
Do Influencers Help Or Hurt The Sex Work Industry? A Look at the Works of Dan Savage

Presented By
Ana Blue

Who is the Ana Blue?



CVS Receipt of Identification

- Thicc
- Black
- Ethically Non-Monogamous
- Catholic apostate
- Polyplay
- Pansexual
- Sadomasochistic
- Leather
- Kinkster
- Pro Dominatrix
- Lifestyle Switch
- Leather Titleholder
- BDSM/kink Educator
- Content Creator
- Event Host
- Fetish Performer
- Female
- Queen

Why am I getting this certification?

- I have a gift for teaching
- I enjoy teaching
- I enjoy helping and changing lives
- I enjoy learning and growing

Stork drop off: California
Present bird's nest: St. Louis, MO

How
comfortable
are you with
being told you
are wrong?



Objectives

- The positive and negative effects of influencers on sex ed, sex work, and sexuality
- What are some ways that Dan Savage has been a positive influence on the worlds of sex education, sex work, and sexuality?
- What are some ways that Dan Savage has been a negative influence on the worlds of sex education, sex work, and sexuality?
- How do we practice being open minded while being professional?
- How do we practice critical thinking while being professional?
- How do we practice accountability and contrition when we make mistakes as professionals?



What comes to
mind when you
hear or read the
name Dan
Savage?



Who is Dan Savage? The Good

- Popular for his sex-advice and sexy film festival
- “Savage Love” sex-advice column, weekly in ‘The Stranger’, 1991
- Author, journalist, LGBT community activist
- Savage Lovecast, weekly call-in podcast, 2006
- HUMP! Sex-Positive Film Festival
- IGBP: It Gets Better Project, offers hope to LGBT kids



SpokesHub



Ana Blue



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Who is Dan Savage? The Not-So-Good

- Does being controversial and aggressive really help?
- Should you use Shame as a therapeutic and educational tool?
- Jesse Singal and conversion controversy interview with Dr. Erica Anderson, GLAAD
- Should we be respectful of slurs and not use them?



Are all
educators and
people in the
spotlight perfect
people?



Positive Influence of Influencers

- Spread information to isolated areas
- Diversified knowledge
- Humor
- Distraction
- Source of income



Negative Influence of Influencers

- Incorrect information
- Encourage damaging behavior
- Sell bad products
- Make it look easy, fake persona, fantasy world



Are Positive and
Negative always
subjective?
Positive and
negative for
who?



Terms, labels, and bios! OH MY!

- Identification and understanding
- Self-confidence
- Certain labels with certain groups (bi vs pan)
- New terms and labels being made all the time
- Too many labels?



Can new
stuff hurt
more than
help?



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Tolyamory: T rhymes with P except after D...for Dan Savage

- Tol: Latin root word for “tolerance”
- Partner A is tolerant of Partner B having outside sexual relations, even if the partner is cheating
- Poly: Greek, many
- -amor: Latin, love
- TRUE Polyamory is consensual
- Tolyamory does not help with sex positivity
 - A term for cheating
 - Confuses people with polyamory who already have negative views on polyamory



What is a better term/word/phrase than Tolyamory?

- Do we need a term that describes “hey my partner is having relationships and being sexual with people without telling me and I do not like this but I will not discuss my discomfort with my partner” ...hence the TOLERANCE part
- Why does the word have to sound like “polyamory?”
- Labels and terms are suppose to HELP not confuse



It's fine! I'm fine!
Totally fine!
cue David Attenborough
It indeed was not fine.

Summary

- Use your influence wisely
- You will be wrong
- Try to be as accurate as possible
- Accountability
- Life-long students
- People relate to humanness
- Being aggressive and controversial is not always productive and educational
- Critical Thinking and being Open-Minded are important





Thank you for attending!

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