varieties of STDs, now there are more than 25 commonly found, and the percentage of young people suffering from each is increasing at a rapid rate. Again, while dangerous aspects of society were more or less contained or isolated in the 60s, now, with a society more tolerant of all kinds of behaviors, temptations of drugs, sex, and much more, especially through the media and the Internet, girls are much more at risk of negative consequences. The author asserts that it is through the guidance, protection and active love of a father that a girl has a better chance of avoiding these dangers that are all around us.

The author reports that she has spent twenty years counseling young girls on problems with sex, eating, school failure and unwanted pregnancies. It is her observation that one of the most common factors with girls with these problems is either a lack of an active father in her life, or a father that has "given up" by being passive in his fathering.

This book can be read in two ways. One, it gives insight on the view of the author in what it is like to grow up female in this society, with tremendous pressures that are increasingly working to encourage her to conform to other's wishes, be popular, while trying to work through intense internal emotional storms, with all the dangers of making the wrong decisions.

But more importantly, it is written for fathers. It encourages them that despite what their daughter or society might say they have much more influence on their daughters than they might think. And also, that being a successful father is not complicated; it just requires mostly taking time with his daughter and being himself. One part of her advice is to be the kind of man you would want your daughter to marry. This modeling in itself will carry a powerful influence on a daughter.

> The only habit a child should be allowed to acquire is to contract none... Prepare in good time for the reign of freedom and exercise of his powers, by allowing his body its natural habits and accustoming him always to be his own master and follow the dictates of his will as soon as he has a will of his own.
>
> ~Rousseau Emile



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