Since 1989, ParentLink has been devoted to supporting Missouri families and children by working with community teams to promote and support parenting efforts through a variety of means. Noting the widespread problem with high-risk behavior among Missouri adolescents and the importance of communication between parents and their adolescents in reducing teen involvement in risk behavior, ParentLink enlisted the help of an advisory group of professionals with experience and expertise in parenting adolescents to identify parenting resources to be made available for loan through the ParentLink library. This guide, written for parents of adolescents and the professionals who work with those parents, provides reviews of materials related to parenting adolescents, including books, curricula, videos, pamphlets, and Web sites. Materials are research-based and deal with sexuality education, risk-taking behaviors, consequences of pregnancy, sexually-transmitted diseases, and AIDS. The guide's introduction describes the review process. A quick reference section delineates the 67 items reviewed, the format of each item, the number of reviewers, and how each scored on the eight evaluation criteria. A narrative section provides more specific information about the materials and includes reviewers' comments. Three appendices provide a quick reference to Web site evaluations and the evaluation forms used by reviewers. (KB)
Adolescent Connections

A Guide to Selecting Resource Materials

for Parents of Adolescents

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Christine Sheriff
TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)
Adolescent Connections

A Guide to Selecting Resource Materials

for Parents of Adolescents

by

Christine M. Sheriff, M.Ed.

Fall 1999

Copies of


for Parents of Adolescents

may be obtained by contacting ParentLink at 1-800-552-8522 (in Missouri)
or 573-882-7323.

Or see ParentLink's web page: http://outreach.missouri.edu/parentlink

ParentLink®

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ParentLink gratefully acknowledges the support of the Missouri Department of Health, Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health, for the financial backing for our “Adolescent Connections” project. In particular, we thank Nela Beets of the Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health for her on-going support of ParentLink.

We also wish to express thanks to the ParentLink Coalition members for their thoughts and suggestions about the project during the developmental stage and for promoting the project after its completion.

We are truly indebted to the members of our Adolescent Connections Advisory Group who came together to review materials, who reviewed web sites on their own time, and who reviewed additional materials so that all items would be adequately evaluated.

Our “editor extraordinaire,” Lucile Martin, deserves special mention. We sincerely appreciate her insistence on accuracy and consistency. Her help has been invaluable.

We want to give special mention to the teens whose pictures appear on the cover of this guide. We photographed Maren Snell, Sandra Thames, Lauren Waner, and Eric Christison, drama students from Hickman High School in Columbia, Missouri, in the spring of 1998. These 4 students performed in the public service announcement ParentLink developed for the Adolescent Connections project, and their images grace the poster we also developed for the campaign. They were all a joy to work with, and we are pleased to feature them on our cover.

Without the help of all these people, this guide could never have become a reality. Thanks.
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ABOUT PARENTLINK

In 1989, a group of Missourians met to discuss ways to enhance parenting skills to prevent alcohol and other drug abuse among our children and youth. This group felt that Missouri had organizations and agencies in place to support families, but that often parents were not aware of the supports or how to access the resources. The group developed the mission “to create a united effort to support parents and families,” and was later named ParentLink. ParentLink began its mission of supporting families and children by working with community teams to promote and support parenting efforts within those communities. In 1991, ParentLink opened a statewide toll-free parenting information line, taking its first calls in March of that year.

As the years have gone by, ParentLink has grown and evolved, seeking always to improve our services to parents and families. Several ideals have remained constant through the years, however. ParentLink is administered through 4-H Youth Development Programs, University Outreach and Extension, University of Missouri-Columbia. ParentLink is guided by a coalition of professionals and volunteers affiliated with a variety of agencies and programs that serve families and children throughout the state of Missouri. Our support comes from the University of Missouri and from several executive departments within the state. ParentLink also receives grant funding from public and private entities. Through our parenting information line, as well as through all the projects with which we are involved, we provide research-based information, supportive conversation, and referrals to services. Our programs are available to all parents and professionals throughout the state of Missouri.

In addition to our toll-free parenting information line, ParentLink uses several other methods to deliver research-based information, supportive conversation, and referrals to services. ParentLink has a site on the WorldWide Web from which parents and professionals can learn more about ParentLink. Web visitors can find out about our current projects, discover links to other sites that may be of interest to them, search our catalog for library materials they may want to borrow, and e-mail their questions directly to a ParentLink staff person. Visitors to our web site can also download informational materials that ParentLink has produced and e-mail requests for library materials they want to borrow.

ParentLink is also involved in public education efforts aimed at making Missouri citizens more aware of a range of parenting issues. Past campaigns have focused on alcohol and drug abuse prevention, grandparents raising grandchildren, parenting children with special health care needs, and raising adolescents. We have developed posters and fliers as well as public service announcements for television and radio around these themes.

Through past and current projects, ParentLink has also worked with over 165 communities within the state of Missouri. Our current effort, Project Family Support, is a 3-year project. Over the next three years, we will work in 30 small communities to help citizens to enhance their ability to support families.

Whether on the phone, over the Internet, or out in communities, ParentLink continues to focus on developing strategies that will support parents in their important work of raising their children.
"ADOLESCENT CONNECTIONS" ADVISORY GROUP

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INTRODUCTION

Adolescent Connections: A Guide to Selecting Resource Materials for Parents of Adolescents is intended for both parents of adolescents and the professionals who work with those parents. We at ParentLink hope it will direct and advise them when they are searching for information to help improve parents’ relationships with their teens.

The Research
Several research studies have guided our thinking about parent-teen relationships. What Kids Need to Succeed describes “external assets” that can “assure a better future...for all young people” (Benson, Galbraith, & Espeland, 1995). On the Search Institute’s list of 16 external assets, the first three are family support, parents as social resources, and parent communication. Resnick et al. (1997, p. 823) discuss what they call “parent-family connectedness,” which acts as a protective factor in helping teens reduce their involvement in almost all health risk behaviors in which they are likely to engage. The point that these studies emphasize is that teens who have good relationships with their parents are much less likely to engage in those risky behaviors so often associated with adolescence - tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use; sexual activity; gang involvement; dropping out of school; violence; and suicide. If the relationships between adolescents and their parents affect the decisions adolescents make about how they will behave, then the question for the ParentLink staff became how to improve those relationships. We wondered how we could support parents so they could become a source of support for their teens, communicate more effectively with their teens, and set realistic standards for their teens.

This is a good time to explain our use of the word “parent.” We are very aware that adolescents may be living in a two-parent home, they may live with one or the other of their natural parents, or with a parent and a stepparent. A growing number of children are being raised by their grandparents or by other non-parent caregivers, relatives as well as non-relatives (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1998). In the interest of simplicity, we use the word “parent” to describe any caring adult who is actively involved in a teen’s life and who influences the decisions that the teen makes.

Adolescent Connections
ParentLink was fortunate to receive funding from the Missouri Department of Health, Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health, to support our work in educating and serving parents of adolescents. In their justification for the grant, the Department of Health acknowledged that Missouri has a widespread problem with high-risk behaviors among adolescents. They identified a need to develop a statewide awareness of the importance of communication between parents and their adolescents. Missouri parents needed access to research-based information regarding parenting adolescents, including information on sexuality education; risk-taking behaviors of adolescents; and the consequences of pregnancy, sexually-transmitted diseases, and AIDS. ParentLink staff felt, and the research supported our belief, that parents’ influence on teens’ risk-taking behaviors would grow out of the relationship that the parents had established with their adolescents. We proceeded with the idea that if we could empower parents to develop positive relationships with their teens, or to maintain and improve their already positive relationships, the parents’ involvement in their teens’ lives and the teens’ connectedness to their parents would serve as protective factors for the adolescents in terms of...
those risky behaviors. The collaborative effort between the Missouri Department of Health and ParentLink became known as “Adolescent Connections.” To guide ParentLink staff in the development of this project, we enlisted the help of an advisory group of professionals with experience and expertise in the areas of adolescent development and parenting adolescents. We met with the advisory group to explore with them our vision for “Adolescent Connections” and to learn from their expertise.

Selecting Materials
One of ParentLink’s obligations to the Department of Health through “Adolescent Connections” was to identify and screen materials related to parenting adolescents. We would then purchase the recommended materials and make them available to parents and professionals around the state through our loan library.

In selecting materials to review for the “Adolescent Connections” project, we relied on several sources. First, we turned to the ParentLink Coalition for recommendations. We also turned to our advisory group to help us to identify materials that supported parents of adolescents. From the advisory group as well as from the ParentLink Coalition we received recommendations of books, curricula, videotapes, and other materials. Since we have been answering questions from parents of adolescents on our parenting information line, we also used data we had compiled about those calls to help us select topics of particular concern to parents of adolescents in Missouri. We also researched Internet sites about parenting adolescents for additional materials that might be helpful. Lastly, we searched the literature for recommendations, and browsed catalogs for titles that hadn’t already surfaced. We eventually had a list of well over 100 items and, with a little work, we pared the list down to a more manageable number that we actually reviewed.

The Review Process
ParentLink committees have been reviewing parenting materials since 1992 and have developed criteria for evaluation of these materials. Working with suggestions from members of our “Adolescent Connections” advisory group, we revised these criteria slightly for this project (See Appendix B.) After we had pulled together all the materials we wanted to review, our advisory group met for an all-day marathon of materials evaluation. Advisory group members each looked over about 15 items, examining them to see how closely they met our established criteria. Our goal was for each item to have at least 3 reviewers. We felt that 3 reviewers would enable us to break “ties” if 2 reviewers didn’t agree, but also wouldn’t be too burdensome to accomplish. Most of the items have been evaluated 3 times. Occasionally, if 2 reviewers were in agreement, we did not proceed with a third review. Several items received more than 3 reviews, particularly if they were in some way controversial or especially appealed to the reviewers.

After all the reviews had been completed, we compiled results. Since each evaluation criterion had several sub-categories, we looked at the “Yes’s” and “No’s” in the sub-categories. If an item received a preponderance of “Yes” marks from the reviewers, it is scored on the “Quick Reference to Evaluations of Materials Related to Parenting Adolescents” (page xii) as meeting that criterion. If the reviewers gave an item mostly “No’s” on a criterion, it is scored as not meeting that criterion. If an item received an equal number of “Yes” and “No” marks, it is
scored “Yes/No.” Because the review process is inherently subjective, we did not try to be any more precise than this in our scoring.

The “Quick Reference to Evaluations of Materials Related to Parenting Adolescents” lists all the items we reviewed, the format of each item (whether book, video, curriculum, pamphlet, or other), the number of reviewers who looked at each item, and how each one scored on the 8 evaluation criteria. The “Narratives” section gives more specifics about the materials and comments from the reviewers. As much as possible, we have left the reviewers’ comments just as they wrote them on the evaluation instrument. At times, reviewers’ comments may contain small grammatical errors. We decided to leave those as originally written to avoid excessive use of notes on our corrections. We have, however, made some changes in the interest of clarity. Publisher contact and pricing information in this guide are current as of November 1, 1999. Readers who want more detailed information about the review process or about any of the materials that we reviewed may contact ParentLink.

