

TEACHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION PROGRESSION TO PHYSICAL INTIMACY

Class Activity:

1. Pass out the word strips from pages IV-C-34 through IV-C-38 to ten (10) students.
2. Ask the students to stand at the front of the class in random order.
3. Instruct the rest of the class to put the students and their word strips in order according to the stages of progression towards physical intimacy. Let the students do the ordering as they think best.
4. Attach the word strips, in the order decided on by the class, to a bulletin board or wall.

Using an overhead transparency of page IV-C-32 as a guide, discuss the various stages, putting them in order, if necessary. Have the students complete the corresponding activity guide on page IV-C-39. There is room between each stage for some extra notes of description, if desired.

As the students complete their **PROGRESSION TO PHYSICAL INTIMACY**, make the following points in your discussion:

* Discuss with the class what can happen if you take the line of progression slowly (the relationship can grow at a slower pace and may develop into a stronger friendship; one partner may want to go more slowly on the scale than the other; the couple can get bored and break up;).

* Discuss with the class what can happen if you take the line of progression quickly (one could scare off the other one by moving too fast; one could get hurt; relationships could end upon realizing each was interested in different things; lose respect for each other; face consequences of pregnancy, STD's, etc.)

* Students should also understand that the further they move along the line of progression towards physical intimacy, the harder it is to stop and there is a lessened desire to maintain control of their feelings.

* Make the point that it is easy to move up the scale, but it is very hard to move back down the intimacy scale after once being at a higher level. Studies indicate that on leaving one relationship, you have a tendency to enter the next relationship at the level you left the first one. For example, if you have been physically intimate with your boy/girlfriend, it will be easier for you to move up the intimacy scale faster with your next boy/girlfriend.

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PROGRESSION TO
PHYSICAL INTIMACY

BEING TOGETHER

HOLDING HANDS

SIMPLE GOODNIGHT KISS

PROLONGED KISSING

NECKING

LIGHT PETTING

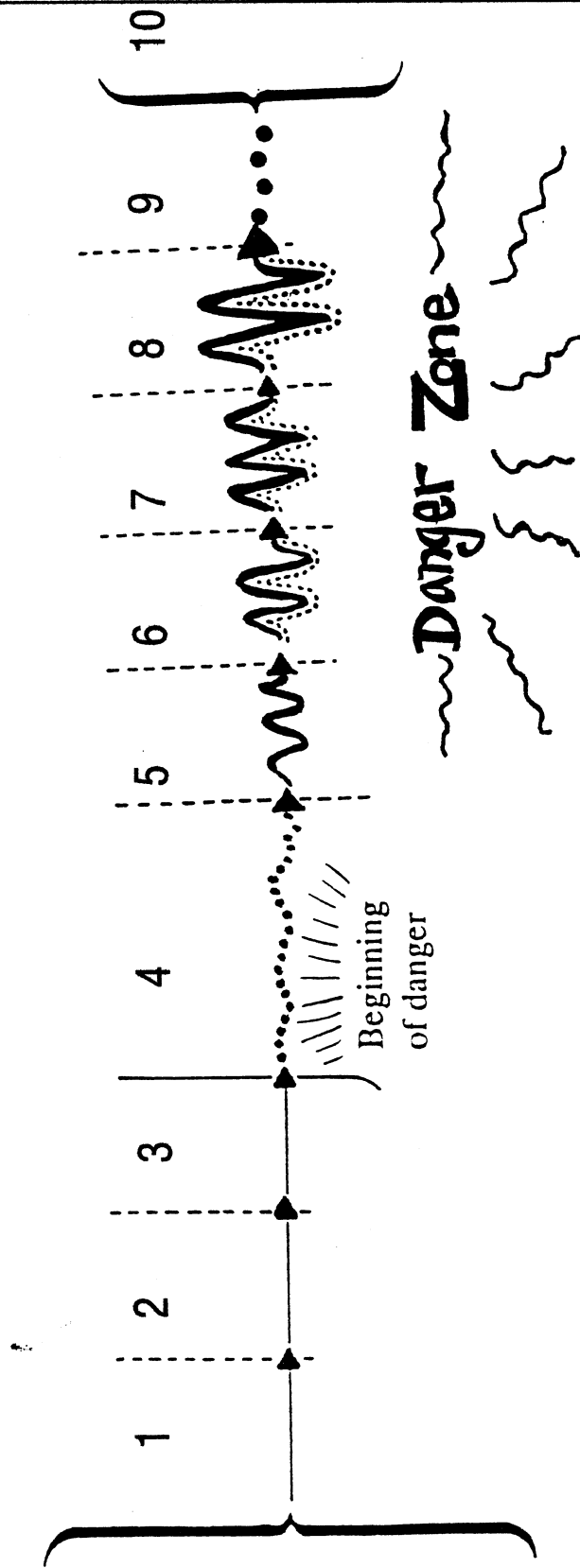
HEAVY PETTING

MUTUAL SEX PLAY

SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

END OF RELATIONSHIP IN ITS
PRESENT FORM

PROGRESSION TO PHYSICAL INTIMACY



Adapted from chart by Patricia B. Driscoll, *Sexual Common Sense: Affirming Adolescent Abstinence*

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