Record Nr. UNINA9910788220503321
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Titolo Teens in crisis: how the industry serving struggling teens helps and

hurts our kids / / Frederic G. Reamer and Deborah H. Siegel

Pubbl/distr/stampa New York:,: Columbia University Press,, 2008

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ISBN 0-231-51450-6

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (193 p.)

Disciplina 362.7083

Soggetti Youth - Services for - United States - Evaluation

At-risk youth - Education - United States

Adolescent psychotherapy - Residential treatment - United States

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Description based upon print version of record.

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- 1. The Invention of "Troubled Teens" --

2. The Struggling-Teens Industry -- 3. A Legacy of Scandals -- 4. Helping Struggling Teens -- 5. A Blueprint for Reform -- Glossary --

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Sommario/riassunto In recent years a dizzying array of programs has emerged to meet the

needs of struggling teens and their families-wilderness therapy programs, therapeutic boarding schools, alternative schools, mentoring and court diversion programs, independent living programs, and myriad day treatment and partial hospitalization services. Yet not all of these offerings employ mental health professionals or follow evidence-

based treatment protocols. Some programs are licensed and accredited, but many are not, and some use techniques that are highly

controversial, even abusive, resulting in injury and accidental death.
Frederic G. Reamer and Deborah H. Siegel have written the first scholarly book on this influential and controversial industry. They begin with a time line of Americans' changing attitudes toward challenging teens and the programs and schools established to handle this population. Then they summarize reputable organizations, including a

selection of community-based and residential programs and schools, and provide brief descriptions of typical services. The authors candidly

discuss a number of troubling scandals and tragedies, exposing the tragic consequences of emotionally and physically abusive practices, and recommend a range of empirically sound interventions for the clinical challenges of adolescent depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety, oppositional behavior, eating disorders, and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. The authors conclude with a blueprint for reform and twenty "best practice" principles relating to harm prevention, program-based discipline, industry regulation, quality assurance, parental involvement, staff education, and after-care services.