

CHAPTER SUMMARY

Section 21.1

Responsible Dating

Going out in groups has benefits, especially when you are just beginning to date. When you start going out with someone, you take on new responsibilities for yourself and for your dating partner. Sexual responsibility includes understanding the risks, handling sexual feelings, and resisting sexual pressure. Crushes, infatuation, jealousy, and breakups challenge people to deal with difficult emotions.

Section 21.2

Decisions About Marriage

An engagement period gives a couple time to prepare for marriage. Every state has laws governing marriage. Teen marriages do not have a high rate of success. Even among mature couples, marriage can pose significant challenges. Communication, sharing, and commitment help create a strong marriage. There are many reasons for choosing to remain single. Marriage is a choice, not a requirement.