Borowitz, Susan (2003). *When we’re in public, pretend you don’t know me: Surviving your daughter’s adolescence so you don’t look like an idiot and she still talks to you*. New York: Warner Books.

**About the authors**: Susan Borowitz is a former Hollywood writer/producer who created *Family Ties* and *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*. Child psychologist Dr. Ava Siegler is an author and on-line columnist for *Ladies Home Journal’s “Ask Dr. Ava”*. [from the book jacket].

**Summary**: Borowitz and Siegler describe three parenting styles: *Clueless*, *Uncool*, and *Best Bud Mom*. Each chapter concludes with brief commentary by Siegler, who weighs in with an “expert’s” perspective on parenting teen girls. Borowitz argues that the *Uncool Mom* is what all mothers of teen daughters should strive to become. *Uncool Mom* views herself and her daughter as two separate persons. She is supportive of her daughter’s strivings for autonomy and independence, but she sets firm limits, thereby helping her daughter grow into adulthood by gradually taking control of her own life. *Clueless Mom* tries, on the other hand, to force her daughter to share her world view, and allows her daughter little autonomy. *Best Bud Mom* wants to be her daughter’s friend rather than her parent. Such mothers prematurely relinquish control before their daughters are mature enough to handle the responsibilities of young adulthood. The authors encourage mothers to establish guidelines and set realistic expectations for their daughter’s behavior. Allowing them to gradually become independent will help them to learn from their mistakes, but provides some protection and reassurance as they grapple with developing their “self.”

**Reviewer** Kathleen Dickerson has a masters’ degree in public health and is a bilingual high school teacher.

**Reviewer** Anthony J. Guzzaldo has a B.A. in history, and is a former graduate student in special education.