

# The BACCHUS Network™ Statement on Sexual Responsibility

Sexual Responsibility begins with values, communication and knowledge. First and foremost, one must define his or her personal values with regard to engaging in sexual activity. These values are supported by maturity, self-esteem, knowledge, self-control, and healthy attitudes and behaviors. The values of a sexually responsible person include:

- Understanding that sexuality is a natural and healthy aspect of human life;
- Communicating personal thoughts and feelings to one's partner, and seeking to know and understand a partner's thoughts and feelings;
- Working to achieve consensual, healthy relationships through honesty and openly valuing the rights and limits of one's self and others;
- Being non-manipulative and only practicing safe and mutually consensual sexual behaviors.