With electronic sources of information becoming more commonplace, many families have access to the Internet either at home, school, or workplace. Therefore, our advisory group reviewed web sites as well as materials such as books, curricula, videos, and pamphlets. We compiled a list of sites on the WorldWide Web that are related to parenting teens. We developed this list based on recommendations from our Coalition, advisory group, and from ParentLink staff searching the Internet. Our criteria for web site evaluations were based on ParentLink’s existing evaluation criteria as well as work done at Ohio State University by Robert Hughes (1997) and suggestions from the American Library Association (1998). These criteria are included as Appendix C. Again, we attempted to have each site reviewed at least 3 times. The “Quick Reference to Evaluations of Web Sites Related to Parenting Adolescents” (Appendix A) summarizes those reviews. The web site evaluations were scored much as the evaluations of the other resources for parents of adolescents. Because Internet sites are so fluid, our reviews are valid as of the date the sites were reviewed.

Having provided this background, ParentLink is proud to present Adolescent Connections: A Guide to Selecting Resources for Parents of Adolescents.

References:


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<th>Information is congruent with human development theory and practice</th>
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<th>Materials encompass diversity in family structure and function</th>
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These results are based on evaluations completed by members of ParentLink's "Adolescent Connections" advisory group in May and June 1998. For further information on the evaluation process, please contact ParentLink at 800-552-8522 or 573-882-7323 (outside Missouri.)
Abstinence: Talking with Your Teen

By Jane Hiatt

Description: This pamphlet for parents gives brief suggestions on how to talk to a teen about abstinence. It describes how parents can prepare to talk with their teens about abstinence, how to begin talking, and lists ideas for what to say.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Pamphlet

Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: ETR Associates
P.O. Box 1830
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1830
1-800-321-4407
www.ETR.org

Price: $16.00 for 50 (Bulk pricing available)

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Good pamphlet that discusses parents and teens talking about options in sexual activity, not saying, "Just Say No."
✓ Good, quick guide.
✓ Needs references/further reading.
Active Parenting of Teens
By Michael Popkin, Ph.D.

Description: This curriculum for parents of teens discusses teens' behavior and motivation, communication, discipline, and preventing drug use. It includes 2 videotapes, a leader's guide, a parent's guide, promotional materials and promotion guide, and a certificate of completion of the program.

Target Audience: Parent group led by a facilitator

Material Format: Curriculum

ISBN: 1880283182

Library of Congress Number: Not found

Copyright Date: 1998

Publisher Information: Active Parenting Publishers
810-B Franklin Court, Suite B
Marietta, GA 30067
1-800-825-0060
www.activeparenting.com

Price: $349.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ This curriculum succeeds at providing parents with sound prescriptions for tackling parent-teen interactions.
✓ It is weak in providing parents with an understanding of possible system changes that need to take place.
✓ With appropriate facilitation I believe parents could greatly benefit from this curriculum.
✓ This curriculum...comprehensively and effectively addresses tough issues such as alcohol, other drugs, violence, and sex.
✓ Teens contributed to development [of this curriculum].
✓ Discussion of parenting styles.
✓ Skills emphasis – show and practice.
✓ Reading level of parent guide may be a little high for some parents.
✓ Takes into consideration variety of parenting/family types, cultures, styles.
✓ 6 weeks and cost of workbook might limit use.
✓ Focus on drugs, sexuality, and violence not as appropriate as working on communication.
✓ Focus on negative – “stormy seas,” “troubled times,” “turbulent years.”
✓ Very little cultural sensitivity. Black parents are shown but not discussed in text. All of the images are of middle class families.
✓ All parents seem same age. No non-parent caregivers portrayed.
ADD and Adolescence: Strategies for Success from Ch.A.D.D.
By Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder (Ch.A.D.D.)

Description: This collection of articles, some of which have appeared in Ch.A.D.D. publications or have been presented at Ch.A.D.D. conferences, is for parents, educators, and teens with attention deficit disorder. It contains suggestions, information, and strategies for helping teens with ADD succeed. It also includes several first-person stories.

Target Audience: Parents, professionals, teens

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0963487515


Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder
8181 Professional Place, Suite 201
Landover, MD 20785
1-800-233-4050
301-306-7070
FAX: 301-306-7090
www.chadd.org

Price: $15.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Articles with step-by-step plans or checklists look especially helpful.
✓ Some of the articles seem like they were taken from a professional journal. Those may be difficult for many parents.
✓ Very informative and well presented. Offers diagnosis and strategies for all ages. Includes legal rights, etc.
✓ I would think that those who understand what it is like to have an adolescent [with ADD] would be eager to see this material.
ADHD and Teens: A Parent’s Guide to Making It Through the Teen Years
By Colleen Alexander-Roberts

Description: This book offers information about attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder and the medical management of ADHD as well as information about adolescence. It includes chapters on discipline, family dynamics, school, sexuality, and the suicidal teen. It also includes a recommended reading list.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0878338993


Copyright Date: 1995

Publisher Information: Taylor Publishing Company
1550 West Mockingbird Lane
Dallas, TX 75235
1-800-677-2800
www.taylorpub.com

Price: $12.95

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ Covers all the basics intelligently.
✓ [Author] outlines a parenting style which works best for...kids [with ADHD].
✓ It is accurate, comprehensive, and up-to-date.
✓ Deals with need for parents and family to make some adjustments.
✓ Author is the mother of 2...children [with ADHD].
✓ Nice list of parenting options even for parents of teens without ADHD.
✓ The impact of ADHD on family dynamics is discussed. Little discussion of family strengths.
✓ Written at a high reading level. Parents would have to be fairly well-educated to use as a resource.
✓ Nice overview of this issue and provides lots of suggestions for parents.
Adolescence
By Paul Terry and Dr. Bill Wagonseller

**Description:** This video and facilitator's guide are part of the “Practical Parenting Series” curriculum. The curriculum is designed for the facilitator to show the video and lead a follow-up discussion, using material from the facilitator's guide. The video includes information on enhancing communication, fostering respect, and resolving conflicts with a teen. The curriculum also includes reproducible blackline masters for parent handouts.

**Target Audience:** Parent group led by a facilitator

**Material Format:** Curriculum

**ISBN:** 1560070153

**Library of Congress Number:** Not found

**Copyright Date:** 1995

**Publisher Information:** United Learning
6633 West Howard Street
P.O. Box 48718
Niles, IL 60714-0718
1-800-323-9084
FAX: 847-328-6706
www.AGCUnited.com

**Price:** $195.00

**Reviewers' Notes:**

✓ This resource needs a facilitator.
✓ OK tool for educators and facilitators to use with parents.
✓ Material does include persons of color.
✓ No culturally-relevant material included.
✓ Good overview of adolescent development.
✓ Simple, easy-to-understand overview.
Adolescence: The Survival Guide for Parents and Teenagers
By Elizabeth Fenwick and Dr. Tony Smith

Description: This book covers the physical and emotional changes in adolescence, living in a family, social relationships, and crisis situations. It contains information for both parents and teens, and identifies parents' and teens' information with the use of distinguishable graphics. This book also provides case histories on various topics.

Target Audience: Parents and teens

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0789406357

Library of Congress Number: HQ796.F433

Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: DK Publishing, Inc.
95 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10016
877-844-1600
FAX: 1-800-260-7658
www.dkonline.com

Price: $17.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ A great deal of information is covered. Parents of adolescents would find many answers by reading this one. Offers several useful parenting tips. And the real-life examples help the parent relate their situation.

✓ While including information for both parent and adolescent in each chapter is useful, I wonder how realistic it is to think that parent and adolescent would willingly share information.

✓ The book stresses "RESPECT" both on the part of parent and child.

✓ The format of the book is especially commendable. It covers well parents' and adolescents' problem-solving techniques. Presents methodologies targeted at dealing with feelings. This is good.

✓ A good book for parents of adolescents – very informative, readable, information flows, is focused, and provides real-life experiences. It offers suggestions to parents who are going through the troubled times of dealing with young adults.

✓ Excellent source of diverse information.

✓ Well-written and [laid] out. Easy to read/follow.

✓ This resource can be used by teens and adults.
All Grown Up and No Place to Go: Teenagers in Crisis
By David Elkind, Ph.D.

Description: Using case studies, research, and examples from the author’s practice, this book maintains that today’s adolescents are suffering serious consequences from social pressures. They are pushed to grow up too quickly, without the preparation and rituals of the past, he says. This book attempts to give parents the tools they need to cope with the problems of teenagers and to help them to become responsible adults.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0201113791


Copyright Date: 1984

Publisher Information: HarperCollins Publishers, Inc.
10 East 53rd Street
New York, NY 10022
1-800-242-7737
212-207-7000
www.harpercollins.com

Price: $15.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ [This book] will have an audience – people familiar with Elkind’s previous publications.
✓ Would recommend for more literate parents.
✓ Would not recommend to all parents, little wordy.
✓ Some statistics and examples are out-dated.
✓ May be too academic for some parents.
By Donald Schiff and Steven Shelov, Editors

Description: This reference guide for parents provides current information and advice on many aspects of child health.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0375500324


Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: American Academy of Pediatrics Publications
141 Northwest Point Boulevard
P.O. Box 747
Elk Grove Village, IL 60009-0747
1-800-433-9016
www.aap.org

Price: $25.00

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ Provides enough information [for] parents to enable them to make a decision about their child’s health and encourages them to follow up with doctor if necessary.
✓ Discourages spanking.
✓ This resource is useful to parents of children birth through adolescence.
✓ Very user friendly.
✓ Excellent health reference for all aged children.
The Angry Teenager: Why Teens Get So Angry, and How Parents Can Help Them Grow Through It
By Dr. William Lee Carter

Description: This book attempts to help parents overcome their anxieties about their angry teens. The author looks at anger as a positive factor in a teen’s growth and development.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0785280022

Library of Congress Number: BF724.3.A55C37

Copyright Date: 1995

Publisher Information: Thomas Nelson Publishers, Inc.
P.O. Box 14100
Nashville, TN 37214-1000
1-800-933-9673
www.thomasnelsonpublishers.com

Price: $12.99

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ Very communication oriented and strongly encourages respect for teens.
✓ Strong statement that corporal punishment is harmful and ineffective and offers alternatives.
✓ Sons and daughters are described in interactions with mothers and fathers.
✓ Very intelligently written.
✓ Offers philosophy behind adolescent emotions and kind and respectful solutions.
✓ Makes anger a normal, positive part of adolescence, not necessarily a behavior to squelch.
✓ Book has good, relevant case studies.
✓ Book provides an opportunity for parents to rethink conflict resolution, guidance tactics, listening and observing carefully.
✓ Does not discuss cross-cultural aspects of anger, i.e., cultures in which aggression is valued.
✓ Not a simple reading level.
At the End of Your Rope, There’s Hope: Parenting Teens in Crisis
By Susan Noyes Anderson

Description: Written from a Mormon perspective, this book offers suggestions and specific recommendations for coping with a challenging teen. The book discusses prevention of problems as well as solutions, and presents “the three R’s”: reality, respect, and relationship.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 1573452491

Library of Congress Number: HQ799.15.A55

Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: Deseret Book Company
P.O. Box 30178
Salt Lake City, UT 84130
801-534-1515
FAX: 801-578-3267
www.deseretbook.com

Price: $14.95

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ In encouraging parents to pick their battles and describing parent vs. teen responsibilities, is providing stress relief.
✓ [I] like the format – helpful hints, poems, etc.
✓ Would be a helpful resource for parenting teens in crisis.
✓ Emphasis on Scripture, especially Latter Day Saints, makes it possibly not so useful for other parents.
✓ Book has more emotional appeal than basis in sound, clear theory.
✓ Encourages a somewhat authoritarian parenting style.
✓ Wordy – need to be able to pull out needed information from stories.
Beyond the Classroom: Why School Reform Has Failed and What Parents Need to Do
By Laurence Silverberg, Ph.D., with Bradford Brown, Ph.D., and Sanford M. Dornbusch, Ph.D.

