

## Project Description

With the layout of a traditional medicine instruction manual, 'PuberMe' gives the initial impression of being harsh, sterile, and polished. However, rather than being filled with objective instructions on how to navigate the difficulties of menstruation, each section is taken from anonymous quotes by university students who identify as female. The various headings throughout the pamphlet are inspired by the instructions of a birth control pill prescribed to control irregular menstrual cycles, and the responses collected are organized under relevant headings, grouping similar responses together. Inspired by Jessy Randall's 'Museum Map', 'PuberMe' takes the mechanical and objective instruction manual template and fills it with personal anecdotes, thoughts and feelings. 'PuberMe' takes the framing of a greyscale, impersonal booklet and uses the emotions and experiences of others to compliment the rigid structure. The procedure used in PuberMe was heavily influenced by the piece *I Was Told to Write Fifty Words*, created by Vladimir Zykov. Both pieces use collaboration, asking individuals to anonymously contribute fifty words to the overall project. While in Zykov's piece participants were given no instructions beyond the demand for fifty words, PuberMe asked that participants write fifty words in response to the word 'menstruation.' The choice of a personal topic was inspired by the piece *2500 Random Things About Me Too* by Matias Viegner, in which the author wrote a series of lists about himself detailing his private thoughts and feelings. Both take the extremely personal and bring it to the forefront, having individuals to confide personal information. The themes of womanhood, menstruation and normalcy are heavily featured throughout the work.