
About the Authors: Natalie is social and active 16 year old. She likes volleyball, boys, writing, shopping, boys, movies, cooking, watching TV reality shows, painting, and well, boys. Greg is 19 years old. A straighter arrow than his sister, he saved most of his teenage limit-testing for college life when Mom wasn’t around to witness it. Mom—Doris-- (age withheld), is a journalist and former high school and college teacher.

Summary

There are six important ideas for parents to understand about teens:
1) Most all teens will make bad choices.
2) Even the most communicative families can be clueless as to the teen’s choices.
3) When parents have some clue as to what is going on, their teens are better off.
4) Adults can influence their teen’s choices and teens benefit from adult involvement.
5) It is hard for both adults and teens to hear and tell the truth.
6) It can be scary for everyone involved when either of them does tell the truth.

The Fullers recognize that not all families are the same and that what works for them may not work for others. The book is about real life parent-teen relationships examined from three perspectives. Doris provides the (sometimes irrational) parent’s view, while daughter Natalie reveals teen secrets. Greg provides his perspective on the later teen years. Doris particularly emphasizes several strategies that positively affect parent-teen interactions. This is not just a book for parents but also a book to share with your teens.

REVIEWER Christopher T. Haeffner has a B.A. in political science from Western