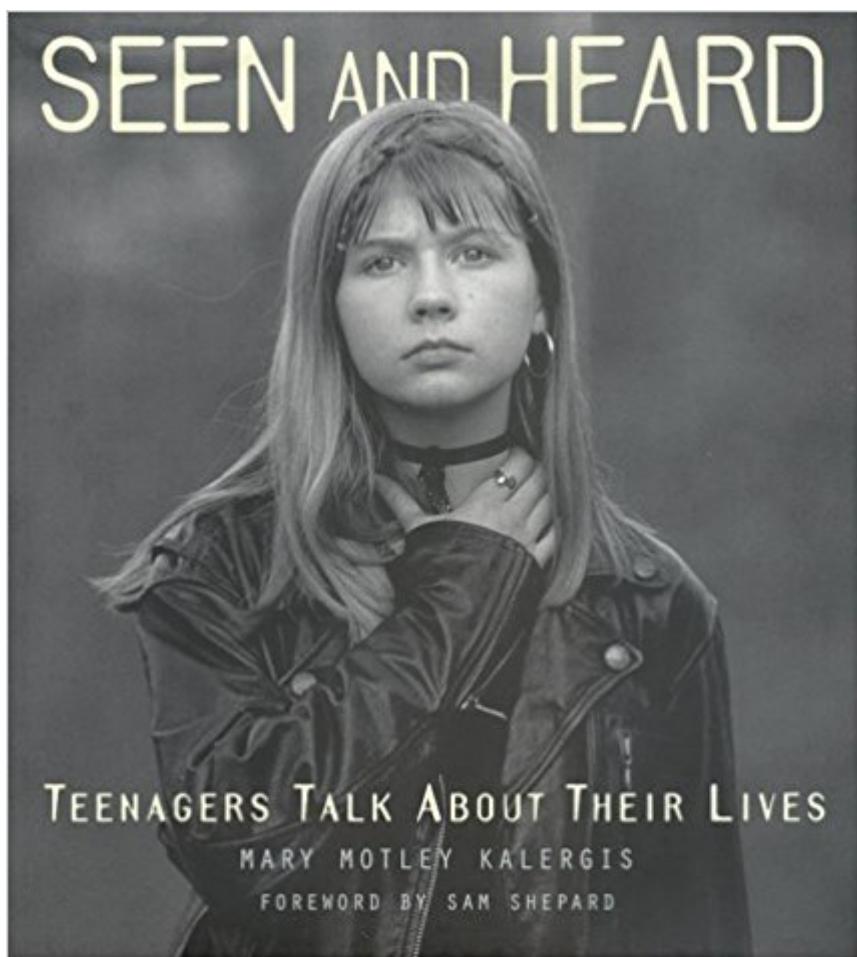


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# Seen And Heard: Teenagers Talk About Their Lives



## **Synopsis**

Seen and Heard is an uncensored look into the very private world of the American teenager. It shatters the prevailing stereotype of uncommunicative kids with a face -to-face look at 50 teens who explain what their lives are like in a series of interviews. '

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Part of what is hard about being a teenager is that it seems like you're alone with your feelings and that no one else has ever worried about, hoped for, or dreaded the same things in the same, painful way. Struggling teens (and parents who can't get their kids to talk to them) will take comfort in these first-person stories from young people. Mary Motley Kalergis (Mother: A Collective Portrait and With This Ring: A Portrait of Marriage) photographed and interviewed 51 young Americans representing a wide spectrum of interests and experiences for this enlightening book. They include a farmer's son and a recent immigrant from Mexico, kids from small towns and the daughter of famous parents. There are poets, baton twirlers, football stars, and skateboarders. Yet, presented by Kalgeris' sympathetic lens and pen, these seemingly dissimilar subjects reveal that there is, perhaps, a universal mood to the years between childhood and maturity: heartbreakingly earnest. Given the opportunity, even the most rebellious of the book's subjects admits he lies awake worrying at night, because he is "getting a little bit scared" about the future. "I want to be as fearlessly honest as I can while I'm alive," another of the interviewees declares. This book would make a terrific tool for opening communication between adults and young people. As playwright and actor Sam Shepard

says in his foreword: "This generation of kids may simply be more honest and courageous than the one I belonged to during my adolescence." Surely this is reason enough to find out what they're thinking. --Maria Dolan

