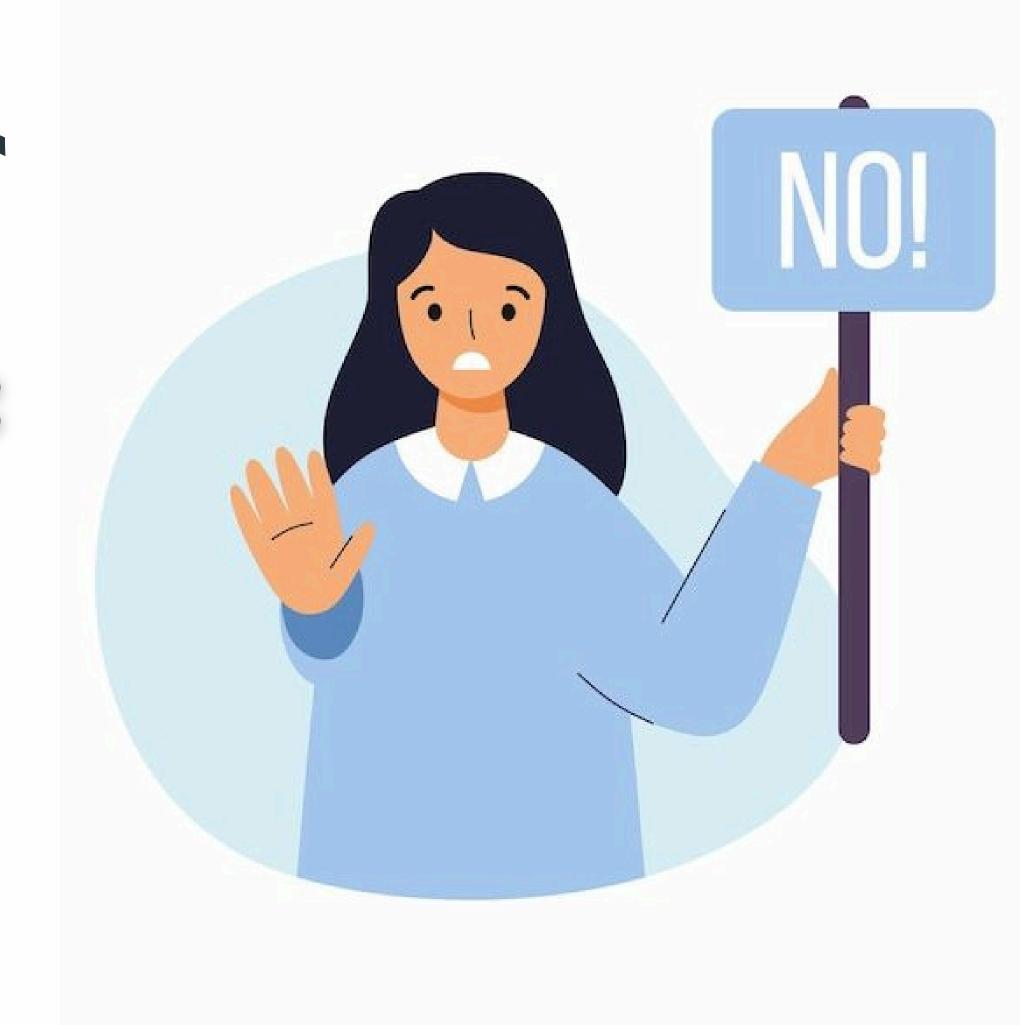
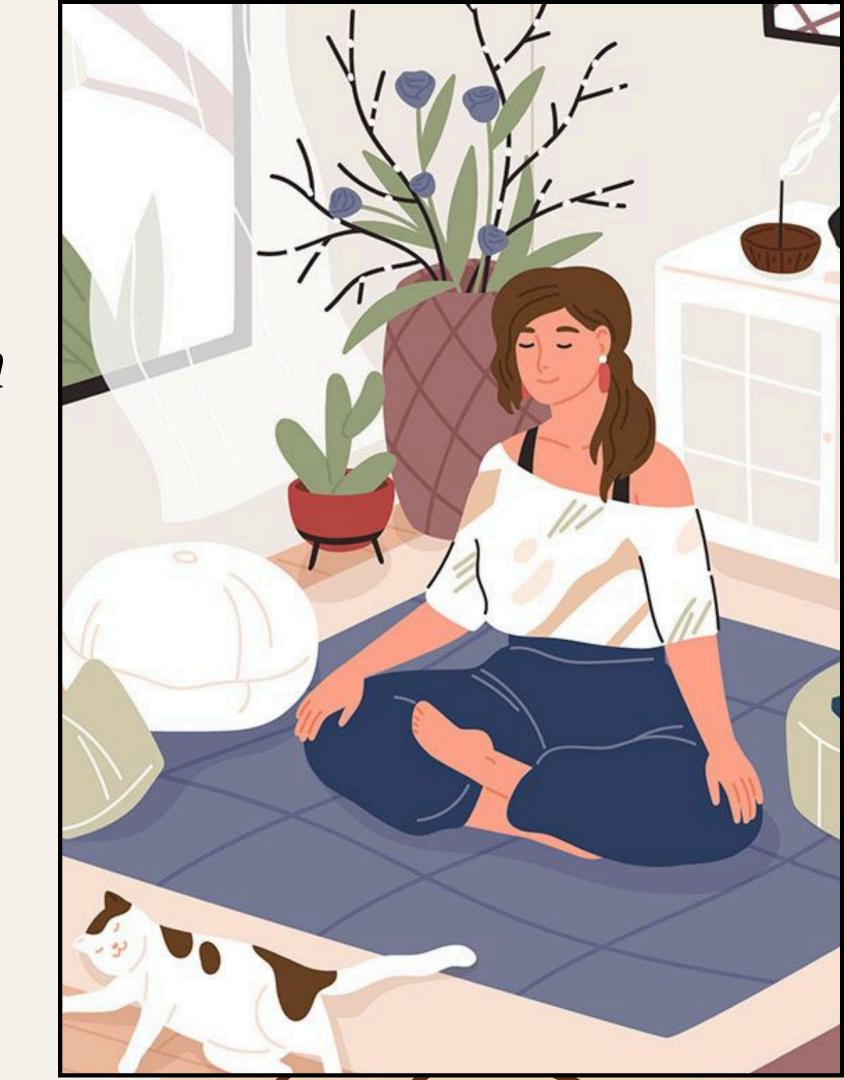
"RESPECTING YOURSELF: THE STRENGTH TO SAY NO"