Description: This book describes, in non-technical language, the results from a longitudinal study the authors and their colleagues have conducted. They state that school reform is not the solution. The book discusses disengaged students, ethnicity and adolescent achievement, the power of authoritative parenting, the home environment of academically successful students, and the power of peers.

Target Audience: Parents and professionals

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0684835754

Library of Congress Number: LC205.S74 1996

Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: Touchstone Publishers
A Division of Simon & Schuster
Rockefeller Center
1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020
212-698-7000
www.SimonSays.com

Price: $12.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ This is an excellent book – should be emphasized with Board of Education, educators, parents and others interested in the public schools in USA.
✓ Groups of parents could be challenged to look at education in a different way.
✓ Would recommend for stimulating, thought-provoking reading.
✓ Some problem-solving skills, but fairly limited.
✓ Mostly points out the problems in American education.
Black Males
By Harvey Alston

Description: This book describes why African American young men are in danger and presents “winning qualities” for raising African American young men into good men. Other topics include what stops African American young men from succeeding, what stops African American parents from succeeding, sports, and self-esteem.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0840394829

Library of Congress Number: E185.86.A417 1994

Copyright Date: 1994

Publisher Information: Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co.
P.O. Box 1840
4050 Westmark Drive
Dubuque, IA 52002-1840
1-800-228-0810
www.kendallhunt.com

Price: $16.95

Reviewers' Notes:
✓ Focus is on raising African American males. Much of book describes how to shape a male's needs in ways which will not put him in conflict with society.
✓ This book offers many useful strategies for raising boys of any race to be caring, self-reliant, brave and strong while also being gentle and kind citizens.
✓ Includes a wonderful chapter on the value of competitive spirit tempered with strong values and sportsmanship. Also a section on teaching respect for women.
✓ Good handbook for parents who have Black males in the household or for people who work with African American males in the classroom and elsewhere.
✓ Good, well-written book.
Caring for Your Adolescent: Ages 12 to 21
By Donald E. Greydanus, Editor-in-Chief

**Description:** This reference guide for parents of adolescents, published by the American Academy of Pediatrics, addresses parenting and medical concerns. Topics include physical, psychological, sexual, and social growth and development and responsibility.

**Target Audience:** Parents

**Material Format:** Book

**ISBN:** 055307556-X

**Library of Congress Number:** HQ799,15C37 1991

**Copyright Date:** 1991

**Publisher Information:** American Academy of Pediatrics Publications
P.O. Box 747
Elk Grove Village, IL 60009-0747
1-888-227-1770
FAX: 847-228-1281
www.aap.org

**Price:** $24.50

**Reviewers’ Notes:**

- This book has a very lengthy discussion about discipline and strongly discourages physical punishment.
- Very thorough information on a wide variety of topics about the teenage years. Empowers parents by giving sound information.
- Book reminds parents of their responsibility to themselves and their marriages. "Don’t spoil your teenagers at your own expense."
- Says to stepparents, “Let your love shine through!“ when getting used to living together is difficult.
- Text is fairly generic – could apply to any family.
- This is an excellent resource. It’s sensitive and caring to parents, considers the whole family and the adolescent’s impact on the family.
- Balanced professional information presented in easy-to-understand language – somewhat "academic" in presentation, but useful for the parent who is into "researching” issues and responses.
Ch.A.D.D. Fact Sheets
By Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder (Ch.A.D.D.)

Description: This series of 9 fact sheets, 2–4 pages in length, covers a variety of topics related
to attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder. Topics include an overview of ADD, parenting a child
with ADD, medical management of ADD, and an educator’s guide to ADD. The complete set
includes 10 copies of each fact sheet.

Target Audience: Parents and professionals

Material Format: Fact Sheets

Copyright Date: 1993

Publisher Information: Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorders
8181 Professional Place, Suite 201
Landover, MD 20785
1-800-233-4050
301-306-7070
FAX: 301-306-7090
www.chadd.org

Price: $20.00/set

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ Often individual author is not noted. Handout credits Ch.A.D.D. only.
✓ Fact sheets about ADD – not parenting information in the typical sense.
✓ These are general fact sheets on ADD – not specific to parents of adolescents.
✓ An excellent set of fact sheets offering basic, concise, easy-to-understand information
  on ADHD and ADD.
✓ Materials sound research-based.
✓ Not all fact sheets have references.
✓ Very good information on a very frustrating topic for parents.
Common Sense Parenting: A Proven, Step-by-Step Guide for Raising Responsible Kids and Building Happy Families
By Ray Burke, Ph.D., and Ron Herron

Description: This book offers suggestions to parents on building close relationships with their children. It also demonstrates how to reduce problem behaviors by teaching children appropriate ways of behaving.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0938510770


Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: Father Flanagan's Boys' Home
Boys Town Press
14100 Crawford Street
Boys Town, NE 68010
1-800-282-6657
www.ffbh.boystown.org/btpress

Price: $14.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Information is too general to know if it is geared to adolescents.
✓ Some methods seem very old-fashioned, not that old-fashioned is always bad.
✓ Don't think information is bad or harmful but there is better stuff out there.
✓ This appears to be a good all-around book for use with parents who want to review aspects of parenting.
✓ Very useable reading.
✓ Format easy to read and understand.
✓ Gives excellent foundation strategies for the preadolescent.
"Could Do Better": Why Children Underachieve and What to Do About It
By Harvey P. Mandel, Ph.D., and Sander I. Marcus, Ph.D., with Loral Dean

Description: This book describes how parents can recognize a child who is underachieving and describes 6 types of underachievers. This book also debunks the "Underachievement Myth" and lists resources for professionals.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 047115847-X


Copyright Date: 1995

Publisher Information: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.
605 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10158-0012
1-800-225-5945
FAX: 732-302-2300
www.wiley.com

Price: $14.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Looks like useful, sound information
✓ Material is cross-cultural. Deals only with finding ways to help a child who underachieves in school to do better.
✓ Very helpful information for parents of children who "could do better."
✓ Topic of great concern.
✓ Helpful approach – help parents understand underlying motivation to underachieve and to address it in specific ways.
Dear Larissa: Sexuality Education for Girls Ages 11-17
By Cynthia Akagi

Description: This book is written for both girls and their parents. It presents girls with information on their changing bodies, reproduction, dating, sexual diseases, teen pregnancy, birth control, and marriage. Parents can use this book to open up communication with their daughters.

Target Audience: Parents and teen girls

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 1880197103


Copyright Date: 1994

Publisher Information: Gylantic Publishing Company
P.O. Box 2792
Littleton, CO 80161-2792
1-800-828-0113
FAX: 303-727-4270

Price: $12.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Written by a real mother who experiences what other parents do.
✓ Very descriptive and inclusive letters. Offers an approach to reach adolescents — speaking in some of their language. Offered with the understanding that they're adapted to each family.
✓ Easy to read.
✓ Great resource.
✓ Material directed at teens, not parents.
✓ No references for each chapter.
✓ I think many words are above teen level.
✓ Pictures a little "old-fashioned" for teens.
Dear Michael: Sexuality Education for Boys Ages 11-17
By Cynthia Akagi

Description: This book is written for both boys and their parents. It includes information for boys on body changes and development, reproduction, sexual diseases, birth control, teen pregnancy, sexual abuse, dating and relationships, and marriage. Parents can use this book to help open up communication between themselves and their sons.

Target Audience: Parents and teen boys

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 1880197162

Library of Congress Number: HQ41.A38 1996

Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: Gylantic Publishing Company
P.O. Box 2792
Littleton, CO 80161-2792
1-800-828-0113
FAX: 303-727-4279

Price: $12.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Actually written for teens.
✓ A little sophisticated for teens with reading deficits or learning disabilities.
✓ Provides good information for teens and would serve as a good outline or reference for parents, but is written as a series of letters from a mother to her son.
✓ Easy to read. Non-threatening.
✓ Very direct with important information.
Drugs: Talking With Your Teen
By Lucas Stang

Description: This pamphlet for parents gives brief suggestions for talking to teens about drugs. It discusses the importance of being realistic, knowing what to say, and setting a good example.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Pamphlet

Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: ETR Associates
P.O. Box 1830
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1830
1-800-321-4407
www.ETR.org

Price: $16.00 for 50 (Bulk pricing available.)

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ Limited as is only a pamphlet.
✓ Excellent.
✓ Brief. Direct. Informative.
✓ Pamphlet focuses on how parent can use/develop skills to communicate effectively and with respect to teens about drugs.
✓ ETR has good research-based material.
✓ General audience appeal.
✓ Good layout.
✓ Reading level appropriate. Easy to read.
✓ Good tips for parents to get started talking. [Gives] examples of what to say.
Early Adolescence: Understanding the 10 to 15 Year Old
By Gail A. Caissey

Description: This book is an overview of the early years of adolescence. The author explains biological, physical, emotional, intellectual, social, and psychological development. The book discusses behaviors that parents can anticipate in their young adolescents as well as strategies and guidelines for coping with the behaviors.

