

NAME:

COURSE:

**TEENS WAITING LONGER FOR SEX  
TV SOAPS 'HAVE INFLUENCE'**

*YOUNG people are waiting longer to have sex than ever before, says a **survey**.*

*Just one in five lose their virginity under the age of 16, a drop of 12 per cent since 2002.*

*And the average age that people first have sex has gone up from just over 17 to nearer 18.*

*The poll **dispels** the myth that more British teenagers have become sexually irresponsible.*

*Paula Hall, from the marriage **guidance** group Relate, said: "The findings are very **heartening**.*

*"They prove that young people are thinking about sex longer, not giving in to peer pressure and taking it more seriously." The number losing their virginity at 14 or 15 has **dropped** from 23per cent in 2002 to 15per cent.*

*And 84 per cent of adults say schools should teach sex and relationships beyond basic biology.*

*Paula said TV shows such as Hollyoaks and EastEnders were encouraging teenagers to become more responsible.*

*"More shows are running story lines that promote better attitudes towards sex and are putting it in the context of proper relationships which is important," she said.*

*"Significant numbers of young people **regret** losing their virginity because of the emotional impact and that issue needs to be addressed in the classroom."*

**QUESTIONS**

**1. Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text. (2 points)**

a. What has TV got to do with teenage sex?


b. According to the text, what should teenagers learn at school?


**2. Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer. (1.5 points)**

a. Some TV shows influence teenagers negatively on sex issues.

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b. Losing one's virginity under the age of 16 is common.

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c. Paula Hall is a sex teacher in a school in England.

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