



Dos and Don'ts Of a Peer Educator

A Peer Educator Does	A Peer Educator Does Not
<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Facilitate trust, openness, comfort, empathy◆ Accept people as they are◆ Listen, clarify and help people see alternatives◆ Give support and encouragement to take positive action◆ Validate people without being phony◆ Respect confidentiality◆ Realize that not all problems can be solved and not all people want to be helped◆ Refer extremely troubled youth to a professional person or group, such as a counselor, psychologist, or community agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Dominate, preach, tell people what to do◆ Judge people, try to change them◆ Give advice, offer solutions◆ Listen with casual, wandering attitude◆ “Rescue” — do for a person what he/she should do independently◆ Put people down◆ Gossip about what was said in group or about other youth◆ Expect all problems to be resolved quickly and easily◆ Attempt to provide services beyond what he/she is qualified to provide