



Girls & Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape

By Peggy Orenstein

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NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

A Time Top 10 Book of the Year • A San Francisco Chronicle Book of the Year

The author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Cinderella Ate My Daughter* offers a clear-eyed picture of the new sexual landscape girls face in the post-princess stage—high school through college—and reveals how they are negotiating it.

A generation gap has emerged between parents and their girls. Even in this age of helicopter parenting, the mothers and fathers of tomorrow's women have little idea what their daughters are up to sexually or how they feel about it. Drawing on in-depth interviews with over seventy young women and a wide range of psychologists, academics, and experts, renowned journalist Peggy Orenstein goes where most others fear to tread, pulling back the curtain on the hidden truths, hard lessons, and important possibilities of girls' sex lives in the modern world.

While the media has focused—often to sensational effect—on the rise of casual sex and the prevalence of rape on campus, in *Girls and Sex* Peggy Orenstein brings much more to the table. She examines the ways in which porn and all its sexual myths have seeped into young people's lives; what it means to be the “the perfect slut” and why many girls scorn virginity; the complicated terrain of hookup culture and the unfortunate realities surrounding assault. In Orenstein's hands these issues are never reduced to simplistic “truths;” rather, her powerful reporting opens up a dialogue on a potent, often silent, subtext of American life today—giving readers comprehensive and in-depth information with which to understand, and navigate, this complicated new world.

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Girls & Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape By Peggy Orenstein Bibliography

- Rank: #6603 in Books
- Brand: Ingramcontent
- Published on: 2017-03-07
- Released on: 2017-03-07
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .76" w x 5.31" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 336 pages

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Download and Read Free Online *Girls & Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape* By Peggy Orenstein

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

An Amazon Best Book of April 2016: It would be easy to pigeonhole *Girls & Sex* as essential reading only for parents of female teens or preteens. But as I traveled deeper into Orenstein's honest and thoughtful exploration of "the complicated new landscape" of sex as seen from the points of view of seventy high school and college-age girls she interviewed, I realized this book is for anyone who cares for a girl approaching womanhood, whether she is a daughter, niece, granddaughter, or friend of the family. Orenstein is the perfect guide, empathetic with the girls she interviews while also calling out how views on being "hot," consensual sex, drinking, and the very definition of virginity and intercourse has changed in the past ten or twenty years. She's so direct, the reader can't help but face how dramatically the landscape has shifted. (I admit to being horrified at the latest definition of "second base." But better to be wide-eyed than blind.) It's a tribute to Orenstein's perceptive investigations and her ability to make you question your own long-held beliefs about young people and sex that as I turned the last page, I felt an intense desire to read a *Boys & Sex* edition so that our young men could be given the clear voice that Orenstein has given young women. —*Adrian Liang*

Review

"Provocative and thoughtful.... Both an examination of sexual culture and a guide on how to improve it.... The breadth of Orenstein's reporting ... is impressive." (Laura Stepp, *Washington Post*)

"Nonsensational but deeply entertaining.... A must-read." (*People*, Book of the Week)

"A nuanced read for anyone who remembers being a young woman and anyone who is raising the next generation of girls (and boys) for whom we hope the future holds sexual satisfaction, not pain or disappointment." (Rebecca Traister, *More*)

"I'm not going to tell you to go right now and buy a copy.... I'm going to tell you to buy two copies: One for yourself, and one for the teenager in your life.... Refuses to be judgmental or doom and gloom. Instead, it offers something else — a demand for education, enlightenment, and ultimately, the radical notion of equal satisfaction." (Mary Elizabeth Williams, *Salon*)

"Thought-provoking. . . *Girls & Sex* is full of thoughtful concern and empathetic questions." (Cindi Leive, *New York Times Book Review*, cover review)

"I'm not going to tell you to go right now and buy a copy.... I'm going to tell you to buy two copies: One for yourself, and one for the teenager in your life.... Refuses to be judgmental or doom and gloom. Instead, it offers something else — a demand for education, enlightenment, and ultimately, the radical notion of equal satisfaction." (Adrian Liang, Amazon Best Book of the Month citation)

"*Girls & Sex* should be mandatory for anyone who cares about the present and future cultural landscape for girls, women, humans. I seriously want to quit my job and tour the country, furiously hawking Peggy Orenstein's insightful, important book." (Rashida Jones, actress, writer, producer)

