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## LESSON D

### Conflicting Choices

**FOCUS:** Conflicts occur when we are forced to choose between two alternatives. In independent living circumstances, choices may be as simple as deciding what food to eat, or as difficult as figuring out what you want to do with your life.

#### ACTIVITIES:

1. Have students consider a variety of situations they might encounter when they move out on their own. Use Student Handout, "Conflicting Choices." Have students identify the role of a moral sensibility about right and wrong. Discuss how one's choices affect others.
2. Have students break into 5 small groups (Find a creative way to divide up! Use five colors of small candies, numbers by 5s, divide up according to month born, etc.) Have each group discuss a moving out scenario and try to resolve the value conflict. Copy scenario from Teacher Information, "Conflicting Choices," and distribute description of scenario to each group. After the small groups discuss, reconvene the class and report the results.

Journal entry #2



What other situations can I think of where I might have conflicting choices?

"Conflicting Choices"

Consider the following situations you might encounter when moving out.

- 1. Choosing an apartment within your budget or one that's too expensive but has lots of extras (spa, new carpeting, dishwasher, garage for car).
- 2. Attending a large university or a smaller junior college.
- 3. Having a roommate who smokes marijuana.
- 4. Cooking dinner at home or eating out.
- 5. Paying cash or buying something important on credit.

Select one of these for a debate. Write down what side you would defend and why in the space below.

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Discuss

1. How do my choices affect others?

2. When do my choices make me happy? Sad? Angry? etc.

3. What is the role of a moral sensibility about right and wrong?

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## “Conflicting Choices”

**GROUP 1:**

Choose between an apartment within your budget and one that is too expensive but has lots of extras (spa, new carpeting, dishwasher, garage for your car).

**GROUP 2:**

Choose between attending a large university or a smaller junior college. What considerations do you have that make this a value conflict?

**GROUP 3:**

Choose between two people who want to be your roommate. One potential roommate smokes marijuana and one doesn't.

**GROUP 4:**

Choose between cooking dinner at home or eating out. You have food at home but you're too tired to cook. The problem is that money for eating out is money that you owe your friend.

**GROUP 5:**

Choose whether or not to buy the stereo you've always wanted when it's on sale. Unfortunately, you're between jobs and out of cash, so you would be buying it on credit.