyone is still using that line "if she really loved me". Point is, if you really loved her you wouldn't be trying to force her.

Jake: I'm embarrassed for you mate, it's not cool to do that.

Natasha: It's not cool and if you force her, then it's rape.

Jake: Real men don't rape.