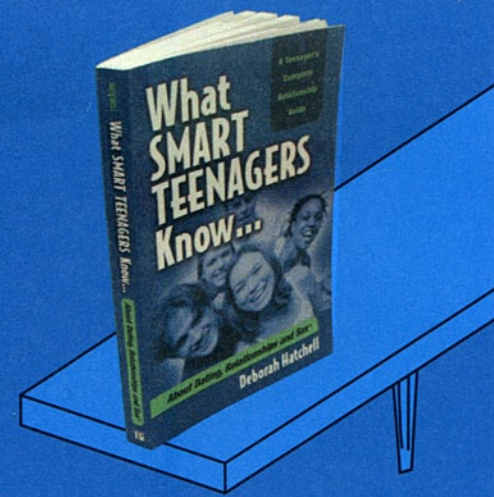


Book review reprinted from the Winter 2007 issue of *Sex, Etc.* published by Answer/Rutgers University Foundation



## What Smart Teenagers Know...About Dating, Relationships and Sex

by Deborah Hatchell  
(Piper Books 2003, \$14.95)

### Best Advice on Getting a Relationship and Keeping It

In *What Smart Teenagers Know*, Deborah Hatchell emphasizes that no relationship is easy, and that relationships should never end just because you come across some rocky waters. Hatchell founded and runs The Teen Dating Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping parents talk to their teenagers about relationships and sex. Most importantly, she is the mother of a teenager and talks to readers like someone who really understands what teenagers are going through.

Hatchell's book is broken down into chapters like "Flirting," "Asking Someone Out," "Fight Club" and "Breaking Up," so it's easy to find what you're looking for.

After reading this book, I'm a lot more empathetic toward my boyfriend. Now, I'm less likely to hound him about something, and more likely to recognize that he might be just as stressed out about something as I am.

Although this is a "relationship" book, the author also deals with the consequences of sex and how to protect yourself from STDs and pregnancy. She even discusses the reasons why you may not be ready for sex and ways to say "no," if you're not ready. Anybody from a preteen just starting to date to a young adult who has been dating for years could find useful information on dating, relationships and sex in Deborah Hatchell's *What Smart Teenagers Know...*

—Sable Dickinson, 17, Staff Writer