

Magnets and Morality

PURPOSE

To illustrate the importance of maintaining high dating standards

MATERIALS

- Two magnets



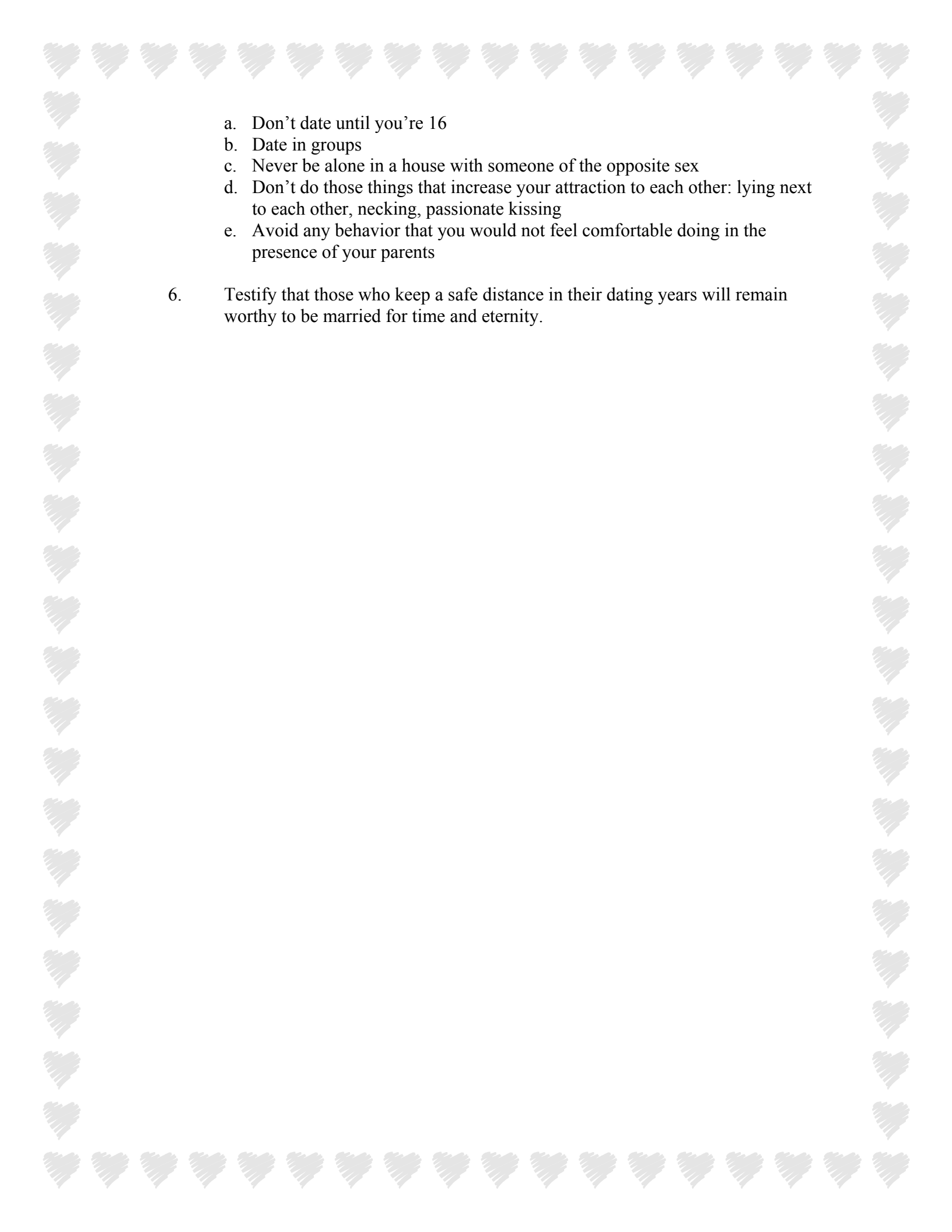
LESSON

1. Take the two magnets and place them on a flat surface.
 - a. Give someone the following instructions: “Using only your two index fingers, try to see how close you can push these magnets together without having them connect.” (Most people will push the magnets so close that they quickly lock together)
2. Explain that Heavenly Father has given His children divine desires so that males and females, like magnets, will be attracted to each other. But our Father has commanded us not to use these divine desires unless we are married.
3. Ask listeners how the magnets can be similar to young people dating.
 - a. Help listeners understand that too many young people try to see how close they can come in their physical relations without becoming immoral. Then, like the magnets, the strong power of attraction quickly pulls them into immorality.
4. You may find the following quote from Elder Richard G. Scott helpful:

“Satan tempts one to believe that there are allowable levels of physical contact between consenting individuals who seek the powerful stimulation of emotions they produce, and if kept within bounds, no harm will result. As a witness of Jesus Christ, I testify that is absolutely false.

“When you are mature enough to plan seriously for marriage, keep your expressions of feelings to those that are comfortable in the presence of your parents. To help you keep these sacred commandments, make a covenant with the Lord that you will obey them. Decide what you will do and will not do. When temptation comes, do not change your standards. Do not abandon them when circumstances seem to justify an exception. That is Satan’s way to hurt you by making it seem that sometimes God’s law does not apply. There are no exceptions.

“You know how to be clean. We trust you to do it” (*New Era*, Oct. 1995,
- 4).
5. Invite the listeners to list some guidelines to stay morally clean while dating:

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- a. Don't date until you're 16
 - b. Date in groups
 - c. Never be alone in a house with someone of the opposite sex
 - d. Don't do those things that increase your attraction to each other: lying next to each other, necking, passionate kissing
 - e. Avoid any behavior that you would not feel comfortable doing in the presence of your parents
6. Testify that those who keep a safe distance in their dating years will remain worthy to be married for time and eternity.