**Perceptions of American Teens:**

**- a Vietnamese teen felt sorry for white teens: "They are really unlucky.  They have no real culture.  They go around trying to steal other people's groups - blacks, Asians, just so they can find some identity." (168-9)**

**- With acculturation, the well-being of refugee students actually decreases.  The longer kids are in America, the less time they spend on homework and the more likely they are to be sexually active. (172)**

**- How is school different in home country than here? (183-6)**

* **"In Russia there was better discipline.  I learned to multiply in second grade.  My brother is in fourth grade here and still cannot multiply."**
* **"The American educational system is designed to make students stop thinking."**
* **Nadi was amazed at how disrespectful American students were - talking to their friends in class, mouthing off, and sleeping**
* **shocked by American kids kissing in the halls or shouting "F\*\*\* you."**
* **"I hate how teenagers talk about their parents."**
* **"American teens are always talking about sex and alcohol."**
* **"American kids brag about getting drunk.  In my country, alcohol was no big deal.  Here teens are desperate to drink."**
* **"American kids are superficial.  They have too much freedom, especially sexual freedom."**
* **"Some American kids are nice."  Response: "They are nice to their friends, but not to their parents."**

**- regarding American women and their dress: "Women are jewels, not toys.  They should respect themselves."**