INTRODUCTION

Opening Question: "Have you ever felt pressured to say yes, even when you didn't want to?" Objective: To help teen girls understand when and how to say no, and why it's important for their mental and emotional wellbeing.





THE POWER OF SAYING "NO"

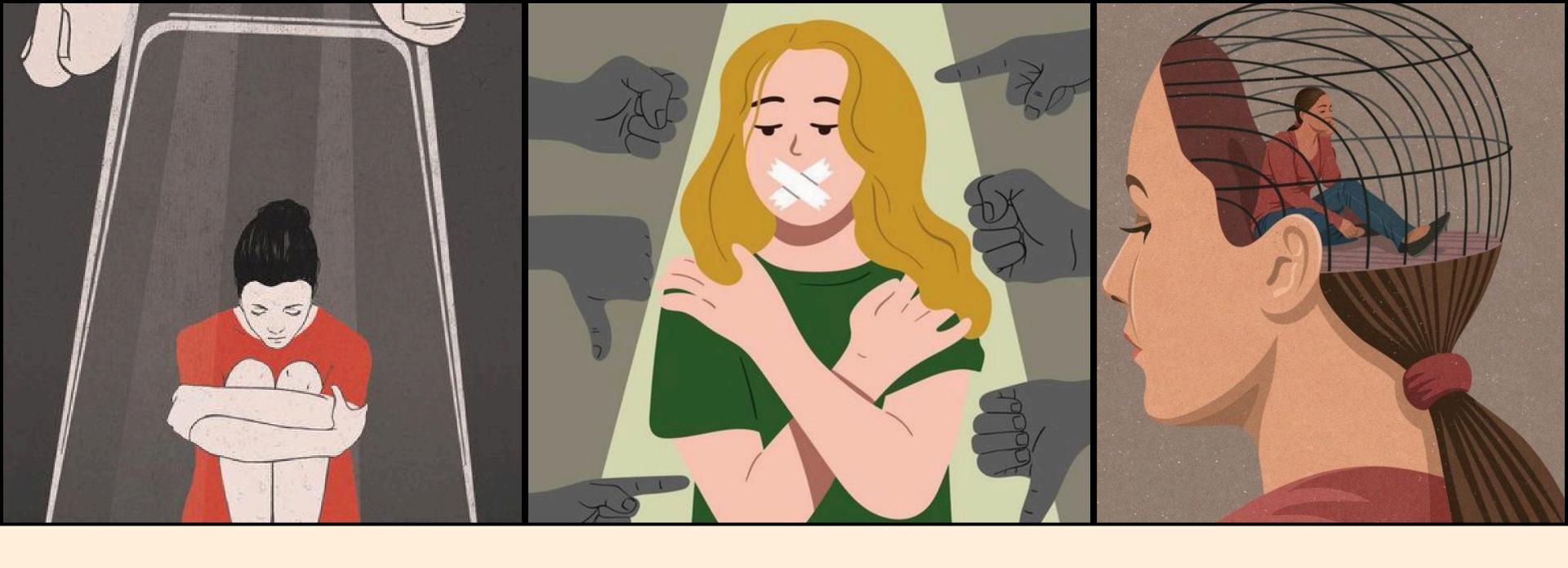
Self-Respect: Saying no is about valuing yourself and your limits.

