

## For Parents – Be An Approachable Parent

### Be An Approachable Parent!

Does your child feel its ok to talk with you about sex? If not, have you ever thought about who will answer your child's questions? Only you can make sure that your child can openly and honestly communicate with you. After all, you are your child's first and most important teacher. Loving and caring parents actively discover a child's need for information and then find ways to fill those needs. Even adolescents in their mid-teens are still learning from you.

### An approachable parent:

- ✓ Show respect, value and love for children
- ✓ Realizes that every difficult situation is not a crisis
- ✓ Wants communication, but doesn't expect to have all the answers
- ✓ Knows the most important part of communication is listening
- ✓ Doesn't laugh when a child asks a question
- ✓ Doesn't expect to be perfect, and knows that admitting mistakes is a valuable lesson for the child
- ✓ Is sometimes embarrassed by questions about sex but acknowledges the discomfort and explains it to the child

**\*Teens are more likely to talk to an approachable parent. If you checked all seven answers, you are very approachable.**



Source: [www.iwannaknow.org](http://www.iwannaknow.org)