Target Audience: Parents and teachers

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0306447622


Copyright Date: 1994

Publisher Information: Plenum Press
Plenum Publishing Corporation
233 Spring Street
New York, NY 10013-1578
781-871-6600
FAX: 781-681-9045

Price: $26.95

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ Really good information for teachers in particular.
✓ Written by an educator – targets educators but could be used by parents as well.
✓ Normalizes behaviors of adolescents and gives parents good information.
✓ May be difficult for readers with low literacy level.
✓ Very thorough description of emotional, social, behavioral, and intellectual aspects of early adolescence.
✓ Also for teachers – Part II examines the early adolescent in the classroom.
✓ Very helpful book for parents or professionals.
✓ Material [theoretical] to a point where it would be difficult for some parents to understand.
✓ Too formal for easy reading.
Facts for Families
By The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Description: This packet of reproducible black and white slicks contains 2-page fact sheets on 62 different topics related to child and adolescent development and issues concerning the behavioral, mental, or developmental disorders that may affect children and youth. Also available in Spanish.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Fact Sheets

Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016-3007
202-966-7300
FAX: 202-966-2891
www.aacap.org

Price: $30.00 for the set of 62 fact sheets

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Material not very helpful. It is good as information only – but leaves the question of “so what?” unanswered.
✓ Most of the parents would like to have some answers, not just facts.
✓ Tips to problem solving would be more appropriate.
✓ These are merely fact sheets – does not present strategies.
✓ It does give quick general information but not much about what to do.
Free Your Mind: The Book for Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Youth — and Their Allies
By Ellen Bass and Kate Kaufman

Description: This book is intended to be the definitive guide for gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth and their families, teachers, counselors, and friends. It covers such topics as self-discovery, friends and lovers, family, school, spirituality, and community. It includes a lengthy section on resources.

Target Audience: Teens, parents, and professionals

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0060951044

Library of Congress Number: HQ76.2.U5B38 1996

Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: HarperCollins Publishers, Inc.
10 East 53rd Street
New York, NY 10022
1-800-242-7737
212-207-7000
www.harpercollins.com

Price: $14.00

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ Excellent source for adolescents, parents, friends, relatives, etc.
✓ Very well organized. Covers so many topics.
✓ Easily understood by adolescents. Addresses problem and solutions.
✓ Provides positive role models.
✓ An excellent supportive and non-judgmental book which would be helpful for parents of gay youth or the youth themselves.
✓ I think several copies should be in every high school and junior high school. As long as there are gay teens who take their lives, this book is invaluable.
**Grounded for Life?! Stop Blowing Your Fuse and Start Communicating with Your Teenager**

By Louise Felton Tracy, M.S.

**Description:** This book is written for parents of children ages 10-15. The content includes material on communication, natural consequences, school problems, teen sexuality, and how parents can change themselves. It also includes a list of recommended reading for parents.

**Target Audience:** Parents

**Material Format:** Book

**ISBN:** 0943990955

**Library of Congress Number:** HQ799.15T73 1994

**Copyright Date:** 1994

**Publisher Information:** Parenting Press, Inc.
   P.O. Box 75267
   Seattle, WA 98125
   1-800-992-6657
   www.parentingpress.com

**Price:** $17.50

**Reviewers’ Notes:**

- Good practical information related to guidance and discipline. Strength based and respectful of both teens and parents.
- Very practical – to the point with good examples.
- Easy to read and fits lots of situations.
- A very easy, straightforward approach offering insights from [the author’s] work with kids in schools and her own teens.
- Two or more chapters focus on Parent Effectiveness Training (PET)-style consequences.
- Fairly reflective of middle class – upper middle class dual-parent families, i.e., “If he leaves his bike out, let it get stolen.”
- This book is fairly class-bound and reflects a family that is suburban and affluent.
- Good basic parenting information is presented though the writing style is somewhat dry and monotonous.
- Good for day-to-day problems of normal teens. Not as helpful for emotionally/behaviorally disturbed teens.
Helping Your Depressed Teenager: A Guide for Parents and Caregivers
By Gerald D. Oster, Ph.D., and Sarah S. Montgomery, M.S.W.

Description: This book describes adolescent development and explains clinical depression. It discusses teenage suicide, intervention and prevention, and the family influence on depression and suicide. The book also examines treatment considerations for depressed teens and the family. It includes listings of organizations and support groups and other resources.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0471621846


Copyright Date: 1995

Publisher Information: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.
605 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10158-0012
1-800-225-5945
FAX: 732-302-2300
www.wiley.com

Price: $18.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ It is fairly good, although there may be something better out there.
✓ Generalizes family problems with "losses," but more specifics might be helpful.
HIV: Talking with Your Teen
By Jane Hiatt

Description: This pamphlet for parents gives brief suggestions for talking to teens about HIV. It recommends knowing the facts about HIV, and describes how to begin to talk with a teen.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Pamphlet

Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: ETR Associates
P.O. Box 1830
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1830
1-800-321-4407
www.ETR.com

Price: $16.00 for 50 (Bulk pricing available.)

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ No specific information about ETR as an organization in the pamphlet.
✓ May not provide enough information but encourages parents to learn more before starting to talk with their teen.
✓ Needs references!
✓ Suggests that parents talk about HIV more than once – good suggestion.
✓ Simple information. Good first step for parents.
Independence: A Lifeskills Guide for Teens
By Anne Brobyn and Julius Ceccerallo

**Description:** This book is intended to be a guide for teenagers as they move out on their own. It may also be useful to parents and professionals working with adolescents. The book can be used as a workbook, and it includes checklists for many tasks for which a teen may be responsible, such as looking for an apartment, looking for a job, budgeting, setting up housekeeping, and getting out of the doldrums.

**Target Audience:** Teens

**Material Format:** Book

**ISBN:** 087868350-X

**Library of Congress Number:** Not found

**Copyright Date:** 1990

**Publisher Information:** Child Welfare League of America, Inc.
440 First Street, NW, Suite 310
Washington, DC 2001-2085
1-800-407-6273
www.cwla.org

**Price:** $14.95

**Reviewers’ Notes:**

✓ Book is written for adolescents, not parents.
✓ Targets Canadian youth. Too many references to information about Canada.
✓ Focus of the book is life skills for teens. No apparent research or theory base to the material.
✓ Interesting checklists but type is small.
✓ Provides parents with useful information but not directed toward parents.
✓ Provides practical information but may be most useful as part of an organized class.
✓ I would recommend the book as a resource for parents to give to their young adults.
The Intentional Family: How to Build Family Ties in Our Modern World
By William J. Doherty, Ph.D.

Description: This book combines real-life case studies with the author's personal experiences. It illustrates ways to approach both daily routines and special events in order to keep family members connected with each other and their community.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0201694662

Library of Congress Number: HQ536.D64 1997

Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: HarperCollins Publishers, Inc.
10 East 53rd Street
New York, NY 10022
212-207-7000
1-800-242-7737
www.harpercollins.com

Price: $22.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ I like this book a lot. I wouldn't say the focus is on adolescents, but the overall concepts certainly relate to parenting and family life in general.
✓ This book is very strength-based and empowering.
✓ This is a great book with good concepts and practical suggestions. It encourages strengthening family relationships.
✓ This book really is for families with children of all ages.
✓ The description of intentional and family rituals is excellent and thought provoking.
✓ Reinforces need for a sense of family and community.
✓ Many parents are seeking ways to strengthen their family unit. It might be too late to help with a troubled older teen, but parents of young teens could benefit.
✓ It reinforces the "connectedness" theme.
**Keys to Parenting Your Teenager**

By Don H. Fontenelle, Ph.D.

**Description:** This book contains 34 short chapters, or "keys," on a variety of topics related to parenting adolescents. Keys include: typical teenage behaviors and attitudes, being a consistent parent, setting rules and consequences, learning to listen and understand, and what to do if the techniques in this book don't work.

**Target Audience:** Parents

**Material Format:** Book

**ISBN:** 0812948768

**Library of Congress Number:** HQ799.15.F66 1992

**Copyright Date:** 1992

**Publisher Information:** Barron's Educational Series, Inc.
250 Wireless Boulevard
Hauppauge, NY 11877
1-800-645-3476
FAX: 516-434-3723
www.barronseduc.com/main.htm

**Price:** $6.95

**Reviewers' Notes:**

- Excellent.
- I like this information. It uses a family systems foundation.
- There are directions for time out, which I find odd for parenting teens.
The Parent Package
By The American Medical Association

Description: This package of information on 15 topics is designed to help primary care providers share information about adolescence with parents. The sheets are reproducible slicks. They include topics such as violence prevention, alcohol, depression, sex, teenage growth and development, and being the parent or guardian of a teen.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Fact Sheets

Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: American Medical Association
Department of Adolescent Health
515 North State Street
Chicago, IL 60610
1-800-621-8335
312-464-5570
www.ama-assn.org/adolhlth/adolhlth.htm

Price: $10.00

Reviewers' Notes:

√ These fact sheets...would be good supplemental information. Mainly consists of quick facts and tips.
√ Excellent!
√ Great references online!
Parent-Child Sex Education: A Training Module
By Jean G. Brown, M.S.W., A.C.S.W., A.C.S.E., Mary M. Downs, M.S., Lynn Peterson, M.S., and Carol A. Simpson, B.S.W., R.N.

Description: This curriculum is intended to be taught to both parents and children at the same time. The goals for this curriculum include providing necessary factual information; exploring sexual attitudes, feelings, and values; promoting positive self-esteem and acceptance of sexuality; and enhancing parent-child communication on the topic of sexuality. It includes special structured activities for parents and children so they can explore their feelings, beliefs, and values regarding sexuality.

Target Audience: Parents and teens

Material Format: Curriculum

ISBN: Not found

Library of Congress Number: Not found

Copyright Date: 1989

Publisher Information: Family Guidance Center
910 Edmond
St. Joseph, MO 64501
816-236-2346

Price: $24.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Some of the information in this curriculum would be best taught in a classroom setting without the participation of the parent.
✓ The curriculum could impinge on parent-child relationship. Some of the information could wait to be taught at a later age.
✓ It's for professionals. I don't think I recommend it.
✓ Includes descriptions of suggested activities and evaluation forms for parents/youth.
✓ Information not up to date – some simple puberty facts incorrect.
✓ Advises douching! (not medically recommended.) STD information not all factual!
✓ Activities look interesting – not certain they are culturally diverse though.
✓ Checklists for [the] sponsoring organization, course outlines, and publicity aids useful.
Parent/Teen Breakthrough: The Relationship Approach
By Mira Kirshenbaum and Charles Foster, Ph.D.

