

- b. Society's reaction to homosexuality
  - c. Health care professionals and adolescent sexuality
3. What is the most appropriate response by the nurse practitioner to John's statement?
  4. Does the published evidence support your argument (conclusion)?

## Social Environments

The biologic, cognitive, and social changes of adolescence are shaped by the social environment in which the changes take place. The social environment provides opportunities, barriers, role models, and support for individuals' development and health. Systems within the social environment, including family, peers, schools, community (including the Internet-based community), and the larger society, all contribute uniquely to an adolescent's development and health.

## Families

During adolescence, the parent–child relationship changes from one of protection/dependency to one of mutual affection and equality. The process of achieving independence often involves turmoil and ambiguity as both parent and adolescent learn to play new roles and work toward establishing the ultimate relationship. As teenagers assert their rights for grown-up privileges, they frequently create tensions within the home. They resist parental control, and conflicts can arise from almost any situation or any subject. Favorite topics of dispute include Internet use, the need for a personal cell phone, manners, dress, chores and duties, homework, disrespectful behavior, friendships, dating and relationships, money, automobiles, alcohol and other substance abuse, and time schedules.

Teenagers' earliest attempts to achieve emancipation from parental controls are manifested in a period of rejection of the parents. They absent themselves from home and family activities