

# Juno



Fox Searchlight, 2007, Rated A-III and PG-13

**SUGGESTED USE:** Conversation Starter

**MATERIALS:** This film clip requires just your basic setup.

**THEMES:** Teen Pregnancy, Parent-Child Relationship, Step-Parents, Moral Decision Making

**LENGTH OF CLIP:** 04:10

-  **Begin:** Chapter 8, 0:22:49 Begin as Juno paces back and forth.
-  **End:** 0:26:59 End when Juno's dad says, "Yeah."

## Setting the Scene

This film received acclaim for its pro-life message and criticism for its view of teen sexuality. Without glorifying the sexual activity of teenagers, it is possible to show clips from this film that foster healthy discussion about the choices teens make.

In this scene, Juno has to tell her parents she is pregnant. Use this opportunity to talk with the young people about how they would break the news to their parents, but also guide the discussion to what we understand as Catholics to be the reasons sex is saved for marriage. This might be the first time some young people have heard these reasons.

## Suggested Process



**Show Clip**



## Discussion Questions

- What do you think of the reaction of Juno's dad and stepmother? How would you tell your parents? How do you think they would react?
- What do you think most frightened Juno in this scene? Would that be the same fear for you?
- Do you admire Juno for her decision to carry the baby to term? What do you think your friends would say if you were pregnant? How would your school, parish, and extended family react?
- Juno's dad says, "I thought you were the kind of girl who knew when to say when." Juno responds, "I don't really know what kind of girl I am." What do you think she means by that? Do you know what kind of girl or boy you are? If not, when and how do you think you will discover that?



## Variation

Try to find the statistics for teen pregnancies in your community. See if the young people can guess those statistics. Are they surprised? Gently guide the conversation toward the nature of their decision making and away from topics like abortion or birth control. Know why we believe what we believe and do not pontificate. Young people may respond poorly if they think you are using this scene as an opportunity to preach.



## Final Thought

Juno's stepmother says, "Someone is going to find a precious blessing from Jesus in the garbage dump of a situation." How does God right our wrongs? Note that the "wrong" here is having sex. How do we help young people understand that sexuality is a gift to be shared appropriately? Think about all the gifts God gives us and the appropriate and inappropriate ways to use these gifts.