

TETOing?

What is TETO®? *It's the ultimate social network for parents - Talking!*

Talk Early & Talk Often® to young people about *Sex Pressure*
Love Relationships Honesty
Respect Trust

Start TETOing® today ... Parents, you matter more than you know!

Talk Early & Talk Often® is part of Governor Granholm's Blueprint for Preventing Unintended Pregnancies. The nationally recognized parent education initiative aimed at helping parents of middle school youth talk with their child about abstinence and sexuality continues to be offered to parents in the school, community, healthcare or church setting. The two hour workshop is free of charge. In the workshop parents will learn about ways to open the door to conversation about abstinence and sexuality; recognize and use teachable moments to communicate important facts and values; have the opportunity to practice answering difficult questions; and to listen and respond with greater confidence and skill.

Parents are the primary abstinence and sexuality educators of their children. Continued communication at home is vital in helping our young people avoid sexual relationships they are not yet prepared for that may have serious consequences including pregnancy, HIV and sexually transmitted infections. According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, age-appropriate conversations about relationships and intimacy should begin early in a child's life and continue through adolescence. Resist "the talk" – make it an 18-year conversation.

Would you like to host a FREE workshop in your community? For information about the **Talk Early & Talk Often®** Parent Education Initiative go to www.michigan.gov/talkearly or contact Barb Flis, Coordinator at 248-538-7786 or teto@michigan.gov.



It's never too late to improve a relationship with a child or teenager. Don't underestimate the great need that children feel - at all ages - for close relationships with their parents and for their parents' guidance, approval, and support.