

BULLYING AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

NINTH GRADE

LESSON 4

TITLE: Mapping Out Friendship

PURPOSE: To explore the different definitions of love and their relationship to friendship. The student will apply the three definitions of love to his own life.

OBJECTIVES: The student will be able to:

- define eros, philia, agape
- compare and contrast eros, philia, agape
- apply each type of love to his own life
- analyze the role each play in the world
- evaluate how the absence of eros, philia and agape in one's life can lead to bullying

SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS: LA.910.1.6.1, 910.1.6.2, 910.1.7.4

STUDENT SERVICES BENCHMARKS AND STANDARDS: PS 1.1, 2.1, 3.3

VOCABULARY: eros, philia, agape, paradigm, platonic

INSTRUCTIONAL TIME: 45 Minutes

PREPARATION/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

- dry erase board and markers
- Xerox copies of handouts 9-9, 9-10, 9-11, 9-12 (one per student)
- paper
- pen or pencil

SPRINGBOARD ACTIVITY: Have the students complete handout 9-9: Friendship Pre-test. Review and discuss student responses. Copy handout 9-10: Friendship Map on the dry erase board. Have each student copy the Friendship Map on a sheet of paper and fill in the blanks or make a copy of it on handout 9-10.

ACTIVITY:

- 1) Have students read handout 9-11: Love and Friendship. Allow students ample time to answer the prompt independently. Discuss their responses as a class.
- 2) Have students explain how the absence of eros, philia and agape in one's life can lead a person to bully

ASSESSMENT: Teacher observation, class participation and completion of activity.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY: Have students make the friendship cube on handout 9-11. To make cube:

- Fold paper in thirds (like a business letter going into an envelope)
- Do not unfold paper
- Fold it in half (short side to short side)
- Fold it in half again (Open paper, there will be 12 boxes)
- Answer one question per box. (Follow worksheet guidelines)
- Assemble Cube

Friendship Pretest

- True or False** I am willing to do anything my friends want me to do even if I know it is wrong.
- True or False** My friends accept me exactly as I am.
- True or False** It is acceptable for your friends to talk behind your back.
- True or False** I am always honest with my friends.
- True or False** I talk behind my friend's back
- True or False** I always stand up for my friends.
- True or False** I have been mean to someone because my friends were.
- True or False** Bullying can exist in a romantic relationship.
- True or False** I am friends with all types of people.
- True or False** My friends and I have the same values.
- True or False** I am able to make new friends and keep my old friends.
- True or False** I know when a "secret" is a "secret".
- True or False** Boys and girls can be "just friends".
- True or False** Trust is important in relationships.

Directions: Fill in the blanks below on the Friendship Map. Come up with one example for each of the words in bold.

Synonym:

Examples

Synonym:

Examples

FRIENDSHIP

Antonym:

Characteristic:

Antonym:

Characteristic:

Characteristic:

Love and Friendship

Regardless of economics, race status, or religion, people value love and friendship and recognize that love and friendship shapes what is good and true. People have been known to do some outrageous things in the “name of love” or for friendship. Loving and belonging to a group are two fundamental needs of human beings. There are a number of different Greek words for love. Ancient Greek has three distinct words and definitions for love: eros, philia, and agape. Even though there are different meanings for each word, at times they share common characteristics.

Eros is probably what most people mean when they announce with a smile, "I'm in love." This type of love covers everything from queasy stomachs, butterflies, warm fuzzy feelings to strong sensual passion. (www.sjchurchofchrist.org) Eros is defined as passionate love, with sensual desire and longing. The Modern Greek word "erotas" means "(romantic) love". (www.wikipedia.com) Although, it cannot provide a reliable basis for building a deep and meaningful relationship since it is so fickle and dependent upon perception and circumstances.

As long as a couple is enjoying a romantic situation, eros can thrive. However, as soon as hurtful words or actions appear, eros simply evaporates. For example, after work a husband stops to buy his wife flowers. Eros flourishes, if the wife perceives her gift of flowers as a romantic gesture. However, if she does not perceive receiving flowers as a romantic gesture, eros dies. Eros thus grows strong and then wastes away based upon our paradigms, or perceptions.

Philadelphia, known as the city of brotherly love, got its name from the Greek word philia. Philia is used to describe love between family members and best friends. It implies a sense of loyalty, truth, and familiarity. It is love without physical attraction. Friendship without physical attraction is known as “platonic” friendship. “Phlos is love in the form of friendship. When the flame of Eros is no longer able to shine, it's Philos who keeps people together.” (Coelho, www.sminkworks.com) As with eros, philia, is a love that comes and goes based on the paradigms of the participants. With these form of love it appears to require that love is given and returned.

Agape love is different. “Unlike the previous two types of love, agape is not limited to being held hostage by its environment and someone's perception. The reason why agape can soar above these is because it is based upon the commitment of a decision. It entails the decision to proactively seek someone's well-being. Since it is not a knee jerk reaction nor just a responsive feeling to how I've been treated, agape is capable of acting in a hostile environment where there are no warm fuzzy feelings (www.sjchurchofchrist.org). Great teachers like

Jesus and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. both practiced agape. "Agape is total love, the love that devours those that experience it. Whoever knows and experiences Agape sees that nothing else in this world is of any importance, only loving." (Coelho, www.sminkworks.com) Agape is the love allows parents to say "No" to their children. Sometimes it is less rewarding than the other eros or philia because the recipient of agape love may not understand that the actions bestowed upon them are done out of love. Dr. King believe "Non-violence is a way of life for courageous people. So is Agape. The practitioner of Agape is strong, able to take a stand for his own beliefs in order to better the community or person receiving his love. Agape may appear to be one-sided where the practitioner does not receive anything in return. However, the practitioner knows.

Love and friendship may not easily be defined or understood. Nor are the actions that people take in the name of love and friendship. Regardless, they are two intangible concepts that shape our world, leaving us either at peace or in war within ourselves.

Sources:

www.wikipedia.com

www.sichurchofchrist.org, Barry Newton, 2002

www.paulocoelho.com (Coelho, 2004) downloaded from

www.sminkworks.com

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper:

- 1) What are the three kinds of love?
- 2) Can you think of something outrageous someone has done "in the name of love"?
- 3) What is eros? Have you ever experienced eros?
- 4) What are paradigms?
- 5) What is Philadelphia known as?
- 6) What do philia and eros have in common?
- 7) What is agape?
- 8) What is the difference between agape and the other types of love?
- 9) Which love is the most reliable? Why?
- 10) What kind of action could done with agape may not be understood as love?

FRIENDSHIP CUBE

Handout 9-12

<p>Cut out this box when assembling cube.</p>	<p>Kinds of Love</p>	<p>Cut out this box when assembling cube.</p>
<p>Loyalty What is it? What does it look like?</p>	<p>Characteristics of a friend</p>	<p>What is the difference between a friend and an acquaintance?</p>
<p>Cut out this box when assembling cube.</p>	<p>What are you willing to do to be part of the group?</p>	<p>Cut out this box when assembling cube.</p>
<p>Cut out this box when assembling cube.</p>	<p>What types of bullying can occur in a romantic relationship?</p>	<p>Cut out this box when assembling cube.</p>