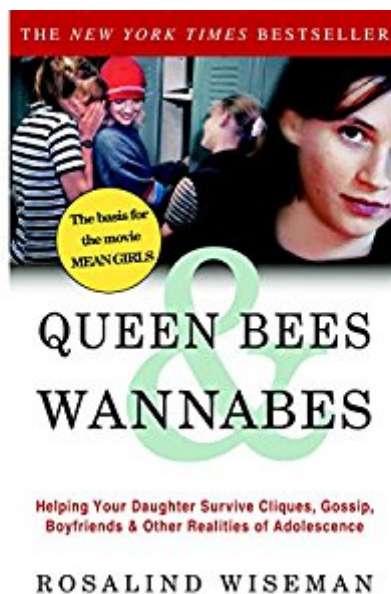




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# Queen Bees And Wannabes: Helping Your Daughter Survive Cliques, Gossip, Boyfriends, And Other Realities Of Adolescence



## Synopsis

"My daughter used to be so wonderful. Now I can barely stand her and she won't tell me anything. How can I find out what's going on?" "There's a clique in my daughter's grade that's making her life miserable. She doesn't want to go to school anymore. Her own supposed friends are turning on her, and she's too afraid to do anything. What can I do?" Welcome to the wonderful world of your daughter's adolescence. A world in which she comes to school one day to find that her friends have suddenly decided that she no longer belongs. Or she's teased mercilessly for wearing the wrong outfit or having the wrong friend. Or branded with a reputation she can't shake. Or pressured into conforming so she won't be kicked out of the group. For better or worse, your daughter's friendships are the key to enduring adolescence - as well as the biggest threat to her well-being. In her groundbreaking book, *Queen Bees and Wannabes*, Empower cofounder Rosalind Wiseman takes you inside the secret world of girls' friendships. Wiseman has spent more than a decade listening to thousands of girls talk about the powerful role cliques play in shaping what they wear and say, how they respond to boys, and how they feel about themselves. In this candid, insightful book, she dissects each role in the clique: Queen Bees, Wannabes, Messengers, Bankers, Targets, Torn Bystanders, and more. She discusses girls' power plays, from birthday invitations to cafeteria seating arrangements and illicit parties. She takes listeners into "Girl World" to analyze teasing, gossip, and reputations; beauty and fashion; alcohol and drugs; boys and sex; and more, and how cliques play a role in every situation. Each chapter includes "Check Your Baggage" sections to help you identify how your own background and biases affect how you see your daughter. "What You Can Do to Help" sections offer extensive sample scripts, bulleted lists, and other easy-to-use advice to get you inside your daughter's world and help you to help her. It's not just about helping your daughter make it alive out of junior high. This book will help you understand how your daughter's relationships with friends and cliques sets the stage for other intimate relationships as she grows and guides her when she has tougher choices to make about intimacy, drinking and drugs, and other hazards. With its revealing look into the secret world of teenage girls and cliques, enlivened with the voices of dozens of girls and a much-needed sense of humor, *Queen Bees and Wannabes* will equip you with all the tools you need to build the right foundation to help your daughter make smarter choices and empower her during this baffling, tumultuous time of life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book helped me more than anything to understand how cliques and bullies work. It's awful to see your child hurt and helpless even when they report the abuse. If your daughter is bullied because she did not fit in with the mean bullying Queen Bee, read this to understand how the social power works in middle grade and high school. You will see many people in charge who know nothing about the abuse and scaring tactics used by bullying Queen Bees and their side kick the Wannabes. It's a tough world even in high school and I learned so much from this book. My daughter and I talk about it together and it's great understanding why it goes on and why it's brushed under the rug or hidden behind denial. "Not in my school, we have a no tolerance policy for bullying!" Many adults in charge of our children do not even know what bullying is. You may hear "It's only a little teasing, or it's a normal thing, or your child may seek help to not be so sensitive." What@!!! I believe most principals and teachers who misunderstand did not see the signs, or were never bullied while they were in school. A good reason to purchase this. It would help see the covert tactics used and to be aware of this ongoing issue. There will always be those who do not want trouble while they are in charge and look the other way. The kids who are the victims often take the punishment because these cliques know exactly how to fool those in charge and turn on their charms. Awareness always helps.

