Intimacy/Sexuality and Commitment in a Relationship Ages 16+

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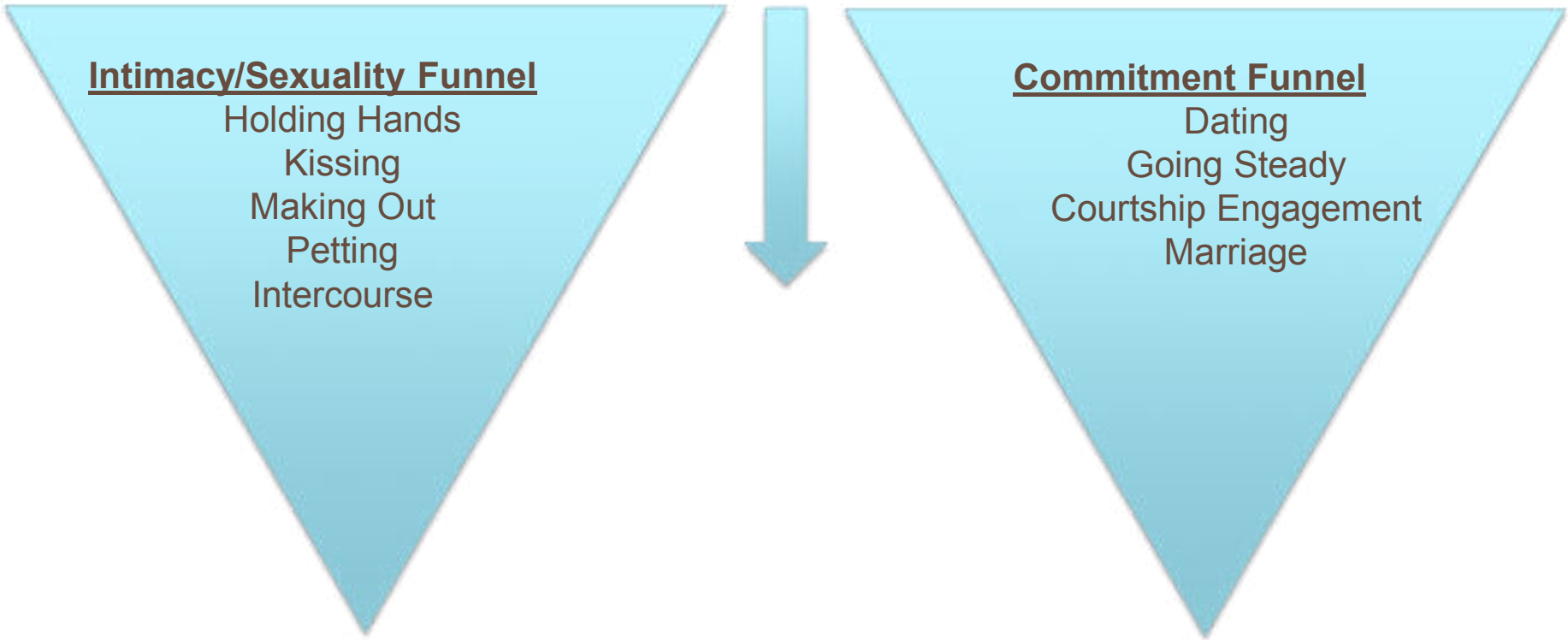
Funnels of Intimacy/Sexuality and Commitment



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Definitions

- Making out – heavy kissing and close physical contact
- Petting – exploring each other's bodies up to but not including intercourse
- Intercourse – the penetration of the penis into the vagina
- Dating – casually dating a person, those involved are most likely dating other people as well
- Going Steady – a progression of a relationship to the point where the couple is dating each other exclusively
- Engagement – dating only one person with the agreement that you will marry

