# Website Evaluation Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATION CATEGORIES</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Content            | ● Is the content related to adolescents and families?  
● Is there a combination of original information and links?  
● Is the coverage of the topic sufficient?  
● Is the information written for parents, researchers, teachers, and/or practitioners? | ☐ Yes* ☐ No  
☐ Yes* ☐ No  
☐ Yes* ☐ No  
☐ Yes* ☐ No |
| 2. Authority          | ● Does the site have an identifiable author?  
● Is the author a family or adolescent scholar?  
● Are his/her qualifications and contact information provided?  
● Is the document research-based and/or a primary or secondary source?  
● What type of website is it: educational (.edu), commercial (.com), or governmental (.gov)? | ☐ Yes* ☐ No  
☐ Yes* ☐ No  
☐ Yes* ☐ No  
☐ Research-based*  
☐ Primary source*  
☐ Secondary source  
☐ Educational (.edu) site*  
☐ Commercial (.com) site  
☐ Government (.gov) site |
| 3. Accuracy           | ● Do they reference sources of information used?  
● Are there grammatical errors or mistakes? | ☐ Yes* ☐ No  
☐ Yes ☐ No* |
### 4. Currency

- Is a publication or revision date listed? [☐ Yes* ☐ No]
- Is the page relevant to current research? [☐ Yes* ☐ No]
- Are there links that do not work or are not current? [☐ Yes ☐ No*]

### 5. Usability and Navigation

- Is there a good organizational scheme? [☐ Yes* ☐ No]
- Is there a help, search, or index function? [☐ Yes* ☐ No]
- Is the URL current? [☐ Yes* ☐ No]
- Does the site support different browsers? [☐ Yes* ☐ No]
- Does the page take a long time to download? [☐ Yes ☐ No*]
- Does the site require plugins and/or applications to open documents? [☐ Yes ☐ No*]

### 6. Design and Aesthetics

- Is the design too complex as to detract from the content? [☐ Yes ☐ No*]
- Is the site user friendly and accessible? [☐ Yes* ☐ No]
- Are the graphics clear in intent, relevant, and professional looking? [☐ Yes* ☐ No]

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This fact sheet was originally written by Jodi Dworkin, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Family Social Science University of Minnesota, and Kevin M. Green, Ph.D., Graduate Admissions Administrator, Brigham Young University. It was revised in November 2012 by Jodi Dworkin.