Description: This book describes a program intended to help parents improve their relationships with their adolescents. It includes an appendix for parents who think there might be something seriously wrong with their teens and a list of suggested readings.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0452266165


Copyright Date: 1991

Publisher Information: Penguin Books USA, Inc.
375 Hudson Street
New York, NY 10014
1-800-788-6262
FAX: 201-896-8569
www.penguinputnam.com

Price: $13.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Excellent!
✓ Great examples.
✓ Book helps readers understand and relate to adolescents as human beings. Very positive tone.
✓ Provides good strategies and suggestions.
✓ Too vague.
✓ Lacks the research base, very prescriptive.
Parenting Difficult Adolescents Series
By Kingsley Communications

Description: Using real-life families, a narrator, and a theater troupe, this video series attempts to open communication between parents and teens and to educate parents. A brief leader’s guide accompanies each video.

Videos Reviewed:
#1: Calamity Jamie: A Parent’s Guide to Coping with Defiant Teens
#2: Mario’s Gang: A Parent’s Guide to Separating Teens from Gangs
#3: Carletta’s World: A Parent’s Guide to Teen Sexuality and Its Consequences
#4: Failing John: A Parent’s Guide to Confronting Teenage Substance Abuse
#6: Big Boy Blue: A Guide for Parents of Depressed Teens

Target Audience: Parent group led by a facilitator

Material Format: Curriculum

ISBN: Not found

Library of Congress Number: Not found

Copyright Date: 1995

Ordering Information: The Bureau for At-Risk Youth
135 Dupont Street
Plainview, NY 11803-0760
1-800-99-YOUTH
www.at-risk.com

Price: $95.00 each

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ Information is relevant to real-life experiences.
✓ Handles the subject of sexuality very sensitively. Encourages a positive parent-child relationship.
✓ A useful tool [for] parents with difficult adult-adolescent relationships.
✓ It is a good visual aid.
✓ Good information on family communication but moves a bit slowly and is very basic.
✓ Noncredible sources in the audience giving parenting advice.
✓ Done in “Jerry Springer” talk show [style]. Not sure I’d want to use this non-educational format to emphasize correct parenting.
✓ Provides positive parenting strategies. Suggestions are respectful of teens.
✓ Only women are depicted as caregivers.
✓ “Nurse” is spelled incorrectly on a sign – “School Nures.”
A good video to be used at a parent workshop led by a professional. A discussion of the subject would be helpful. Also a parent and his/her teen might benefit by watching it together.

Somewhat staged.

If parent has a child as far along as this example it would be too late to get the video.

It was condescending and irrelevant.

Material could be very useful to people who are dealing with this issue.

Good video, appropriate suggestions.

Encourages support from other family members.

Dramatized vignettes are overly dramatic.

Review of strategies is helpful.

I enjoyed seeing real family members.

Typical family except for high-level careers of both parents.

Persons of different colors give information.
Parenting in the 90’s from Birth through Teens
By Susan Fadem

Description: This guide for parents, from the staff at Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital, discusses child development, nutrition, discipline, toys, sex, safety, friends and family, and athletics.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0963144812

Library of Congress Number: Not found

Copyright Date: 1992

Publisher Information: Virginia Publishing Company
4814 Washington, Suite 120
St. Louis, MO 63108
314-367-6612
Note: Available only through Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital, St. Louis, MO

Price: $5.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Writer/author is a journalist.
✓ Tries to cover too much. No “meat.”
✓ Not specifically for parents of adolescents.
✓ Very general.
✓ OK but not great.
Parenting Teens with Love and Logic: Preparing Adolescents for Responsible Adulthood
By Foster Cline, M.D., and Jim Fay

Description: This book describes a parenting approach for teens that combines love and logic. The authors define love as giving teens opportunities to be responsible and empowering them to make their own decisions. Logic, they say, is allowing them to live with the natural consequences of their mistakes. When parents combine the two, they will show empathy for the disappointment and frustration their teens may experience.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0891096957

Library of Congress Number: HQ799.15.C45 1992

Copyright Date: 1992

Publisher Information: Piñon Press
P.O. Box 35007
Colorado Springs, CO 80935
719-548-9222

Price: $16.00

Reviewers' Notes:
✓ Encourages using natural consequences as discipline.
✓ Book has underlying Christian belief system.
✓ Great book!
✓ Book offers tips to parents on the one difficult issue of letting go of the youth. "Do not control."
✓ Material is well focused, thought provoking and real.
✓ Tips on dealing with consumerism are helpful.
✓ I would recommend pieces of the book – this would depend on the nature of the family problem.
✓ This is an okay book [for] parents who are not experiencing a crisis in their relationship with the adolescent. Those in a crisis could miss the point(s) and abuse the information.
Parenting Toward Solutions: How Parents Can Use the Skills They Already Have to Raise Responsible, Loving Kids
By Linda Metcalf, Ph.D.

Description: Using case studies and activities for parents to complete, this book suggests that parents have unique skills that they can use to devise personalized solutions to problems in their families.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0132696142


Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: Prentice Hall Direct
P.O. Box 11075
Des Moines, IA 50336
1-800-947-7700
www.phdirect.com

Price: $27.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Not only a good resource for parents, but professionals working closely with parents of adolescents would find it useful. Could be used as a curriculum.
✓ Very appealing visually.
✓ Book is self-help format. Sometimes seems a bit therapeutic, but still OK.
✓ A very good resource for self-directed parent of adolescent. The self-help format with lots of room to write out thoughts would empower some parents.
✓ Effective use of illustrations, written exercises/activities, and lists.
✓ I enjoyed reading this book. It is very positive and had a different spin on problems.
✓ LOVE IT! Concrete, hands-on, step-by-step, "get down and do it" book.
Parenting Your Teenager
By David Elkind

Description: This book presents information on adolescents' emotional and psychological development. It also looks at friendship and dating, family issues, education, employment, drug abuse, and sexuality.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 03445386795


Copyright Date: 1994

Publisher Information: Random House, Inc.
Ballantine Publishing Group
2401 Colorado Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90404-3500
1-800-733-3000
www.randomhouse.com

Price: $10.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ It's an OK book, but there are better.
✓ Good information and well organized.
✓ Reminds us that parents have needs, too.
✓ It's brief and vague but gives some helpful information about development of teens.
✓ Says things like "as parents, we have to..." or "We should also..."
Parenting Your Teenager: Leader’s Kit
By Dale Baker, Ph.D., and Thomas Baker, Ph.D.

Description: This curriculum in 4 sessions intends to help parents of children between the ages of 11 and 19 develop skills that will enable them to raise loving and responsible children. The curriculum is divided into 5 sections: program guidelines, publicity suggestions, lesson plans, parent’s guide, and handouts. The reproducible handouts are provided in English and Spanish.

Target Audience: Parent group led by a facilitator

Material Format: Curriculum

ISBN: Not found

Library of Congress Number: Not found

Copyright Date: 1998

Publisher Information: ParentingKids.Com
P.O. Box 1066
La Jolla, CA 92038
1-800-454-5644
FAX: 619-454-6287
www.parentingkids.com

Price: $150.00

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ A good curriculum in communication skills and conflict resolution.
✓ It would address a lot of the problems I see with the parents of my counseling clients. I would refer my clients to such a course.
✓ Material seems to be theory driven.
✓ Good section on family strengths.
✓ Leader’s guide mentions that persons of different cultures may have different expectations, and encourages leader to be sensitive to cultural differences; doesn’t explain how to do that.
✓ Reading level is a bit sophisticated.
✓ Folder of materials is colorful and attractive. Folder itself could be a bit wider to accommodate contents and make page turning easier.
✓ Basic material is good. Not a lot of concrete suggestions for parents. Information for dealing with problem behaviors is simplistic.
Parents and Teens Living Together: Part 1: The Basics
By Gerald Patterson, Ph.D., and Marion Forgatch, Ph.D.

Description: This book outlines techniques for handling some of the negative behaviors and emotions of teens. It gives guidelines for dealing with back talk, for improving homework skills, and forming good relationships with others. The book includes homework assignments for parents.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0916154165

Library of Congress Number: HQ796.P333 1987

Copyright Date: 1987

Publisher Information: Castalia Publishing Company
P.O. Box 1587
Eugene, OR 97440
541-343-4433

Price: $12.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Common sense, practical strategies with examples/forms.
✓ Some individuals like programmed-instruction format.
✓ Very research-based. Based on social learning theory research done by authors. Very cognitive and commonsense approach may be too "left brain" for some.
✓ A good comprehensive guide.
✓ May seem like a stuffy delivery by some, but excellent for people who like the logical scientific approach.
Parents and Teens Living Together: Part 2: Family Problem Solving
By Gerald Patterson, Ph.D., and Marion Forgatch, Ph.D.

Description: This book offers guidelines for communicating about issues and resolving problems with a minimum of conflict. It also gives strategies for teaching sexual responsibility, preventing alcohol and other drug abuse, and improving school performance. The book includes homework assignments for family members.

Target Audience: Parents and teens

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0916154122


Copyright Date: 1989

Publisher Information: Castalia Publishing Company
P.O. Box 1587
Eugene, OR 97440
541-343-4433

Price: $13.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Easy read for parents!
✓ Some situations may be a little prescribed and unrealistic.
✓ Book reads well, is informative, provides real-life experiences for parents and adults to identify with.
✓ The book offers some activities for family members that focus on real-life situations. This can be used by family members role playing in solving difficult problems.
✓ The format...makes the book more interesting to the reader. Section II is especially very moving – it will keep readers awake.
✓ Sets a negative tone immediately.
✓ The authors have experience working with troubled families; not always sure that makes them knowledgeable about “normal” teen behavior.
✓ Writing style is dictatorial – lots of “musts” and “shoulds,” yet it encourages flexibility in parents’ approaches to their teens.
✓ Might have some ideas for professionals but is too prescriptive for parents.
Parents Still Make the Difference!
By The Parent Institute

Description: These newsletters contain short articles of interest to parents of middle school-aged or high school-aged children. With a subscription, subscribers can reproduce articles for their own use. Each newsletter version is published nine times per year, September through May. Newsletters are available in English and Spanish versions.

Issues Reviewed: Middle School Edition
High School Edition

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Newsletter

Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: The Parent Institute
P.O. Box 7474
Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7474
1-800-756-5525
www.parent-institute.com

Price: $295 for a 1-year subscription entitles subscriber to reproduce articles for any use within a school building. Subscription price increases for wider distribution.

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Can’t tell research base or author credentials.
✓ Good basic tips for parents of young adolescents.
✓ A simple but informative newsletter offering good, innovative and creative ideas for encouraging and stimulating teens in middle school.
✓ Majority of pronouns used were "he," "him." In this issue no discussion of cultural issues.
✓ It’s got lots of short, easy-to-read bits of information and tips for parents.
Parents Who Care: A Step-by-Step Guide for Families with Teens
By J. David Hawkins, Ph.D., and Richard F. Catalano, Ph.D.

Description: This curriculum includes a video and book. Each unit starts with a video segment depicting a typical issue. The book presents background information, activities for parents to enhance their parenting skills, and structured activities for parents and teens to do together.

