Partying and petting has been called the number one sport in both high school and college. As one teen girl put it, “I didn’t set out to get pregnant – “it just happened!”

One million teens will get pregnant. 600,000 of them will give birth.

- 94% of them will keep their babies. The rest of them will choose abortion. 1/3 of all abortions are under 13 years.
- 8 out of 10 of them will drop out of school and give up on their dreams. 7 out of 10 of them will not have prenatal care in the first trimester.
- 72% of them will go on welfare. One half of every dollar spent on welfare goes to support unwed teens.
- 8 out of 10 who get married to give the baby a name won’t be married five years later.
- 5 million in America have the sexual transmitted disease known as genital herpes of which there is no present cure.

**KIDS WHO HAVE KIDS ARE KIDDING THEMSELVES!**

- Teens need to understand the devil’s strategy regarding dating, love, and sex.

  > “In order that no advantage be taken of us by Satan; for we are ignorant of his schemes.”
  > (2 Corinthians 2:11)

In the American dating scene, the devil’s strategy is to confuse love with sex. For example, boys think that love is sex and the girls think that sex is love. Therefore, the boys say, “if you love me, you will have sex with me.” The girl thinks, “If I have sex with him, it will show him how much I love him.”

- Why isn’t the girl hearing, “I will never require sex as proof of your love for me?”

- Why isn’t the boy hearing, “I don’t need to prove with my body that I love you with my soul?”

  The Bible teaches that the body, love, and sex are all sacred in the Christian life.

**Your Love is sacred.**

> “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His son to be the propitiation for our sins.” (1 John 4:10)

The love of God does not willfully commit sin but operates just the opposite.

**Your Body is sacred.**

> “Flee immorality. Every sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?” (1 Corinthians 6:18-19)
The body of every Christian is the sacred place where God dwells. Therefore, we are to honor God with our bodies.

“You were brought with a price. Therefore honor God with your body.” (1 Corinthians 6:20)

Sex is sacred.

“Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man NOT to touch a woman. But because of immoralities, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.” (1 Corinthians 7:1:2)

The Greek word for touch is hapto. It refers to arousing someone sexually. It is addressed to the man but speaks to both the gentleman and the lady.

God has designed marriage as the sacred place for the body, sex, and love to find it's fulfilling expression (1 Cor.7: 1-2).

Dealing with romantic emotions or affections is also part of adolescent socialization.

“Above all else, guard your heart (affections) for it is the wellspring of life.” (Proverbs 4:23)

There are five stages of affections involved in romantic infatuation and love.

Stage one is holding hands and hugging.

Stage two is casual kissing. A casual kiss always has a purpose such as I like you, I had a good time, and I missed you.

Stage three is necking. Necking is aggressive kissing. It is heavily emotional with sexual overtones.

Stage four is petting. Petting involves fondling the private parts of the body. It is the last stimuli before sex.

Stage five is pre-marital or marital sex.

The question most asked me by teens is where to draw the line? Look at the five stages and write on the blank line the stage where the line should be drawn

________________________________________

Write where you think Jesus and the Apostle Paul would draw the line?

________________________________________

Stages 3, 4, 5 are for marriage not for dating. Therefore the line for dating should be drawn between stages 2 and 3.

Girls need to understand that most boys consider necking and petting as signs of approval to advance towards pre-marital sex.

GOING ALL THE WAY – ISN’T ALL THE WAY UNLESS IT IS MARRIAGE!

“Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord; and the Lord is for the body.” (1 Corinthians 6:13)
The last three stages of romantic affection are heavily emotional and can cause chemical changes in your body. Medical science declares that heavy necking and petting can change the composition of the blood as much as drugs or alcohol. Heavy necking and petting can cause teens to lose control of themselves and their circumstances. They can make mistakes that have long term effects on their lives.

God has designed erotic pleasure for marriage and NOT for dating. It is designed to put excitement in routine marriage and family life. It can be refreshing and rejuvenating to married couples. However, it is an unmanageable time bomb for unmarried teens.

Teens need to understand that pre-marital sex is not only something they do but also something they become. For example, the Bible calls pre-marital sex fornication or immorality and the one who practices it a fornicator or immoral person. We refer to it as getting a bad reputation. *Boys talk to their friends about how far they get with the girls they date.*

“But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he should be an immoral person, or covetous, or a swindler – not even to eat with such a one.” (1 Corinthians 5:11)

“But do not let immorality or any impurity or greed even be named among you, as is proper among the saints.” (Ephesians 5:3)

**ALWAYS KEEP TWO SPECIAL PEOPLE IN MIND WHEN DATING -YOUR PRESENT DATE AND YOUR FUTURE MATE. BOTH DESERVE THE VERY BEST!**

Teens should beware of the passion-pit pilot lines. Passion-pit pilot lines are designed to engage in the last three stages of romantic affection. Write the last three stages on the blank lines ______________, ______________, and ______________.

**Eight of the most common passion-pit pilot lines are listed below.**

The ARMY & COLLEGE line -“I’ll be gone soon and I won’t see you for a long time”.

The LOVE line - “If you really loved me, you would prove it to me.”

The EVERYONE’S DOING IT line – “All our friends who are couples are doing it.”

The LET’S SIT AND TALK line - We will just sit and talk nothing more.” (But talk about what?)

The YOU’RE SAFE WITH ME line – “I promise not to do anything you don’t want to do.”

The PRACTICALLY MARRIED line – “We are going to get married one day so why wait?”

The DOWNGRADE THE PERSON line – “You’re weird and the only one not doing it.”

The THREATEN line – “If you don’t give it to me, I will have to go get it somewhere else.”

Let me close this chapter with a poem I read several years ago – author unknown.

| YOU CAN LET YOURSELF GO IF YOU WANT TO |
| YOU CAN CHOOSE WHO YOU WILL LET YOURSELF GO TO |
| YOU CAN DO IT AS OFTEN AS YOU WANT TO |
| **BUT YOU CAN ONLY DO IT FIRST ONE TIME.** |