

no plans for what he will do with his life after graduation. Whenever Jeremy mentions the topic, his mother tells him, "This is what you must do" and begins to outline the steps he must take. Jeremy just walks away. She asks, "What should I do?" What advice should you give Jeremy's mother?

## Questions

1. Evidence: Is there sufficient evidence to draw any conclusions about what advice to give Jeremy's mother?
2. Assumptions: Describe an underlying assumption about each of the following issues:
  - a. Adolescents and the search for personal identity
  - b. The influence of others on the adolescent's search for personal identity
  - c. Ways to communicate with adolescents
3. What implications and priorities for nursing care can be drawn at this time?
4. Does the evidence objectively support your argument (conclusion)?

## Sex-Role Identity

Adolescence represents a critical time in the development of sexuality and a sex-role identity. Hormonal, physical, cognitive, and social changes that occur during adolescence all have an impact on sexual development. Of all the developmental changes that affect adolescent sexuality, none is more obvious than the impact of puberty. Adolescents must come to terms with hormonal influences, physiologic manifestations such as menstruation and ejaculation, and physical changes such as breast and genital development. All of these changes have a profound impact on the way teenagers perceive their bodies (i.e., body image). In addition