

Persistent, Proactive, & Personal  
Planning for the Teen Presence in Your Library

# what we'll cover

- Getting buy-in from fellow staff & administration
- Addressing physical space needs & limitations
- Building support for positive teen interactions
- Developing a full range of services

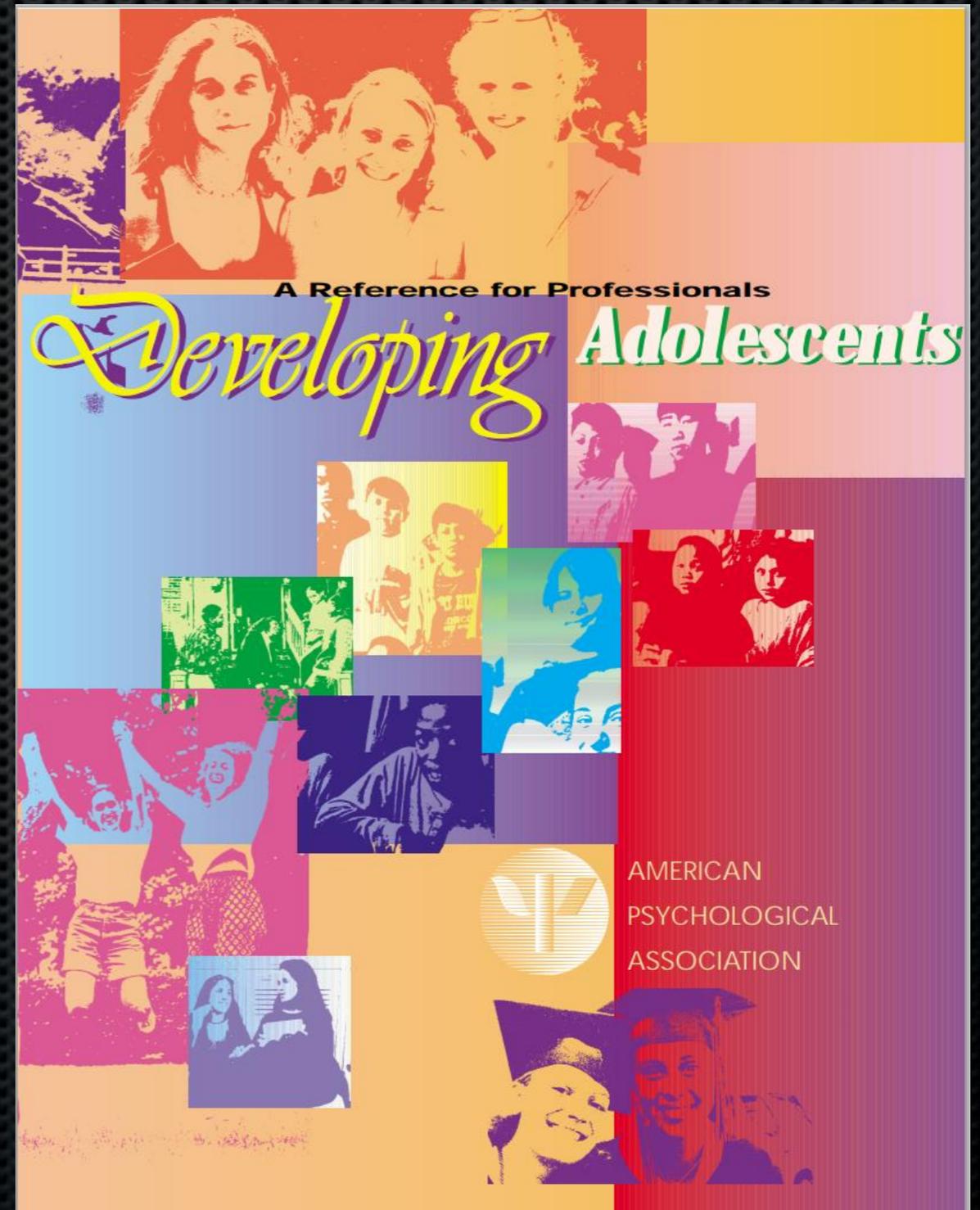
# getting to “yes!” w/ staff

- Epehebiphobia?
- You won't succeed as a lone ranger
- Get info in front of others
- Expand the range of voices
- Be local



# resources to draw on

- SLJ/VOYA
- APA
- YALSA
- Pew
- YPulse
- Potential local partners



# where will they go once they're here?

- Good/better/best model for space development
- Get staff on the same page
- Teen buy-in & investment in behavior
- Don't build a fortress- head off problems
- Set the right tone
- Accept a wide range of library appropriate behaviors

