



Free-Range Kids, How to Raise Safe, Self-Reliant Children (Without Going Nuts with Worry)

By Lenore Skenazy

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FREE RANGE KIDS has become a national movement, sparked by the incredible response to Lenore Skenazy's piece about allowing her 9-year-old ride the subway alone in NYC. Parent groups argued about it, bloggers, blogged, spouses became uncivil with each other, and the media jumped all over it. A lot of parents today, Skenazy says, see no difference between letting their kids walk to school and letting them walk through a firing range. Any risk is seen as too much risk. But if you try to prevent every possible danger or difficulty in your child's everyday life, that child never gets a chance to grow up. We parents have to realize that the greatest risk of all just might be trying to raise a child who never encounters choice or independence.

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Free-Range Kids, How to Raise Safe, Self-Reliant Children (Without Going Nuts with Worry) By Lenore Skenazy Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

Library Journal Starred Review - Skenazy flies the black flag of America's Worst Mom, a title this syndicated columnist and NPR commentator earned by allowing her nine-year-old son to ride the New York City public transit alone in 2008. Here, she puts parents' fears to bed by examining the statistical likelihood of the dangers we most fear (murder, baby-snatching, etc.). Drawing on facts, statistics, and humor, she convincingly argues that this is one of the safest periods for children in the history of the world, reiterating that mostly, the world is safe and mostly, people are good. Even the lowest-flying helicopter parents would have trouble disagreeing that we have entered an era that says you cannot trust yourself. Trust a product instead. Skenazy argues that it's time to retire the national pastime of worrying and that childhood is supposed to be about discovering the world, not being held captive. The obvious has never been so hilarious.

"Skenazy will find plenty of supporters for her contention that, in a world where the rights of chickens to roam freely are championed, it's time to liberate the kids." (The Wall Street Journal, April 24, 2009)

"Skenazy advocates for a child's right to separate gradually from a parent's assistance and to learn the joy and self-confidence that comes from trying out independence."

—Christian Century (November 2009)

"Free-Range Kids is the best kind of manifesto: smart, funny, rigorous, sane, impassioned, and bristling with common sense. If you're a parent, or planning to become one, read this book. You have nothing to lose—apart from your anxiety."

—Carl Honoré, author, *In Praise of Slowness and Under Pressure*

"Even scaredy-cat parents like myself now have a how-to manual on overcoming irrational suspicions and, finally, differentiating between an axe murderer and a play date!"

—David Harsanyi, syndicated columnist and author, *Nanny State*.

"Free-Range Kids makes the perfect baby shower gift."

—Nancy McDermott, parenting blogger, *Spiked Online*

"Moral insight without moralizing—how rare is that?"

—Amity Shlaes, author, *The Forgotten Man*

"Keep Free-Range Kids on your bedstand next to your bible and the TV remote, and refer to as needed during the 11 o'clock news."

—Jordan Lite, news reporter, *Scientific American* online

"Read this book—Mommy said you could."

—Penn Jillette, *Penn & Teller*

Review

"This book is a bubbly but potent corrective for the irrational fears that drive so many parents crazy. Skenazy is witty, perceptive, persuasive, and above all, sensible."

—Robert Needlman, M.D., coauthor, *Dr Spock's Baby and Child Care, 8th Edition*.

"*Free-Range Kids* is the best kind of manifesto: smart, funny, rigorous, sane, impassioned, and bristling with common sense. If you're a parent, or planning to become one, read this book. You have nothing to lose—apart from your anxiety."

—Carl Honoré, author, *In Praise of Slowness* and *Under Pressure*

"Lenore Skenazy is a national hero."

—Mary Roach, author, *Bonk* and *Stiff*

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From the Inside Flap

How come we had so much more freedom when we were kids? How can we give our kids that freedom now?

When Lenore Skenazy wrote a newspaper column about letting her nine-year-old ride the subway alone in New York City, little did she realize that the response would spark a national movement. Her outspoken, commonsense approach to parenting galvanized a huge wave of supporters—and a counterstorm of protest from others who dubbed her "America's Worst Mom."

In this funny, fed-up book, Lenore encourages parents to let their kids be kids. She's all for helmets and car seats but insists children do not need a security detail every time they go outside. Armed with stories, wisecracks, and a battery of facts, she gleefully punctures modern-day myths about rampant kidnapping, marauding germs, and poisoned Halloween candy. After exposing where these worries come from, she gives tips on how to break free. Her Fourteen Free-Range Commandments include:

- KNOW WHEN TO WORRY Play Dates and Axe Murderers: How to Tell the Difference
- BOYCOTT BABY KNEE PADS And the Rest of the Kiddie Safety-Industrial Complex
- RELAX Not Every Little Thing You Do Has That Much Impact on Your Child's Development

The book reads like a conversation with your funniest, most honest friend. Readers will find themselves laughing out loud while shedding their fears. For anyone who remembers the days of walking to school, playing outside, or eating a kernel of unwrapped candy corn—and longs to bring them back to childhood—this book is a must-read.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lawrence Rector:

What do you concentrate on book? It is just for students as they are still students or that for all people in the world, what best subject for that? Simply you can be answered for that question above. Every person has different personality and hobby for every single other. Don't to be pushed someone or something that they don't wish do that. You must know how great along with important the book Free-Range Kids, How to Raise Safe, Self-Reliant Children (Without Going Nuts with Worry). All type of book could you see on many options. You can look for the internet options or other social media.

Darren Billups:

Information is provisions for individuals to get better life, information today can get by anyone with everywhere. The information can be a information or any news even a problem. What people must be consider any time those information which is from the former life are challenging be find than now's taking seriously which one works to believe or which one the actual resource are convinced. If you have the unstable resource then you buy it as your main information you will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen throughout you if you take Free-Range Kids, How to Raise Safe, Self-Reliant Children (Without Going Nuts with Worry) as your daily resource information.

Jennie Groth:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Free-Range Kids, How to Raise Safe, Self-Reliant Children (Without Going Nuts with Worry), you may enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

Betty Dansby:

As a pupil exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library as well as to make summary for some e-book, they are complained. Just little students that has reading's internal or real their pastime. They just do what the instructor want, like asked to go to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that studying is not important, boring and also can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is for being complicated. Book is very important to suit your needs. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Free-Range Kids, How to Raise Safe, Self-Reliant Children (Without Going Nuts with Worry) can make you experience more interested to read.

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