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# Invisible Girls: The Truth About Sexual Abuse

## Invisible Girls THE TRUTH ABOUT SEXUAL ABUSE

DR. PATTI FEUERISEN with Caroline Pincus



## **Synopsis**

The statistics are staggering. One in four girls will experience sexual abuse by the time she is sixteen, and 48 percent of all rapes involve a young woman under the age of eighteen. It's not surprising then, that in a society where sexual abuse of young women is rampant, many women never share their stories. They remain hidden and invisible. In her pioneering work with young survivors through the last thirty years, Dr. Patti Feuereisen has helped teen girls and young women to find their voices, begin healing, and become visible. In this revised second edition, Dr. Patti's gentle guidance and the girls' powerful stories continue to create an encouraging message: Remarkable healing is possible if girls learn to share their stories in their teens and early twenties. With a new introduction, new chapters, and updated resources, this new edition of *Invisible Girls* has even more to offer girls, young women, and those who care about them.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Thank you Dr. Patti for writing this book. You truly have a compassion for the girls and the hurt they have endured. So many times you touched my heart. This book is SO helpful for me as I am getting

a Rape and Sexual Violence center started. The location I have found is very near a high school. The stories and information are a wonderful aid. It is so sad that these issues face us daily, and that all of us as women, and especially young girls experience this horror. It leaves me speechless. If something like this ever happened to a daughter of mine or my sister, I don't know what I would do. This is a wonderfully informative book, and while it is difficult to read because of what it is about, the stories the girls share, along with your comments and insight, make this a **MUST READ** book. Every teenage girl and young woman needs to read this book. I will have this book available at my center, and recommend that every girl read this book. The single most important statement made is: "It is NEVER your fault." Girls, always remember that.

Actually, I don't know another book to compare with Dr. Patti Feuereisen's "Invisible Girls." While she has a history of working with "at risk" girls, she also works individually with a range of teenage girls from diverse backgrounds. Her knowledge of the lives of many teenagers who have been in or are currently in sad and/or dangerous situations, and her empathy for her patients, are clear in the stories she relates in her book. Dr. Feuereisen is the featured speaker at many conferences because of the depth of her knowledge and the breadth of her experiences.

"I think if you don't feel loved when you are young, you don't understand what love is supposed to be like, so you don't know to filter out the bad people from the good. You don't understand the differences, you make excuses for the clues. And you end up with a lot of bad people trying to bring you down every second they can, especially when they know you're in your vulnerable times. You're prey then, and that's what I was."

Very insightful book. Reading this book helped me to understand that there are so many victims out there who have been sexually abused and how the abuse has affected them in so many similar ways. It scared me into thinking that so many men out there are sexual predators.

I am a therapist at a residential treatment center for teenage girls in Maryland. Invisible Girls has helped **EVERY** girl I've given it to. In particular, I think about a girl on my case load who had suffered 10 years of incest at the hands of her father. Shortly after she started reading the book, she told me that the chapter on incest had helped her to realize that the incest, which she had always blamed herself for, was not her fault. There are so many other girls I treat that could benefit from this book. Buy it!!

Invisible Girls, By Dr. Patti Feuereisen is a book that speaks directly to the girls for whom it is written. In a warm, comfortable manner, Dr. Patti talks honestly about a subject which is often ignored. Her practical advice and clear message that sexual abuse is never the fault of the victim provide a backdrop to the deeply moving and courageous stories of the girls who willing share their experiences. As a psychologist, this is a book I give to women who are coping with and healing from sexual abuse so they feel validated, understood and less alone.

I have purchased the book for myself and am ordering another for a soldier in the war as she was raped a few years back and has been promiscuous and does not have understanding as to why. I read a little of the book to a friend from the group and she wants to read a copy do here in little Michigan the book is becoming popular and helpful. I decided to buy it after reading a few blogs on facebook and it has already helped me to understand more than I have ever learned from a book.

This book was amazing . I bought it for my daughter in hospital and isince she read it , some of the. Yeses read it and then bought their own copies

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