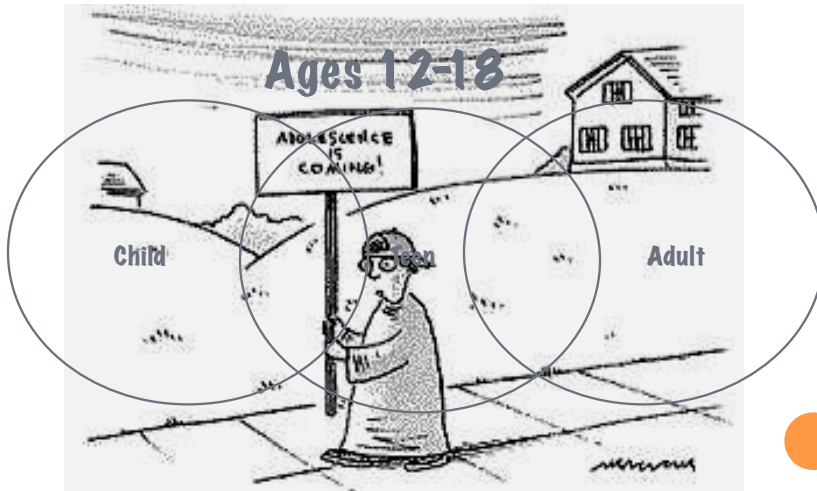


## ADOLESCENT DEFINED

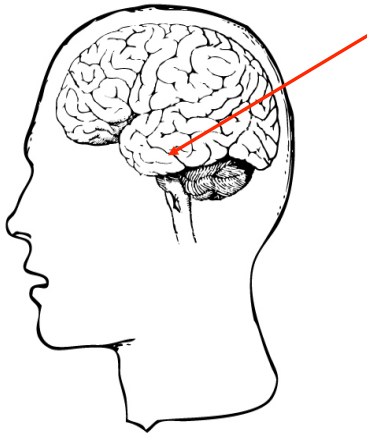


## Adolescent Brain Development



Why do they act that way?

## Adolescent Brain Development

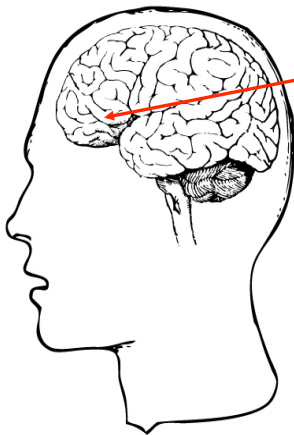


### **Amygdala:**

The seat of emotions such as anger, this area develops quickly, before other regions that help control it.



## Adolescent Brain Development



### **Prefrontal Cortex:**

This “judgment” region reins in wild emotions but doesn’t finish developing until about age 20.



## WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING?

- Physically
- Intellectually
- Emotionally
- Morally
- Socially
- Spiritually




## A DEFINITION OF YOUTH MINISTRY

- Youth Ministry is the response of the Christian community to the needs of young people and the sharing of the unique gifts of youth with the larger community.

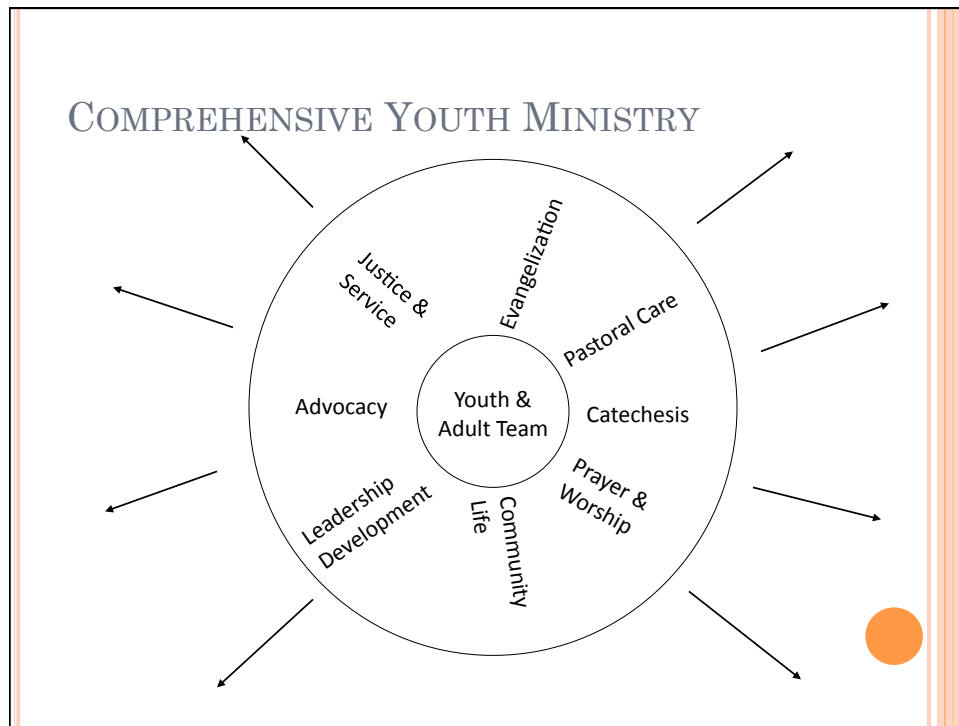


## GOALS FOR MINISTRY WITH ADOLESCENTS

- Goal 1: To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world today.
  - Goal 2: To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community.
  - Goal 3: To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.
- 

## COMPONENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE YM

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ● Evangelization<br>Faith Sharing, Scripture Groups      | ● Justice & Service<br>Feed Homeless, Awareness Week                                     |
| ● Catechesis<br>Religious Ed, Discussion Groups          | ● Leadership Development<br>Youth and Adult Training and Formation                       |
| ● Prayer & Worship<br>Youth Liturgy, Prayer Groups       | ● Advocacy<br>adult Support of Youth Concerns, making the entire Parish "Youth Friendly" |
| ● Community Life<br>Retreats, Events, Vocation Awareness |  |
| ● Pastoral Care<br>Penance Service, Counseling Resources |  |
- 



## CHALLENGE OF THE NEXT TWENTY YEARS IN YOUTH MINISTRY

1. Move beyond the youth group model
2. Integrate the young into the everyday life of the parish
3. Create structures which make it possible to carry on comprehensive Youth Ministry  
-Coordinator and Parish Team


## FIVE QUESTIONS WITH SEAN REYNOLDS




## PARENTS IN MINISTRY



### **ADOLESCENT CATECHESIS IN THE PARISH**

- Catechesis was originally meant to be an option but not a casual one. When and if it loses that optional character, it risks becoming inauthentic catechesis.
  - Catechesis is an initiation into a new sensibility, a new way of perceiving the world and of being in that world – in Greek terms, a distinctive paideia.
- 

### **ADOLESCENT CATECHESIS IN THE PARISH**

- Catechesis is a lifelong process and the community is its agent.
  - The community is not perfect.
  - Humanization must be at the heart of today's adolescent catechesis.
- 

## **ADOLESCENT CATECHESIS: AN UNFINISHED AGENDA**

- Catechesis is deeper, richer, wider and more complex than instruction in “things to know” about faith.
- Mature Christian faith, practiced in a healthy community, is never forced or centripetal; it is joyful and uncomfortable.
- Ours is not our ancestors’ world or culture. The tasks proper to adolescent formation occur on an internet-linked planet and in a nation informed by a postmodern approach to religion and culture. ●