

# FAITH MATTERS

Teenagers,

Religion,



Sexuality

STEVE CLAPP,

KRISTEN LEVERTON HELBERT,

& ANGELA ZIZAK

THE LIFE QUEST GROWING IN FAITH SERIES

# FAITH MATTERS

## Teenagers, Religion, & Sexuality

How do religious faith and congregational involvement influence the sexual values and behaviors of teenagers? Faith Matters shares what the authors learned in a study of 5,819 teenagers representing a broad ranges of religious traditions, ethnic background, economic levels, and geographic locations. In this book, you'll learn:

- The characteristics shared by a group of teens with rates of premarital intercourse not only lower than secular teens but also lower than most other religious teens.
- The reasons why “abstinence only” doesn't give religious teens the help they need and want to make responsible sexual decisions.
- The, to some, shocking reality that many religious teens are having oral sex—and that 55% of them think (mistakenly) they can't get a sexually transmitted disease from that act.
- The reasons why half of the religious teens who become pregnant choose to have an abortion.
- The reality that one out of ten religious teens are not sure of a heterosexual orientation and face significant problems dealing with their faith and congregational life.
- The good news that teens want more help and direction from faith-based institutions in preparing for dating, marriage, and sexual decision-making. **Faith Matters** offers practical guidance to individuals and congregations wanting to make a difference. Discussion questions are included for teens and adults.

**Steve Clapp** is the president of Christian Community and has authored or coauthored over thirty books on congregational life including **Hospitality: Life in a Time of Fear** and **Youth Workers Handbook**. Past books of his have received praise from leaders like Herb Miller of Net Results and Loren Mead, founder of the Alban Institute. **Kristen Leverton Helbert** and **Angela Zizak** have both collaborated with him on other publications including **The Desires of Your Heart**.

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### A LIFE QUEST GROWING IN FAITH BOOK

*providing insights for growth in the faith and practical strategies for a meaningful life.*

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**CLAPP, HELBERT, ZIZAK**