"[An] important new book.... Her writing is clear and compelling, her analysis is incisive and thorough, and her findings are downright troubling." (Sharon Holbrook, *Washington Post*)

“Fascinating.... A wise and sharply argued look at how girls are navigating ‘the complicated new landscape’ of sex and sexuality.” (*Economist*)

“An intimate view of the sex lives of young women in the United States. While revealing disturbing common threads... Orenstein brings levity to this fraught topic.” (*Elle*)

“‘Girls & Sex’ may do more to change how sex education is rethought and how parents and daughters discuss pleasure and sexuality than any book since the landmark ‘Our Bodies, Ourselves.’” (Tamara Straus, *San Francisco Chronicle*)

“If you’re going to talk about women in the 21st century, you MUST read Peggy Orenstein’s *Girls & Sex*. No one else is asking these questions; so no one else, then, is finding out the answers.” (Caitlin Moran, Author of *How to Be a Woman*)

“A smart, sobering guide to the sexual lives of young women today.” (Ann Levin, Associated Press)

“Eloquent.... [A] compact, polished, and readable... cris de coeur.” (Julia M. Klein, *Boston Globe*)

“With compassion and insight, Peggy Orenstein holds a mirror not only to girls’ experiences but to our own judgments. No less than the emotional health and physical safety of our daughters (and of our sons, by the way) depends on the kind of insight *Girls & Sex* provides.” (Rosalind Wiseman, author of *Queen Bees and Wannabes*)

“Deeply reported, passionately argued.” (Isaac Chotiner, *Slate*)

“Peggy Orenstein sheds light on an important and too often misunderstood topic. Her reporting shows how a healthy and direct approach to sexuality is a key component of gender equality.” (Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook and founder of LeanIn.Org)

“An enlightening, sad and shocking look into the minds of teenagers and their views on casual sex, love and relationships.” (Aimee Blanchette, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*)

“A sequel of sorts to Orenstein’s ‘Cinderella Ate My Daughter’.... Sketches a sobering portrait.” (Oliver Wang, *L.A. Times*)

“Orenstein has compiled an eye-opening study of the way that girls and women in America think, feel, and act regarding sex.... The abundant information she provides will give parents and young girls the power to make informed decisions regarding sex.” (*Kirkus*)

“Eye-opening.... Orenstein draws powerful, humane portraits of her interview subjects, self-reliant young women who find themselves trapped by sexist stereotypes about women’s bodies and women’s pleasure. [A] smart, earnest, and timely assessment.” (*Publishers Weekly*, starred review)

“Accessible prose and narrative style will bring the work of many thoughtful experts to a wider audience.... Young adults, parents, educators, and activists alike will find this passionate work a timely conversation starter.” (*Library Journal*)

“Sex and teenagers have always gone together, but parents reading Orenstein’s frank exploration of current trends may still be in for a shock.... This isn’t a comfortable book to read (Orenstein herself admits twinges

a few times), but it's an important one." (*Booklist*)

"Orenstein is such a breezy, funny, writer, it's easy to forget she's an important thinker too." (*People*, four stars, on *Cinderella Ate My Daughter*)

From the Back Cover

A generation gap has emerged between parents and their girls. The mothers and fathers of tomorrow's women have little idea what their daughters are up to sexually or how they feel about it. Drawing on in-depth interviews with more than seventy young women and a wide range of psychologists, academics, and experts, renowned journalist Peggy Orenstein goes where most others fear to tread, pulling back the curtain on the hidden truths, hard lessons, and important possibilities of girls' sex lives in the modern world.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

George Clark:

Book is definitely written, printed, or created for everything. You can realize everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. To be sure that book is important point to bring us around the world. Next to that you can your reading talent was fluently. A book *Girls & Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape* will make you to become smarter. You can feel far more confidence if you can know about everything. But some of you think that open or reading some sort of book make you bored. It isn't make you fun. Why they may be thought like that? Have you in search of best book or acceptable book with you?

Michael Alvarado:

The feeling that you get from *Girls & Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape* will be the more deep you digging the information that hide inside the words the more you get interested in reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to be aware of but *Girls & Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape* giving you enjoyment feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by anyone who read the item because the author of this guide is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having this particular *Girls & Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape* instantly.

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