# what's in their heads?

- Foundation: adolescent development
- Daily life of a teen
- Abandoning adult experience
- Broken windows/broken trust
- Seeing a continuum of behaviors
- Consistency & context



# teens in the library

- Vine.co (6 second microcontent videos from a smartphone app)
- Let's watch these together, & see if we can recognize activities within the range of the continuum of typical teen behavior



# intervene or ignore?

- The phenomenon of negative attention
- Effects: lacking life experience
- Utilizing perspective
- Context-based responses
- Dangerous vs. annoying behavior



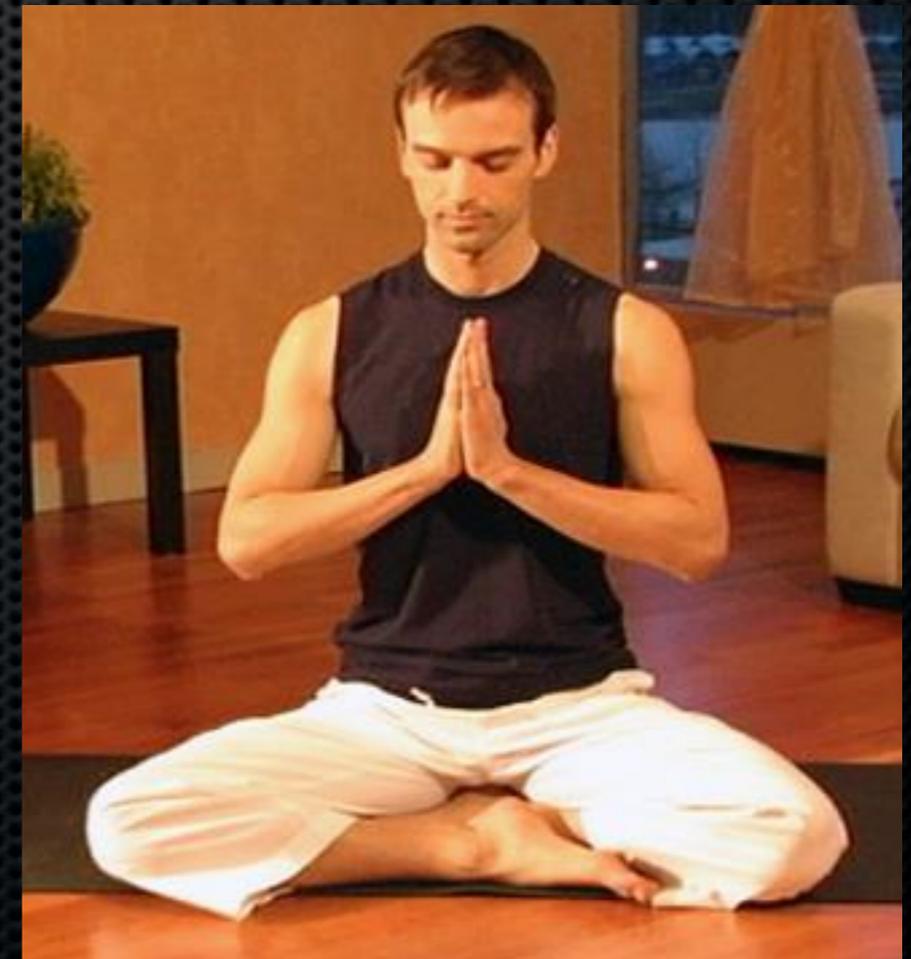
# preserving dignity (& sanity)



- Peer perceptions
- Circular talk
- Offering choices, offering dignity
- Enforcing as few rules as possible?!
- Letting go of your own teen years

# what's my script?

- ✦ You are the party host
- ✦ Don't give in to knee-jerk reactions
- ✦ Take a deep breath
- ✦ Let go of past experiences
- ✦ Everyone loves a sandwich!
- ✦ Turn the choice over to them



# develop a full range of services

- Library goals, teen development goals
- “Invisible” teens in your community
- Changing perceptions of what a “library” is
- What do they want? What do they not know exists?
- Marketing teen style
- Rethink programming as a concept
- Envision a wide range of library activities

questions?

# take it further

SLJ [slj.com](http://slj.com)

VOYA [voyamagazine.com](http://voyamagazine.com)

YALSA [ala.org/yalsa](http://ala.org/yalsa)

APA [apa.org/pi/cyf/develop.pdf](http://apa.org/pi/cyf/develop.pdf)

Pew [pewinternet.org/topics/Teens.aspx](http://pewinternet.org/topics/Teens.aspx)

4H [bit.ly/LSUagteens](http://bit.ly/LSUagteens)

YPulse [ypulse.com](http://ypulse.com)

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