Confidence: It takes strength to stand up for what you believe in.

Preventing Burnout: Managing your time, energy, and mental health.

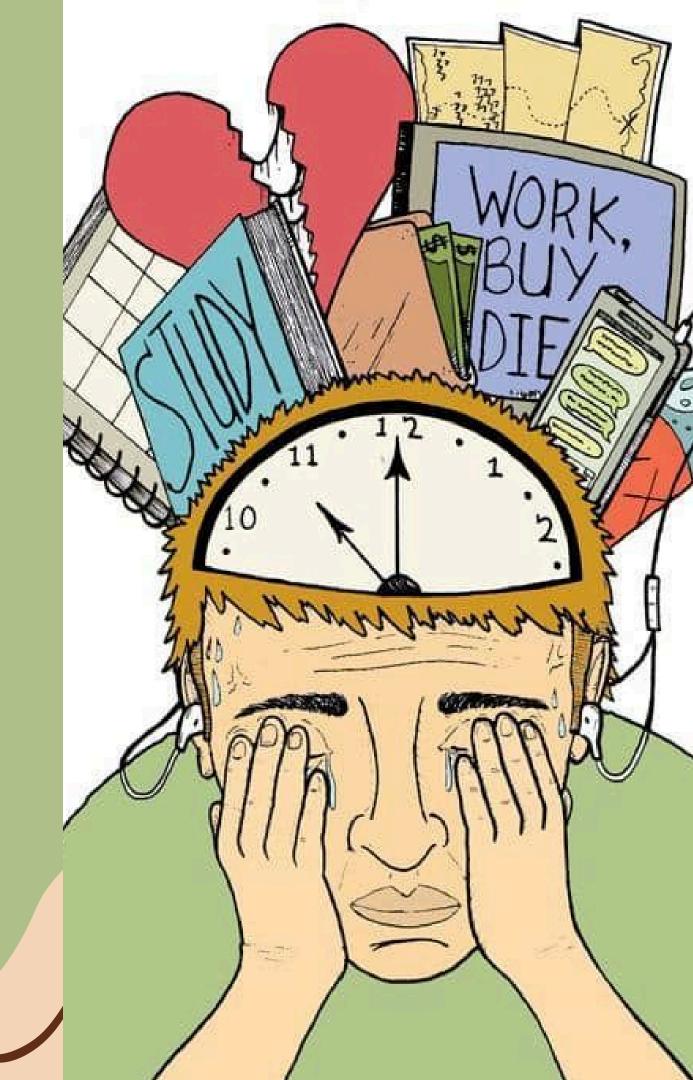
Healthy Boundaries: Teaching others how to treat you.





SITUATIONS WHERE TEENS FEEL FORCED TO SAY YES

- Social Media Challenges: Feeling the pressure to participate just because everyone else is.
- **Friend Favors:** Saying yes to things that make you uncomfortable (e.g., covering for a friend, helping when you're already overwhelmed).
- Romantic Pressure: Agreeing to things in relationships because you feel you should.
- School Activities: Joining clubs or doing extra work that you don't really want to do.







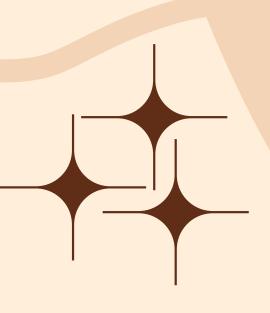
WHY SAYING YES WHEN YOU WANT TO SAY NO CAN BE HARMFUL?

Losing Your Authenticity: You start living according to what others want, not what you want.

Resentment: Saying yes too often can make you feel bitter or frustrated.

Stress & Anxiety: Overcommitting yourself leads to unnecessary pressure.

Hurting Friendships: If you're always saying yes, your friends may not respect your true feelings.



EMPOWER YOURSELF -YOU'RE IN CONTROL!

Think Before You Say Yes: Ask yourself: Do I really want this? Do I have time? Will it make me happy?

Set Boundaries Early: It's easier to say no when you establish your limits from the start.

Stand Tall: Saying no is a sign of strength, not weakness.

Surround Yourself with Support: Friends and mentors who respect your boundaries are essential.



"Saying no to something is actually saying yes to what truly matters."