Target Audience: Parents and teens

Material Format: Curriculum


Library of Congress Number: Not found

Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: Developmental Research and Programs
130 Nickerson, Suite 107
Seattle, WA 98109
1-800-736-2630
FAX: 206-286-1462
www.drp.org

Price: $39.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Talks about parents using their anger constructively, learning physical signals of anger, and stopping before they act on it.
✓ Calls parenting styles "owl," "turtle," "teddy bear," and "tiger."
✓ Actors are believable, realistic.
✓ Parents and teens can watch together and go through curriculum without a facilitator.
✓ One of the best I've seen for a while.
✓ Best of videos I previewed.
✓ Good information.
Positive Discipline for Teenagers: Resolving Conflict with Your Teenage Son or Daughter
By Jane Nelsen, Ed.D., and Lynn Lott, M.A., M.F.C.C.

Description: The goal of this book is to help parents work toward greater understanding of and communication with their teens. It discusses how to get teens to cooperate, how to tell normal from excessive rebellion, how parents can see the world through their teens' eyes, and how parents and teens can change together.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 1559484416


Copyright Date: 1994

Publisher Information: Prima Publishing
P.O. Box 1260BK
Rocklin, CA 95677
1-800-632-8676
916-786-0426
FAX: 916-632-4405
www.primapublishing.com

Price: $14.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Good.
✓ Offers step-by-step strategies and ideas for productive, positive parenting.
✓ Doesn't take cultural differences into account, but would be good for the most basic information.
✓ I think Nelsen's work is easy to read. She is, in my opinion, more respectful of kids and less prescriptive than most Adlerians.
Reviving Ophelia: Saving the Lives of Adolescent Girls
By Mary Pipher, Ph.D.

Description: The author examines why so many American girls have depression, eating disorders, addictions, and suicide attempts. She states we live in a “girl-poisoning” culture. This book is an attempt to understand the causes for young women’s serious difficulties and to explore ways to guide and support them.

Target Audience: Parents and professionals

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0399139443


Copyright Date: 1994

Publisher Information: Random House, Inc.
Ballantine Publishing Group
2401 Colorado Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90404-3500
1-800-733-3000
www.randomhouse.com

Price: $12.95

Reviewers’ Notes:

✔ Very good case studies dealing with a variety of family/personality types. Offers suggestions as well as ways of rethinking the typical societal rules.
✔ Empowering to women and adolescents, motivating and informative.
✔ This book is excellent. It provides a review of research, developmental information, stories and insight in a way that is engaging and informative to parents.
✔ This is not your typical “parenting book.”
✔ Might be difficult for readers with low literacy skills.
✔ It’s intellectually stimulating – food for thought.
✔ [Author] presents a very balanced view of parenting, stressing the need for limit setting for teens yet cautioning parents not to stifle their need for independence and [their need for] accepting responsibility.
✔ Very good attention to the importance of both mother’s and father’s involvement.
The Roller-Coaster Years: Raising Your Child Through the Maddening Yet Magical Middle School Years
By Charlene C. Giannetti and Margaret Sagarese

Description: This book intends to be a comprehensive guide for parents of children 10 to 15 years old. It examines such topics as the middle school child's developing intellect; the emotions and tensions of middle schoolers; helping the child succeed in school; peer pressure; the electronic media; sexuality; and alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0553066846


Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group, Inc.
1540 Broadway
New York, NY 10036
1-800-323-9872
www.randomhouse.com

Price: $15.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ The information is good and useful.
✓ This book is a "sit down and read." There is a lot of text. A quick-to-read format would...intrigue more parents.
✓ Authors seem to portray divorce as very negative and did not seem to offer positive suggestions.
✓ Fun suggestions for parents to try.
✓ The book is founded on theory with good practical suggestions and examples.
✓ Easy to read and engaging.
✓ I like this book because it addresses the early adolescent years. If there is to be difficulty during adolescence, it is usually at this time. Parents need specific support that addresses needs and issues for this age group.
✓ Material is written in a manner that holds your interest. Some humor also!
✓ Keeps your interest and makes you want to read more.
sexual Responsibility: Talking with Your Teen
By Lucas Stang

Description: This pamphlet gives brief suggestions to parents about talking to their teens about sexual responsibility. It acknowledges that it can be hard for parents to talk with their teens about sexual matters, but it is important. The pamphlet defines sexual responsibility and lists some things teens need to know.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Pamphlet

Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: ETR Associates
P.O. Box 1830
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1830
1-800-321-4407
www.ETR.org

Price: $16.00 for 50. (Bulk pricing available.)

Reviewers' Notes:
✓ Brief. Informative.
✓ Simple.
✓ Needs references!
STEP/Teen: Systematic Training for Effective Parenting of Teens
By Don Dinkmeyer, Sr., Gary D. McKay, Joyce L. McKay, and Don Dinkmeyer, Jr.

Description: This curriculum for parents of teens includes 3 videotapes, a leader's resource guide, and the book Parenting Teenagers. Topics include helping parents understand themselves and their teenagers, changing parents' responses to their teens, communicating respect and encouragement, and using consequences to build responsibility.

Target Audience: Parent group led by a facilitator

Material Format: Curriculum

ISBN: 0785414673

Library of Congress Number: Not found

Copyright Date: 1998

Publisher Information: American Guidance Services, Inc.
Circle Pines, MN 55014-1796
1-800-328-2560
www.agsnet.com

Price: $344.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ STEP sometimes loses parents by keeping the theoretical underpinnings so much a part of the teaching method.
✓ A Southeast Asian family!
✓ I like the leader training video.
✓ Ahh – if it were only so easy!
✓ Easily usable by leader – provides all resources needed.
✓ Like the way the information is presented - group discussion, not just watching videos, then lecture.
✓ Seems to focus on positive – not as focused on problems, drugs, sex, etc.
Strategies for Coping with Adolescents
By Kathleen O'Donnell Markert

Description: This booklet is designed to provide parents with a quick reference and an overview of major issues that they may encounter with their adolescents. It involves short (1–2 page) articles on topics such as understanding teen needs, tips for caring, alcohol facts and the law, guidelines for teenage parties, dating, peer pressure, and letting go.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Booklet

Copyright Date: 1998

Publisher Information: National School Services
390 Holbrook Drive
Wheeling, IL 60090
1-800-262-4511
FAX: 847-541-2553
www.n-s-s.com/adolescents.htm

Price: $7.00

Reviewers' Notes:
✓ Just too "tip-ish." Each page is a separate topic with little or no theory base to connect them all.
✓ This pamphlet is written in a very succinct manner.
✓ It would be a nice piece [in a] family resource library. Teens would benefit as well.
✓ The booklet could be a handy tool providing parents with ideas and suggestions of what to do.
✓ Good, concise information.
✓ [Gives] no information on author's credentials.
Surviving Adolescence: Helping Your Child Through the Struggle to Adulthood
By Larry Dumont, M.D.

Description: This book, written by a psychiatrist, presents parents with symptoms and warning signs of potentially serious adolescent problems. It is intended to enable parents to recognize a teen in trouble. The book covers professional treatment techniques. It also offers preventive strategies to help parents keep their teens' negative behavior from escalating.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0394574052

Library of Congress Number: Rj499.34.D86 1991

Copyright Date: 1991

Publisher Information: Villard Books
Random House
1540 Broadway
New York, NY 10022
1-800-726-0600
212-782-9000
www.randomhouse.com

Price: $20.00

Reviewers' Notes:
✓ This book is not about normal or typical struggles.
✓ This is a cookbook of adolescent disorders!
✓ It may be helpful to counselors, other professionals, and parents of troubled teens.
✓ Offers very researched, solid information and is applicable to many instances/situations.
✓ Good anecdotes throughout.
✓ Tackles the medical side well.
✓ Information could be abused by parents – easy to misinterpret and label children.
Surviving Your Adolescents: How to Manage and Let Go of Your 13–18 Year Olds
By Thomas W. Phelan, Ph.D.

Description: This book attempts to be a guidebook for parents of adolescents. It offers guidelines for handling situations that can occur with and to parents. It offers specific suggestions for various situations.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0963386107


Copyright Date: 1994

Publisher Information: Child Management, Inc.
800 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
1-800-442-4453

Price: $12.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Not...easy to follow – sequence didn’t work for me.
✓ It was good but not excellent.
✓ Cartoon illustrations are all of Caucasian characters. No mention of culturally-specific themes.
✓ Author’s style is sometimes flip, or tongue-in-cheek. Feels almost condescending.
✓ Great resource! Excellent!
✓ Some of ideas and information may be useful, but the “cute” names for “Four Cardinal Sins” and 4 parent roles really put me off.
Teaching the FACTS of Life: A Comprehensive Prevention Curriculum: Parent-Teen Workshop
By Rose Fuller and Janet McLaughlin

Description: This curriculum contains 4 lessons with print material and overhead projection transparencies for each class. The curriculum objectives include enabling parents to facilitate sexuality education for their teens; increasing the postponement and discontinuation of sexual activity among participating adolescents; instilling abstinent values; and increasing parent and teen skill level in communication, negotiation, decision-making, self-respect, and standard-setting.

Target Audience: Parents and teens

Material Format: Curriculum

ISBN: 18880220232

Library of Congress Number: Not found

Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: Northwest Family Services
4805 Northeast Glisan Street
Portland, OR 97213
503-215-6377
FAX: 503-215-6940
www.nwfs.org

Price: $100.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ This is a curriculum for parents and teens to learn about sexuality together. It promotes sexual abstinence outside of marriage.

✓ No reference to theory/research for basic premises of abstinence curriculum.

✓ No information on author's credentials.

✓ Overheads are attractively made and thorough. There are some grammatical errors in the material.

✓ Some inaccurate and intentionally misleading facts. (e.g., Transparency #12 says that the Pill is only 5% effective!)

✓ Transparency #12 states that "premature sex is disastrous for girls." What about males?

✓ It is manipulative and uses subtle techniques to promote abstinence as the only choice.

✓ Too prescriptive; insensitive to a variety of family forms; and is too value-laden.

✓ This material is weak in too many areas...I'm especially uncomfortable with the condescending attitude toward teenagers and the bias that this curriculum sets forth.
Teen Tips: A Practical Survival Guide for Parents with Kids
11 to 19
By Tom McMahon

Description: After a brief description of adolescence, this book contains 15 chapters of parenting tips from parents of teens. Each chapter also contains additional information about the topic from the author. The book includes parenting skill-builders and tips from teens.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0671891065

Library of Congress Number: HQ799.15.M33 1996

Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: Pocket Books
Rockefeller Center
1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020
212-698-7000
www.SimonSays.com

Price: $14.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Bulk of book is made up of tips from parents and teens – just what works for them – not research-based.
✓ Discusses divorce and step parenting.
✓ Easy to read.
✓ Has good tips. Parents can use what they like and disregard the rest.
✓ The book was fair. I didn't like the organization of it. I did like, though, anecdotes and examples from parents [who] wrote it. It made the book seem more interactive.
✓ Some of the strategies and techniques seemed to relate much more toward middle class families.
Teenagers with ADD: A Parents’ Guide
By Chris Ziegler Dendy, M.S.