MARY MOTLEY KALERGIS is an author, photographer and interviewer, whose work chronicles the bonds that connect individuals, families, and communities. Her published books include Love In Black & White (Kensington Publishing), Charlottesville Portrait (Howell Press), Seen and Heard: Teenagers Talk About Their Lives (Stewart Tabori, & Chang), With This Ring: A Portrait of Marriage (The Chrysler Museum of Art), Home of the Brave (E.P. Dutton), Mother: A Collective Portrait (E.P. Dutton), and Giving Birth (Harper & Row.) Her work has been exhibited in museums and galleries internationally, including The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC; The Burden Gallery and the International Center of Photography in NYC; The Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk, Virginia; The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond, Virginia; the Southeast Museum of Photography in Daytona Beach, Florida; The San Antonio Museum of Art; The Field Museum of Chicago; the Museum Fur Photographie in Stuttgart, Germany and the Diaframa Kodak Galleria in Milan, Italy. Photographs by Mary have also appeared in newspapers and magazines around the world, including The New York Times, People, Time, Newsweek, Glamour, Ladies' Home Journal, Seventeen Magazine, Sports Illustrated, Marie Claire (France), The Guardian (London), and Camera Manuchi (Japan). Mary was formerly on the faculty of The International Center of Photography in New York and has served as "special stills" photographer on movie sets including Long Walk Home and Cousin Bette. She lives in Charlottesville, Virginia, where she is currently finishing her eighth book, Considering Adoption, to be published by Atelerix Press in 2013, and collaborating on a retrospective of her work which will be released in print and on-line in 2014.

It was quite challenging, but we finished it. It's a nice picture

Great Book!

Seen and Heard...The title speaks to the content, which Mary Motley Kalergis welcomes from these ordinary/extraordinary Young People. I bought this for a dear Young Person in my life and began reading it when I got it home, prior to mailing it...What PROFOUND insight I was granted! What these children have to say will astound you with its depth, clarity, vision, and stark reality. Every voice illuminates a perspective worthy of considering. Each of them resonates with a sense of WHO

they are--even as they question uncertainties about themselves and their futures--WHAT they know, HOW they see the world around them and all its beauty, hypocrisy and potential. Mostly this book is a testament to the LIFE of the generation now in our midst as young adults. They are an astounding 'addition' to a society that is destined to benefit from their outspoken, sincere sharing of what they believe. This is beyond 'Required' reading...It is inviting, 'Inspired' reading...for anyone interesting in connecting on meaningful levels, and certainly for Young People looking for peers without the pressure...even ones they might never meet in their daily living experience. Brava Mary!

"Seen and Heard..." is a book that every adult should have to either remind themselves of what it is like to be a teenager or to be able to take ten steps back and help them evaluate/relate with their own children. This book gives an intelligent and insightful look into the drama of the life and thoughts of American teenagers in this particular generation. This book will not teach parents about how to be better parents, but it does express many different viewpoints about being a teenager in this diverse culture of ours. The comments offered by the teens in this book are intelligent and razor-sharp, running the gamut of the emotional spectrum. Very metaphoric, their comments along with the stark black-and-white photographs carry the emotion home to the reader to embrace. This book is a very nice package which makes an otherwise unreachable time for most adults come alive again, or, better yet, realistic again.

As a participant in the book, I was honored and grateful to have my story chosen to be shared with America. The experience was a wonderful cathartic one and allows me to have a published transcript and picture of exactly who I was at age 14, a person I am so different from now at age 20. Mary Kalergis has the wonderful ability to draw out things from people with her photographs, to divulge the deepest secrets of their hearts with her lens, to lock a single moment in time with one shot. Seen and Heard is a true snapshot of what it was like to be a young American growing up at the turn of the 21 century. I will treasure my signed copy forever.

I have had the wonderful opportunity to work with Mary Kalergis and Gary Chassman/Verve Editions in the design and development of Seen and Heard. The stunning photographs and riveting text have made this one of my favorite projects. I am interested to hear what readers think of the design approach I have chosen. Your comments are welcome. Please direct them to Stacey Hood at Big Eyedea Visual Design. ([bigeyedea@madriver.com](mailto:bigeyedea@madriver.com)) Thank you. Enjoy!

This book is moving and inspiring to teens across the world

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