

Consent

Consent. It's a powerful word that, for some bizarre reason, is still argued about to this day. It seems many people still don't really get what "consent" means.

As [Rockstar Dinosaur Pirate Princess](#) points out, it's actually a pretty simple concept: "Whoever you are initiating sexy times with, just make sure they are actually genuinely up for it. That's it. It's not hard. Really."

And it shouldn't be. But for many, it still is. Mystifying, right? So [RDPP](#) broke it down in the best way possible: with a metaphor so simple, even those who have historically had trouble grasping the concept should be able to understand it. We'll let her do the talking:

If you're still struggling, just imagine instead of initiating sex, you're making them a cup of tea.

You say, "Hey, would you like a cup of tea?" and they go, "OMG, yes, I would LOVE a cup of tea! Thank you!" Then you know they want a cup of tea.

If they are unconscious, don't make them tea. Unconscious people can't answer the question, "Do you want tea?" because they are unconscious.

If you say, "Hey, would you like a cup of tea?" and they um and ahh and say, "I'm not really sure..." then you can make them a cup of tea or not, but be aware that they might not drink it, and if they don't drink it then — this is the important bit — don't make them drink it. You can't blame them for you going to the effort of making the tea on the off chance they wanted it; you just have to deal with them not drinking it. Just because you made it doesn't mean you are entitled to watch them drink it.

If they say, "No, thank you," then don't make them tea. At all. Don't make them tea, don't make them drink tea, don't get annoyed at them for not wanting tea. They just don't want tea, okay?

They might say, "Yes, please, that's kind of you," and then when the tea arrives they actually don't want the tea at all. Sure, that's kind of annoying as you've gone to the effort of making the tea, but they remain under no obligation to drink the tea. They did want tea, now they don't. Sometimes people change their mind in the time it takes to boil that kettle, brew the tea and add the milk. And it's okay for people to change their mind, and you are still not entitled to watch them drink it even though you went to the trouble of making it.

If they are unconscious, don't make them tea. Unconscious people don't want tea and can't answer the question, "Do you want tea?" because they are unconscious.

Okay, maybe they were conscious when you asked them if they wanted tea, and they said yes, but in the time it took you to boil that kettle, brew the tea and add the milk they are now unconscious. You should just put the tea down, make sure the unconscious person is safe, and — this is the important bit — don't make them drink the tea.

If someone said yes to tea, started drinking it and then passed out before they'd finished it, don't keep on pouring it down their throat.

If someone said yes to tea, started drinking it and then passed out before they'd finished it, don't keep on pouring it down their throat. Take the tea away and make sure they are safe. Because unconscious people don't want tea. Trust me on this.

If someone was drunk or high and looking like they want a cup of tea, but were actually confused about having tea, wanting tea or what sort of tea to have. Take the tea away because people under the influence of other substances really don't want tea.

If someone said "yes" to tea around your house last Saturday, that doesn't mean that they want you to make them tea all the time. They don't want you to come around unexpectedly to their place and make them tea and force them to drink it going, "BUT YOU WANTED TEA LAST WEEK," or to wake up to find you pouring tea down their throat going "BUT YOU WANTED TEA LAST NIGHT."

And that's how you do that. The genius of [this metaphor](#) basically exposes everything — EVERYTHING! — that's wrong with the unevolved dinosaurs who think the issue of consent is a complicated one. It's not. It's tea. Freakin' brilliant.

Bonus? It also works on kids. Just replace tea with ice cream. Though we suppose that works for adults, too.

Taken and adapted from [Rockstar Dinosaur Pirate Princess](#)