
LESSON A

How Values and Goals Influence Housing Choices

FOCUS: Teens sometimes make a moving out decision based solely on emotion because of a desire for independence. If students can base a move on values and goals they will have more freedom to determine why they are moving out, when the move is most appropriate, where they will go, and who they will chose as a roommate, if any. They will also be able to distinguish the difference between something they must have in order to live on their own vs. something they would like to have. These considerations can result in a more successful moving out experience.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Have students role play—
 - a major fight with their parents and deciding to leave home immediately, and,
 - planning their future with the help of their parents.

After the role plays have the students discuss: Why do I want to move out? When do I plan to move out? Where will I live? Will I have a roommate and if so, who will it be? Or, use Student Handout, "Deciding About Housing".
2. Discuss how a person's values and goals influence housing choices. Use the Student Handout, "Housing Needs and Wants." Have students determine which items are most important to them, which items are a must, and which ones they could perhaps live without for a while.
3. Have students view the video "Make the Right Move, The Apartment Rental Game" SDA138V-91. Order through Zenger Video 10200 Jefferson Boulevard, Room 981, P.O. Box 802, Culver City, CA 90232-0802.
4. Invite a panel of former students in their 20's to come to class and discuss their housing experiences.
5. Have students visit two apartments and complete the Student Handout, "Visit Two Apartments". This may need to be done in pairs or small groups in some areas for safety or to avoid burdening landlords.

CORE ISSUE 6

Deciding About Housing

What's the danger of deciding to move out when I'm angry?

Questions

Answers

	After a fight with parents	With help of parents
1. Why do I want to move out?		
2. When do I plan to move out?		
3. Where will I live?		
4. Who will I live with?		



Housing Needs and Wants

By examine personal values and goals, we gain more control over why and when we will move out along with where, and with whom we will live and what we need and want in our housing situation.

Indicate in the first column with a N (for need) or W (for want). Then indicate how important each of the following items are to you with **1** as most important and **5** as least important.

	N/W	1	2	3	4	5
Comfortable place to sleep		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Facilities for cooking		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Space for entertaining		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Storage space		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
More than one bathroom		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Laundry facilities		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Close to shopping		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
transportation		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
religious institution		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
work,		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
school		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
entertainment		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Parking		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Pool/hot tub		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Exercise facilities		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Cable TV		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Quiet		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Private		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Safe and Secure		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Spacious		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Easy to clean/maintain		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Prestigious		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Well decorated		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Affordable		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Journal Entry # 1



What will be most important after all for me when I look for housing?

Visit Two Apartments

Use the Apartment Evaluation Form below to compare 2 apartments you will visit.

	Apartment A	Apartment B
Name and Location		
1. What is the monthly rent?		
2. Does rent include utilities/If not, what is the expected amount of utility bill?		
3. Number of bedrooms?		
4. Is a security deposit required? Is it refundable?		
5. Are first and last month's rent required?		
6. Is a cleaning deposit required?		
7. Are pets allowed?		
8. Impressions of the manager include:		
9. Is the entrance well lit and protected from outsiders?		
10. Is the apartment well insulated?		
11. Are floors and carpets attractive and clean?		
12. Are the appliances clean and in good condition?		
13. Is there enough storage space?		
14. Are washing facilities provided?		
15. What other services and facilities are available?		
16. Would you rent here? Why or why not?		

Compare housing options with your earlier list of needs and wants. Will you be able to afford all that you want?

How well does your housing choice reflect your housing values?