Description: This book examines the issues and challenges faced by teens with attention deficit disorder (ADD) along with their families, teachers, and treatment facilities. It includes information not only about ADD diagnosis and treatment, but also advocacy, legal rights, and options after high school.

Target Audience: Parents and professionals

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0933149697


Copyright Date: 1995

Publisher Information: Woodbine House
6510 Bells Mill Road
Bethesda, MD 20817
1-800-843-7323
FAX: 301-897-5838
www.woodbinehouse.com

Price: $18.95

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ A very good, complete and up-to-date resource on ADD. It includes information on most recent medication on market.
✓ The section on how to secure all services from schools is excellent.
✓ Covers all the necessary information.
✓ Good discipline strategies and behavior modification are discussed.
✓ There is a lot of information, maybe too much for parents. A nice resource book to have around the house.
✓ A good resource for professionals answering questions of parents.
✓ Thorough, well-written book. Has everything a parent of a teen with ADD would want to know.
✓ Charts are helpful.
Teens Are Nondivorceable: A Workbook for Divorced Parents and Their Children Ages 12-18
By Sara Bonkowski, Ph.D.

Description: This book discusses topics like the changes resulting from a divorce; the adolescent's need to separate; visitation, custody, and child support; dating and remarriage; and the ongoing nature of divorce. It also includes activities for parents and children to do together to work through the processes of divorce and adolescence.

Target Audience: Parents and teens

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0915388367

Library of Congress Number: HQ777.5.B663 1990

Copyright Date: 1990

Publisher Information: ACTA Publications
4848 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60640
773-271-1030

Price: $8.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ It has good information and activities to try with teens. These things can be incorporated in non-divorced families as well.
✓ Some of the text and illustrations bother me. Use of the word "intact" families seems stereotypical. Many remarried and divorced families are intact even if parents aren't living together.
✓ Relevant and helpful.
✓ Identifies particular areas that may be problematic during divorce and provides numerous strategies, including interactive exercises.
The Turbulent Teens: Understanding, Helping, Surviving
By James E. Gardner

Description: The author, a clinical psychologist, examines what parents can expect of their children and themselves. He points out the importance of setting an example of appropriate behavior, dignity, and control. He promotes staying calm and remaining flexible. The book suggests strategies that may be useful to parents of adolescents.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0913091014


Copyright Date: 1983

Publisher Information: Sorrento Press, Inc.
Los Angeles, CA

Price: $8.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Refers to Piaget, Bettelheim, McLuhan.
✓ Suggests parents "keep their cool" and not overreact. But how?
✓ Rather high reading level required.
✓ Reference to culture outdated. Book last revised 1983.
✓ Lots of good developmental and parenting information.
✓ The information presented is very succinct.
✓ Very focused. Information is easy to read and gives real-life experiences with which parents can identify.
✓ Parents would benefit from the many suggestions given.
✓ The author has the parent and child in mind.
Uncommon Sense for Parents with Teenagers
By Michael Riera, Ph.D.

Description: This book discusses the parent-adolescent relationship, the adolescent world, limits and structure, natural consequences, and academics. It also includes information on being gay; television, music, and computers; eating; grieving; divorce; single parents; and getting professional help.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0890877491

Library of Congress Number: HQ799.15.R54 1995

Copyright Date: 1995

Publisher Information: Celestial Arts
P.O. Box 7123
Berkeley, CA 94707
510-559-1600

Price: $14.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Excellent resource.
✓ Good, easy to use, user-friendly.
✓ Has a chapter on "Parent Mental Health."
✓ Nice use of humor.
✓ Stories from teens and parents helpful.
✓ Covers a variety of topics – eating disorders, gay teens, blended families, single parenting.
✓ Provides numerous scenarios to illustrate points, either in adolescents’ words or parents’.
✓ Covers range of years, issues.
The Unmotivated Child: Helping Your Underachiever Become a Successful Student
By Natalie Rathvon, Ph.D.

Description: This book examines the pathways to underachievement, the world of an underachiever, and describes ways parents and teachers can work with children who are underachieving. It discusses strategies to improve communication, homework, working with the child’s teacher, and school misbehavior.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0684803062

Library of Congress Number: LC4691.R38 1996

Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: Fireside Books
Rockefeller Center
1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020
www.SimonSays.com

Price: $12.00

Reviewers’ Notes:

✓ High reading level and comprehension required.
✓ Good suggestions.
✓ A good resource for professionals. Offers tips that parents would find useful; teachers would also appreciate.
✓ The book is very prescriptive on “fixing” the underachiever.
✓ Mentions single parents but seems to “favor” 2-parent families.
✓ I reviewed it as a parent who has some concerns with the topic and found some useful information.
✓ My concern is the book’s apparent belief that underachievers are not securely attached individuals.
Up from Underachievement: How Teachers, Students, and Parents Can Work Together to Promote Student Success
By Diane Heacox

Description: This book describes a step-by-step program that tells parents, teachers, and students how they can cooperate to break the cycle of failure for a student who underachieves.

Target Audience: Parents, teens, and teachers

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0915793350


Copyright Date: 1991

Publisher Information: Free Spirit Publishing, Inc.
400 First Avenue North, Suite 616
Minneapolis, MN 55401
1-800-735-7323
612-338-2068
FAX: 612-337-5050
www.freespirit.com

Price: $16.95

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ This workbook describes strategies for parents, teachers, and students to work together to improve students' school performance.
✓ I like the checklists and goal-setting formats.
✓ Material would be more appropriate for teachers than for parents of adolescents.
✓ Material presented in a format that is difficult for parents to follow.
✓ Book has some good information, but...[it is] for people in the academic setting.
✓ Very user-friendly. Does not require reading the entire book to find benefits for working with your child.
✓ Easy to use.
✓ Direct. To the point.
Violence: Talking with Your Teen
By Jane Hiatt

Description: This pamphlet for parents gives brief suggestions for parents on how to talk to their teens about violence. It acknowledges that talking with a teen about violence can be hard for parents. It gives parents ideas for what to say as well as some skills to teach a teen.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Pamphlet

Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: ETR Associates
P.O. Box 1830
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1830
1-800-321-4407
www.ETR.org

Price: $16.00 for 50 (Bulk pricing available.)

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ An overly simplistic attempt to address a very complex problem in a handout.
✓ Offers no other references or books.
✓ Presents the notion that violence against teens can be prevented by parents offering information on how to avoid conflict.
✓ Advises that parents talk about violence, but they don’t tell what to say.
✓ Offers several strategies either not based on any research or loosely based on poor research.
✓ It’s confusing. Advocates telling your kids not to wear gang colors but doesn’t tell what they are. It’s unrealistic.
✓ Appropriate for any family type.
✓ Nice format; visually appealing.
✓ Parents could pick up and read quickly and then try ideas offered.
By Ann Vernon and Radhi H. Al-Mabuk

Description: This guide for parents begins by examining effective parenting, communication, and discipline. It then describes child development from preschool age through mid-adolescence. It concludes by discussing problems like attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, eating disorders, sexual abuse, cult involvement, and delinquent behavior.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0878223541


Copyright Date: 1995

Publisher Information: Research Press
Department 20 W
P.O. Box 9177
2612 North Mattis Avenue
Champaign, IL 61821
1-800-519-2707
FAX: 217-352-1221
www.researchpress.com

Price: $13.95

Reviewers’ Notes:
✓ Does not give specific suggestions for reducing stress.
✓ Family structure not addressed openly.
✓ Reading level OK for professional and parents with good reading skills.
What Kids Need to Succeed: Proven, Practical Ways to Raise Good Kids
By Peter L. Benson, Ph.D., Judy Galbraith, M.A., and Pamela Espeland

Description: This book identifies and describes 30 developmental assets, some internal and some external, that young people need in their lives. It then gives concrete suggestions for building these assets in young people. There is a section for teens to help them build their own assets.

Target Audience: Parents and teens

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 0915793784


Copyright Date: 1995

Publisher Information: Free Spirit Publishing, Inc.
400 First Avenue North, Suite 616
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1730
1-800-735-7323
612-338-2068
FAX: 612-337-5050
www.freespirit.com

Price: $5.99

Reviewers’ Notes:
✓ A practical handbook for parents of adolescents.
✓ This handbook is very informative. Parents need to know the figures.
✓ Good resource.
✓ Very simple and somewhat vague, but offers appropriate ideas/interventions.
✓ It’s very Christian-based, incorporating ideas within the faith community, which may be inappropriate for [people from] other religious backgrounds.
When Your Teenagers Act Their Age
By The National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse

**Description:** This pamphlet for parents presents information about adolescence and the reasons for some of adolescents' behavior. The purpose of the pamphlet is to increase parents' understanding of their teens so they will be able to enjoy this stage in their children's lives and to continue with a positive relationship with their children into adulthood.

**Target Audience:** Parents

**Material Format:** Pamphlet

**ISBN:** 0937906840

**Copyright Date:** 1998

**Publisher Information:** National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse
Fulfillment Center
200 State Road
South Deerfield, MA 01373
1-800-835-2671
www.preventchildabuse.org

**Price:** $.89 each (Bulk pricing available.)

**Reviewers' Notes:**

- ✓ Simple, easy to read, common sense.
- ✓ Would be a good overview – in inexpensive format.
- ✓ The text includes too many "you need," "you should," "don't." Seems so prescriptive.
- ✓ Suggests that the parent be aware of signals indicating they need help such as being stressed. It cautions the parent not to use angry words toward their teen.
- ✓ Does not provide enough positive choices/ideas for parents.
- ✓ This is a short pamphlet that provides some good positive information for parents.
- ✓ Short, positive message.
Wonderful Ways to Love a Teen...Even When It Seems Impossible
By Judy Ford

Description: This book contains short (2 page) ideas on ways to build a positive relationship with a teen. The ideas are grouped together under the headings “Serenity,” “Spirit,” and “Security.”

