

Late adolescence

(17 to 21 years)

Late adolescence often finds teens “pulling things together” after a commonly turbulent early and middle adolescence. Parents generally report getting along more easily with the late adolescent. Below are some common characteristics of late adolescence.

- Busy thinking about the future.
- Exploring more long-term relationships.
- High moral standards.
- May get involved in causes.
- Has an opinion on everything.
- Less self-conscious about body.
- Independent, more self-reliant.
- Adult thinking capacity.
- Less influenced by peer group.

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TAMS
Teen Age Medical Service

The adolescent outpatient clinic of Children's Hospitals and Clinics



Parent tips

- Regularly ask your adolescent questions about what they think and believe.
- Respect and celebrate your adolescent's uniqueness.
- Encourage their independent decision-making when appropriate.
- Talk with your adolescent about life goals, priorities, and dreams.
- Discuss with your adolescent his or her plans for independent living (money management, health care, food selection and preparation, education, job/career).
- Spend time with your adolescent.
- Continue to give hugs and tell them you love them.

If you need more help with parenting teens, call TAMS at (612) 813-6125.

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