

## Questions to Ask Yourself

Am I having sex for attention or acceptance?\*

Is this what I truly want to do?

Do my partner and I have mutual respect and trust?

Have we *recently* had blood tests to rule out all STDs?

Can I handle my emotions if the relationship ends?

Have we discussed how we would deal with a child?

Did we know that STDs can damage our reproductive organs making future pregnancy impossible?

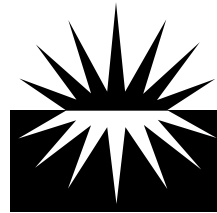


\*Check out our PI "The Need to Belong"

## Ask Yourself:

Am I violating my moral code?

Am I risking my own health and the health of others by being sexually active?



For more information, call  
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Inventory #PI:RP-SEX      Workbook #2.3      10/2008

# Talking About Sex

*Sex is emotion in motion.*

Mae West, Actress



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*Providing hope and help to  
young people and their  
families through counseling,  
education and community  
outreach*

## Why Thinking About Sex "Before" Is Important:

Human beings are complex.  
So is sex.

Emotional connections forged during sex can make it difficult to end unhealthy relationships.

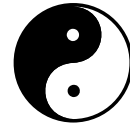
There is a raging epidemic of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) among young people.



The media portrays sex unrealistically. In real life, the sexually active characters in movies, TV and books would all have STDs.

It is considered **statutory rape** if someone 2 years older is having sex with a partner who is under the age of 16.

## Realities About Sexual Activity



Both partners must be *sober* and mature enough to anticipate consequences.

Physical or emotional threats are not part of a healthy relationship.

Oral sex is sex. People can get STDs from oral sex.

All forms of birth control sometimes fail, except abstinence.

Either partner must have the right to end sexual activity at any time.

By law, **sexual assault II** is defined as sex between a person who is 13 through 15 years old with someone who is more than 3 years older.

## Facts About STDs

8,000 U. S. teens learn that they have an STD *every day*.

Approximately 18 million Americans contracted an STD every year.

9.1 million of those infected were young people between 18 and 24 years old.

25% of sexually active teens have at least one STD. (that is 1 in every 4).

4 out of 5 people with an STD don't have symptoms; silently, damage spreads.

More than 45 million Americans have and continuously spread incurable **herpes**.

More than 40% of college students have genital warts or HPV (human papilloma virus), an incurable sexually transmitted fungus that causes 99.9% of cervical cancer.

Condoms do *not* protect against viral STDs like herpes and genital warts.