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book

ISBN: 1573240230


Copyright Date: 1996

Publisher Information: Conari Press
2550 Ninth Street, Suite 101
Berkeley, CA 94710
1-800-685-9595
http://gateway.readersndex.com/conari/

Price: $9.95

Reviewers’ Notes:
✓ This book provides two-page vignettes on a variety of topics – responsibility, respect, etc. – for parent consideration when interacting with their adolescent.
✓ It is light and simplistic. Not much depth.
✓ Nice, friendly, but powerful strategies – easy to read and understand.
✓ Great for busy parents of adolescents – short chapters – positive approach.
✓ Gave number of no/low cost ideas for having fun together.
✓ Reading level appropriate – fun, easy.
✓ Short, could read while waiting for appointment.
✓ Gives positive, easy-to-implement suggestions.
✓ Reinforces things parents may already be doing.
You and Your Adolescent: A Parent’s Guide for Ages 10-20
By Laurence Steinberg, Ph.D., and Ann Levine

Description: This guide for parents of teens includes information on family communication and problem solving; physical and emotional changes of puberty; intellectual and moral growth; cliques and crowds, popularity, and peer pressure; sex; cigarettes, alcohol, and other drugs; and the transition to adulthood.

Target Audience: Parents

Material Format: Book


Copyright Date: 1997

Publisher Information: HarperPerennial
A Division of HarperCollins Publishers, Inc.
10 East 53rd Street
New York, NY 10022
1-800-242-7737
212-207-7000
www.harpercollins.com

Price: $15.00

Reviewers' Notes:

✓ Fairly well organized by age level and topic.
✓ Small print.
✓ Permissive attitude toward “live-in” for parent, sexual activity with contraception for older adolescents, “drinking responsibly.” States it is “updated” to address current concerns.
✓ There are other more balanced resources.
✓ Supports women who work but there is very little discussion of role of fathers.
✓ A very comprehensive book on a wide variety of problems.
✓ The reading level may be somewhat advanced for people with lower-level reading skills.
✓ This is a well-written comprehensive book that most all parents of adolescents can benefit from reading.
✓ This book also does a terrific job [of] building upon a family’s strengths.
Appendix A:

PARENTLINK’S QUICK REFERENCE TO EVALUATIONS OF WEB SITES RELATED TO PARENTING ADOLESCENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE AND ADDRESS OF WEB SITE</th>
<th>Number of Reviewers</th>
<th>Information is consistent with existing human development theory and practice</th>
<th>Information does not sanction psychological or physical abuse</th>
<th>Material encompasses diversity in family structure</th>
<th>Material is appropriate for parents of adolescents</th>
<th>Technical aspects enhance material's usefulness</th>
<th>Recommend website for parents of adolescents</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Add Health (Web Site for the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health) <a href="http://www.cpc.unc.edu/addhealth">www.cpc.unc.edu/addhealth</a></td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Adolescence: Change and Continuity <a href="http://www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/n/x/nxd10/adolesce.htm#top">www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/n/x/nxd10/adolesce.htm#top</a></td>
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<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>Adolescent Directory On-Line education.indiana.edu/cas/adol/adol.html</td>
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<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<td>All About Families <a href="http://www.allaboutfamilies.org">www.allaboutfamilies.org</a></td>
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<td>Campaign for Our Children <a href="http://www.cfoc.org">www.cfoc.org</a></td>
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<td>TITLE AND ADDRESS OF WEB SITE</td>
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<td>Child Trends <a href="http://www.childtrends.org">www.childtrends.org</a></td>
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<td>Dr. Michael Fenichel's Parenting Resources web0.tiac.net/biz/drmike/parenting.shtml</td>
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<td>Family.com family.disney.com</td>
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<td>Friends First (TM): Research and Resources on Sexual Abstinence <a href="http://www.friendsfirst.org/about.shtml">www.friendsfirst.org/about.shtml</a></td>
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<td>Girl Power! Campaign Homepage <a href="http://www.health.org/gpower/index.htm">www.health.org/gpower/index.htm</a></td>
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<td>KidsHealth kidshealth.org/index2.html</td>
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<td>Mining Co. Guide to Parenting of Adolescents parentingteens.miningco.com/mbody.htm</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.tnpc.com">www.tnpc.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.notmenotnow.org">www.notmenotnow.org</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.parentsplace.com">www.parentsplace.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.parenting-qa.com">www.parenting-qa.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.positiveparenting.com">www.positiveparenting.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.sexetc.org">www.sexetc.org</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.wholefamily.com">www.wholefamily.com</a></td>
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71
**TITLE AND ADDRESS OF WEB SITE**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number of Reviewers</th>
<th>Information is congruent with existing human development theory</th>
<th>Information does not sanction psychological or physical abuse</th>
<th>Material encompasses diversity in family structure</th>
<th>Material is appropriate for parents of adolescents</th>
<th>Technical aspects enhance material's usefulness</th>
<th>Recommend web site for parents of adolescents</th>
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YouthInfo (from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)
youth.os.dhhs.gov/youthinf.htm#contents

This information was compiled by ParentLink staff based on reviews completed by the "Adolescent Connections" advisory group. For further information on the review process, please contact ParentLink at 800-552-8522 or 573-882-7323 (outside Missouri). Web site addresses are correct as of September 23, 1999.
Appendix B:

PARENTLINK'S "ADOLESCENT CONNECTIONS" PROJECT
EVALUATION OF MATERIALS FOR PARENTS OF ADOLESCENTS

Evaluator:

Title of Material:

Format: __Book __Video __Audio __Pamphlet __Curriculum

Date Reviewed:

Please consider the following questions as you review parenting materials. In order to ensure the most complete information for readers of our publication, please answer each question thoughtfully and thoroughly.

1. Is the information presented in this material congruent with existing human development theory and practice?

   YES   NO

   □  □ Material attempts to empower parents (suggests, rather than prescribes, strategies)
   □  □ Appropriate problem-solving skills are introduced
   □  □ Material is appropriate to adolescents' developmental level
   □  □ Material encourages respect for adolescents
   □  □ Material is research-based and guided by sound theory
   □  □ Material encourages parent-child communication and relationship-building
   □  □ Education and experience identify author as a credible source for parents

   Additional comments:

2. Do the materials sanction psychological or physical abuse?

   YES   NO

   □  □ Material emphasizes healthy alternatives to corporal punishment
   □  □ Material provides parents with a variety of parenting options
   □  □ Appropriate parenting skills are demonstrated/described
   □  □ Material features appropriate behavioral expectations for adolescents
   □  □ Material presents and discusses stress relievers for parents/caregivers

   Additional comments:
3. Does the material encompass diversity in family structure and function?

YES   NO

☐ ☐ Material depicts a variety of family types (parental age, single parent, adoptive, non-parent caregiver)
☐ ☐ Materials are presented with sensitivity to all family structures
☐ ☐ Men and women are depicted in non-stereotypical roles
☐ ☐ Material identifies and discusses parenting styles
☐ ☐ Material encourages parents/caregivers to explore the strengths of their family structure

Additional comments:

4. Is the material appropriate for the intended audience (parents of adolescents or professionals working with parents of adolescents)?

YES   NO

☐ ☐ Material presented is meaningful to the intended audience
☐ ☐ Persons of color are portrayed in a variety of roles (narrators, facilitators, parents, etc.)
☐ ☐ Both men and women are depicted as caregivers
☐ ☐ Culturally-relevant themes are presented (i.e., heritage, religion, etc.)
☐ ☐ Culturally-relevant family issues are realistically presented (discipline, consequences, expectations, etc.)

Additional comments:

5. Is there a range of socioeconomic status portrayed?

YES   NO

☐ ☐ Activities available to a variety of families are portrayed (playing ball at a park as well as vacations to expensive locales)
☐ ☐ Materials are reasonably priced
☐ ☐ Material presents information without condescending attitudes
☐ ☐ Material does not use stereotypes

Additional comments:
6. Do the technical aspects contribute to usable materials?

YES  NO

☐  ☐ Material is user-friendly
☐  ☐ Video/audio is of adequate quality
☐  ☐ Reading level and language are appropriate for intended audience (not overly academic)

Additional comments:

7. Would you recommend this material for parents of adolescents?

YES  NO

☐  ☐

Please comment on your recommendation:

8. Would you recommend this material for inclusion in ParentLink’s resource library?

YES  NO

☐  ☐

Please comment on your recommendation:

These criteria are adapted from principles of evaluation established by the ParentLink Curricula Committee, 1992.
Appendix C:

PARENTLINK’S “ADOLESCENT CONNECTIONS” PROJECT
EVALUATION OF WEB SITES

Evaluator:

Name/Address of Web Site:

Date Reviewed:

Please consider the following questions as you review the parenting web sites. In order to ensure the most complete information to readers of our publication, please answer each question thoroughly.

1. Is the information contained on this web site congruent with existing human development theory and practice?

   YES  NO  N/A

   Material attempts to empower parents
   Material demonstrates appropriate parenting skills
   Material introduces appropriate problem-solving skills
   Material encourages respect for youth
   Source for the site content is listed
   Material is research-based
   Author credentials are listed
   Information is current
   Information is developmentally appropriate

   Additional comments:

2. Does the information on this web site sanction psychological or physical abuse?

   YES  NO  N/A

   Material advocates healthy alternatives to corporal punishment
   Material provides a variety of disciplinary options and allows the parent(s) room for choice
   Material features appropriate expectations for youth
   Material discusses stress relievers for parent(s)
   Site acknowledges that ideas and answers may be limited and not work in some instances

   Additional comments:
3. Does the material on this web site encompass diversity in family structure and function?

YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A ☐

- Material depicts/describes a variety of family types (gender, age, marital status, adoptive)
- Information is presented with sensitivity to all family structures
- Material depicts men and women in non-stereotypical roles
- Material identifies and discusses parenting styles
- Material stimulates parents to explore the strengths of their family structure

Additional comments:

4. Is the material on this web site appropriate for parents of adolescents?

YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A ☐

- Information is meaningful to intended audience
- Material portrays persons of color
- Material depicts both men and women
- Material depicts parents and caregivers from various age groups
- Material presents culturally-relevant themes (i.e., heritage, religion, economics, etc.)
- Mention is made that information might not apply to certain children or families or that it might differ due to age, gender, family type, or other factors

Additional comments:

5. Do the technical aspects of this web site enhance the material's usefulness?

YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A ☐

- Site easy to use
- Does not require the highest level of technology available in order to access the resources on the web site
- Site is free from heavy marketing or promotions related to the products sold by the creators.hosts of the site
- Site includes method for contacting author/developer to ask follow-up questions or provide other feedback

Additional comments:
6. Would you recommend this web site for parents of adolescents?

YES ☐ NO ☐

Please comment on your recommendation:

7. Please include any additional comments or concerns.

These criteria are adapted from principles established by the ParentLink Curricula Committee 1992; Robert Hughes, Jr., Ph.D., at Ohio State University Extension, 1998; and the American Library Association, 1997.
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<th>Publisher/Distributor:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td>1205 University Ave, Suite 800 Columbia, MO 65211</td>
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<tr>
<td>Price:</td>
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