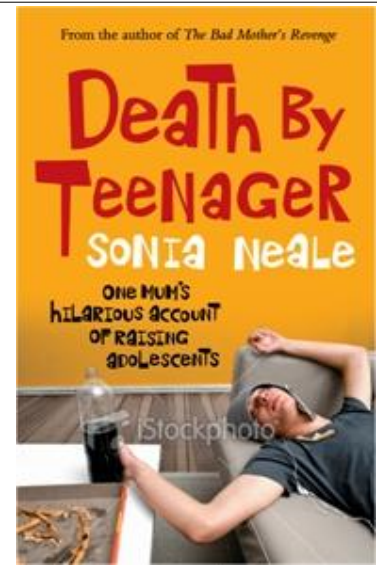


DEATH BY TEENAGER

One Mum's Hilarious Account of Raising Adolescents

By Sonia Neale

Rrp: \$24.95; paperback; 206pp; ISBN 9780733324185



SONIA NEALE is an average Aussie mother with three teenage children and the rare ability to bring a hilarious and sanity-saving perspective to her life as a mother-on-the-edge.

She loves her children most of the time. There's Christopher, *the Smartrider* who can work out Fibonacci sequences and make his own Mobius strip but gets flummoxed figuring out how many cylinders in a V8 Commodore, while her eldest son Matthew, *the Dreamer*, not only knows how many cylinders a V8 engine has, he can build a Frankenscooter out of a pair of old bike tyres, some corrugated iron and a lawn-mower engine, but thinks a Mobius strip is a form of pornographic dancing. And her daughter, Melissa, *the Wild Child*, who plays complicated guitar riffs, reads heavy psychological books and works as a gourmet chef.

Sex, food, money, messy bedrooms, therapy, literature and love. Sonia ranges over all the big subjects with a light touch and her own unmistakable slightly twisted outlook.

There are no thick, glossy magazines called My Beautiful Teenager, showing a proud, glowing mother cradling a couch-bound, well-fed, raggedy-jean-clad adolescent sleeping like a baby surrounded by pizza crusts with a teat covered coke bottle firmly wedged between their lips. No-one says: 'Congratulations! It's a teenager when they turn 13.'

There are many informative parenting books out there that offer support on how to raise a well-balanced teenager ... This isn't one of them.

SONIA NEALE is available for interview from Perth, West Australia. Please contact Catherine Van, ABC Books Publicity on 02 8333 3969 or van.catherine@abc.net.au

Available now at ABC Shops, ABC Centres, selected book retailers, online at abcshop.com.au or phone orders to 1300 360 150
www.sonianeale.com