
**About the authors:** Joseph Di Prisco, PhD., is an educator and writer who has worked as a teacher and administrator for over twenty years in public, independent, and Catholic schools, teaching middle school, high school, and college-aged students. He is also a novelist and award-winning poet. His website is [www.diprisco.com](http://www.diprisco.com). [book cover].

Michael Riera, PhD., has worked in education since 1980. The author of two other popular books on adolescence, he is the co-host of *Trackers*, a show on life issues for teenagers on the Oxygen network, as well as president of the Diary Project ([www.diaryproject.com](http://www.diaryproject.com)), an online forum for teenagers. He has also appeared on The *Oprah Winfrey Show*, *The Today Show*, *The View*, and *48 Hours*, and is a parenting correspondent on CBS’s *The Early Show Saturday*. [book cover].

**Summary:** Parenting the contemporary American teenager is by no means a simple task! Through this series of anecdotes, dialogues, and practical suggestions, Di Prisco & Riera’s *Field Guide* offers insight into the complex world of the contemporary American teen. The authors make it clear that surefire parenting formulas are nonexistent. *Field Guide to the American Teenager* examines contemporary (and sometimes controversial) topics as they relate to American teenagers. Topics include homosexuality, weapons in school, and death, among others. The chapters begin with a narrative based upon real-life incidents. Potential outcomes and consequences are discussed in what the authors refer to as “conversations.” Each chapter describes sensible ways to work through the issues. Readers are reminded by the authors that life is complex for the 21st century teen, and that the contexts of the adolescent’s life should be carefully considered. Four appendices adolescent characteristics at different stages/ages of development.

**About the reviewer:** A former student in the Master of Science Art Education program at Northern Illinois University, Brent Becker graduated from Bradley University (Peoria, IL) in 2001 with a degree in studio art and printmaking.