

PARENTS, HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR TEEN?

*(Take this Quiz) **

Please choose how often you believe your son/daughter has taken part in these activities:

	OFTEN	SOMETIMES	NEVER
1. Has had a recent change in his/her group of friends?	_____	_____	_____
2. Is careless with grooming?	_____	_____	_____
3. Has lost interest in activities or sports that they used to enjoy?	_____	_____	_____
4. Has been missing school?	_____	_____	_____
5. Lies to you about places he/she has been?	_____	_____	_____
6. Seems more sluggish and tired than usual?	_____	_____	_____
7. Makes excuses for not wanting to attend family events or outings?	_____	_____	_____
8. Has dramatic personality or mood changes?	_____	_____	_____
9. Has declining grades in school?	_____	_____	_____
10. Seems guilty when asked about their whereabouts?	_____	_____	_____
11. Uses secretive or "coded" language with friends?	_____	_____	_____
12. Is secretive about possessions, friends, or conversations?	_____	_____	_____
13. Takes extra clothes when going out with friends?	_____	_____	_____
14. Has been spending an increased amount of money without any explanation for where it's going?	_____	_____	_____
15. Spending more time watching negative content on television?	_____	_____	_____
16. Listens to more negative musical content?	_____	_____	_____
17. Clothing and attire changes to become more provocative?	_____	_____	_____
18. Spends time at home day-dreaming of living another type of lifestyle?	_____	_____	_____
19. Often talks of inappropriate role models as if they are the best people/person on earth?	_____	_____	_____
20. Uses profanity or other inappropriate language?	_____	_____	_____
21. Openly dances provocatively or exhibits explicit behaviors in public and at home?	_____	_____	_____
22. Have you notice items disappearing around the house?	_____	_____	_____
23. Has your child's room decorations and pictures changed recently?	_____	_____	_____
24. Has dramatic weight loss or gain?	_____	_____	_____

Make sure to read next month's issue to determine how well you scored!

Here are some suggested things to keep in mind when you talk to your child:**

- Tell your son or daughter that you LOVE him/her, and you are worried that he/she might be involved in some risky behaviors;
- You KNOW that sex and drugs may seem like the thing to do, but doing either can have serious consequences;
- It makes you FEEL worried and concerned about them when they do engage in sexual activity;
- You are there to LISTEN to them;
- You WANT them to be a part of the solution;
- You tell him or her what you WILL do to help them.
- KNOW that you will have this discussion many, many times. Talking to your child about sex, drugs and alcohol is not a one-time event.

Parents Are the Most Important Influence in a Child's Life:

There is a growing body of research that shows that parents are central to preventing adolescent and teen sexual behavior and substance abuse. In fact, young people themselves say that losing their parents' trust and respect are the most important reasons not to experiment in sexual activity or drug usage.

As a parent, your actions do matter. When you suspect, or know, that your child has engaged in sexual activity or drugs, take action to stop it as soon as you can. It may be the most important step you ever take.

* Rosie Fuller, Janet McLaughlin, Teaching the FACTS of Life, copyright 2005

** Rosie Fuller, Janet McLaughlin, Teaching the FACTS of Life, copyright 2005

Bridging the Gap Workshop

Parents, mark your calendars for Saturday, **May 24, 2008 at 10:00am**. We will be hosting our second **Parent Workshop, "Bridging the Gap"**, at **Rosemont M.B. Church located at 3930 Ofc. Thomas Catchings, Sr. Drive (South Drive)**.

Once again, we will have refreshments, door prizes, and of course, professional, well-known speakers to teach, inspire, and equip us in the area of parenting our children.

Bring your proven ideas, questions, concerns, to a workshop developed just for you. At our last meeting, the parents enthusiastically received the information given by Dr. Freda Bush and Mrs. Tommie Morris. The atmosphere was engaging, filled with humor, wisdom, and plain, old-school insights handed down from past generations. As the old saying goes, 'there is nothing new underneath the sun'. Although our culture has changed, the responsibility of raising our children remains with the parent.

We look forward to seeing you at this much needed workshop. Bring a friend and see how much we have in common and how much we can help each other in the development of our most prized possessions, our children. For more information, call Clinton Hall at 601-988-1332.

Remember to ask your child to visit us at:
www.wearestarz.com

STARS STAFF: Mary Elbert, Andrea Hall, Clinton Hall, LaTonya Reed, Tracy Thomas, LeMond Roy, Floyd Wiley
PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Larry McAdoo

STUDENTS TAKING A RADICAL STAND (STARS)

931 GAWWAINBOWEST

SUITE 203

JACKSON, MS 39204

Students Taking A Radical Stand



Redemption Outreach
Ministries International, Inc.