This should be required reading for EVERY mother of a tween or soon to be teenage girl. The wealth of information and insight opened my eyes to what my girl was really going through out there in "girl world" My daughter is now 21 and many many times has actually thanked me for reading this book when she was younger. When is the last time ANY 21 yr old actually THANKED a parent for something they did back when they were growing up? The examples of cliques and their inner

workings are so helpful to a parent. I still remember my mother saying "your REAL friends won't care if you don't have THOSE shoes, or THAT pair of jeans" Well things have changed, in many many ways. Now if you don't have THOSE shoes or THAT pair of jeans, you well COULD end up with no friends. Girls are much much meaner and more creatively sadistic than they ever were when I was in school. Granted I did graduate in 1978, in a very small town where nothing had changed in about 20 years. But I really did think "how much could things have changed?" Wow was I wrong. Because of this book I realized my daughter was struggling to survive not only socially but literally. When her grades dropped off and she suddenly started skipping class, I was able to talk to her in a way that got her to actually open up to me about what was going on. I listened in a way I never would have before. I heard her pain, I understood her situation when she said it was almost impossible for her to get up every morning and drag herself to school. Where before I would have told her to suck it up and it couldn't be that bad, I now withheld any judgement and let her tell me what she wanted to do. She did want to continue going to school, and did want to graduate and go to college but if she had to continue to attend the school she was currently attending none of that was going to be possible. We found an awesome alternative high school with very small classes, teachers who truly cared about their kids, a relaxed atmosphere where she could be herself without someone judging her. The rules were extremely strict, no missing class, no being late, a dress code, and no second chances. My girl went from skipping 2-3 days a week to being EARLY every single day. Her grades skyrocketed to straight A's in one grading period, doing the EXACT same work and following the same curriculum she had at her other school (this HS had kids from a 50 mile radius, and each kid had to follow their home district's curriculum and get the same credits as if they were attending their home district school). At graduation, her principal made a small speech about each kid (the class was only 7 kids) and the speech about Katy was so inspiring I had to share it. Please see the video I posted, and remember, the girl this man is talking about, hated school, hated class, hated her teachers, hated all but a handful of her classmates, until I read this book. READ IT READ IT READ IT!!!! CANNOT STRESS THIS ENOUGH!!!

The most important book I've read as a mother to girls. Most unexpected was the insight it gave me into my own experience in school and later through my adult life in groups of women. I have become a better friend through reading this, and a better mum.

I bought this book because of the special features on the Mean Girls DVD (which is an awesome DVD), and really enjoyed the book. Wiseman eloquently described the horizontal violence that girls

(and women) heap on each other. Usually it's not boy against girl which is the big problem, but girl on girl. Although the phrases and slang in the book are very time specific (they'll be outdated in time), the principles behind this book are timeless. Nothing's changed from generation to generation, although we like to think everything's improved. Although I'm not a parent, the author definitely gives great suggestions for parents in relating to their teenage daughters, the friends, and the friends' parents (also the enemies and their parents). My best friend, who is a parent of two girls in this age range, said it is a must read and that it is helping her with relationships with her daughters. I would recommend it to school professionals (that's another place it's geared), counselors, clergy (Christian or otherwise), and other people who work with teenage girls.

I have to admit that when I first read this book, I was shocked. As a parent (and as a teacher), I thought I had a fairly good handle on what goes on in the life and minds of teens. Boy was I sorely mistaken! Ms. Wiseman's book is like a guidebook to another planet! Planet Teen Daughter, and it helps both parents and child(ren) negotiate this potentially horrendous time of life. The section dealing with the parenting styles was worth the price of the book. The reader is able to gain some keen insight on how he/she/they come across to their children, and what the potential drawbacks are to the various styles. It helps parents work out their own "issues," which is, what I feel, a key step in helping teens work out theirs. I had no idea that the social world of girls was so clique-ish and catty, but Ms. Wiseman sure wised me up in a hurry. She pulls no punches and tells it like it is, the truth, in all of its shocking reality. I think this book will go a long way in helping my wife and I understand our daughter, and what she will be going through, inside and out, as she approaches the 6th grade. What a remarkable book!

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