Do you know that because of their impaired social connections and communications, students with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) often feel awkward, intimidated and anxious about dating or even forming friendships?

Do you know that some studies have reported that a large percentage of students with ASDs (and other disabilities) are sexually manipulated or abused?

Do you know that a new curriculum is available to help students develop a better awareness of their sexual health AND concrete relationship-building skills?

Many health and sexual education courses teach students the basics about sexual anatomy and reproductive health. Some go further and inform students about topics such as contraception and sexually transmitted infections. Students with higher functioning ASDs can grasp the factual information, but are lost when it comes to understanding the steps needed to begin dating or forming relationships with peers. Indiana Resource Center for Autism (IRCA) staff members Catherine Davies and Melissa Dubie have combined their strengths and backgrounds working with students with autism to co-write *Intimate Relationships and Sexual Health: A Curriculum for Teaching Adolescents/Adults with High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders and Other Social Challenges*. The 352-page adaptable curriculum and CD guides teachers, therapists, adult service workers, and parents through a series of lessons that feature interactive activities, references to video clips, charts, diagrams, quizzes and assessments. The guide (available for $29.95 through AAPC publishing) uniquely takes into consideration the need for visual materials, concrete information, and opportunities for practice and covers everything from flirting and hygiene to unplanned pregnancy and abuse. Each lesson also includes a comprehensive list of resources. [Click here](#) for more information and to order.

Over this past week we have moved our email list service from IU’s LISTSERV to a new service called IU List. Please note that the directions to unsubscribe to the list have changed and are noted below.

If you know someone who would like to be added to this listserv, please forward and have them email Susan Henning-Harris at skharris@indiana.edu.

You may leave the list at any time. To unsubscribe from the list, do as follows:

1. From the address with which you subscribed to the list, send a message to iulist@iulist.indiana.edu.
2. In the subject line of your email, type in: unsubscribe nameofthelist (replace 'nameofthelist' by the name of the list you want to unsubscribe from).
3. Leave the message body blank.