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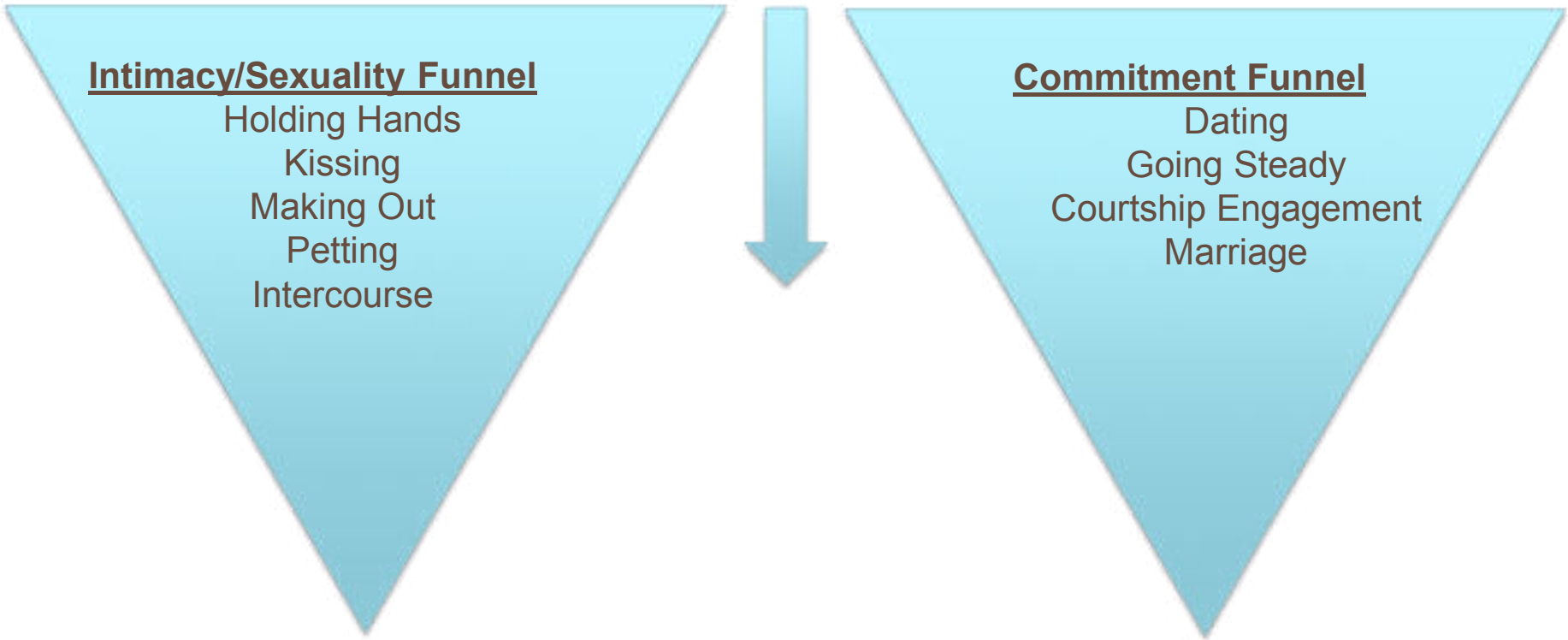

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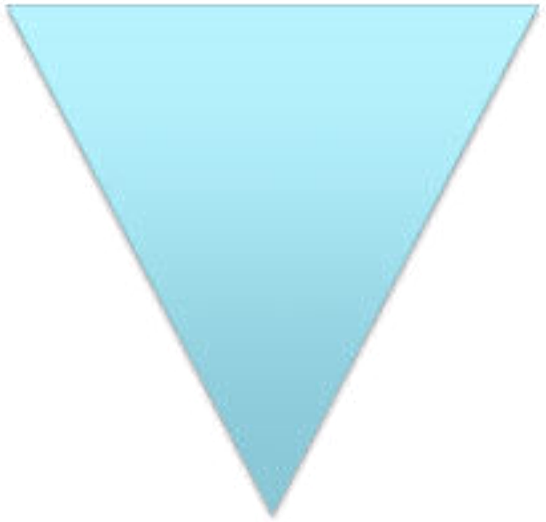
Both guys and girls will move down the funnel until they reach a

“point of urgent need”

where control is lost and physical need takes over.



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Comparing the Two Funnels

The speed down each funnel varies:

- Girls are usually more interested in pushing down the commitment funnel; guys control how and how fast
- Guys are usually more interested in pushing down the intimacy/sexuality funnel; girls control how far and how fast.

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Comparing the Funnels

- Girls and guys will use one funnel to bargain for the other:
- Girls give sex to get love,
- Guys give love to get sex.
- You need to understand that love does not always mean sex, and sex does not always imply love.

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- The earlier in age one enters the funnel, the longer one is faced with the problem of fighting gravity down the funnel.
- The more you date one person, the more slippery the funnel becomes.
- It is easier to break off a relationship than it is to back up the funnel.

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- Once you have gone down the funnel, future funnels are more slippery.
- Going down the intimacy/sexuality funnel gives girls a different reputation than guys.

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What are some ways to show your attraction to a person other than sexual behaviors?

- Offer a shoulder to cry on
- Listen, encourage, support their successes
- Share a small gift

What are some other ways?

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Thank you!