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Jennifer Velasquez

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#1210271 in Books Jennifer Velasquez 2015-05-27 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.02 x .30 x 5.981, .43
#File Name: 0838913423136 pages Real World Teen Services | File size: 63.Mb

Jennifer Velasquez : Real-World Teen Services before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Real-World Teen Services:

3 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Find the cheapest one. Don't buy new! By Customer This book is not worth \$50! Whoever decided this price is crazy! It is small with very few illustrations, none in color. I manage a book store and I am very familiar with book pricing. This is a fine example of corporate greed and overpriced texts to gouge college students!

There are plenty of resources about teen services that focus on YA readers advisory and programming ideas. But the basics of day-to-day service to teens in the library setting, a discipline requiring specific skills, is all too often glossed over in professional literature. As a result many LIS grads begin serving teens armed with an incomplete understanding of why their job is both important and unique, and what they need to know from day one. This compromises their effectiveness as both young adult librarians and advocates for teen services. In this down-to-earth book, former *Library Journal* Mover Shaker Velsquez explores real-world challenges and obstacles to teen service that often present themselves, offering solutions and guidance for both new YA librarians and those wanting to freshen up their approach. Presenting fresh ways of thinking about the role of the teen services librarian and how it fits into the organizational structure, Velsquez combines field-tested approaches with current research to tackle common teen library service issues such as truancy, curfews, programming philosophy and mission, privacy, and organizational resistance, whether subtle or overt. Addresses each topic from the perspective of working with teens, family members, fellow colleagues, and community stakeholders. Presents realistic strategies to help shift a library's culture towards one that embraces teens and teen services. Shows how to get the most out of a library's teen space, discussing factors like location, age restrictions, time of day restrictions, and staffing, plus suggestions for using the shelf-space of the YA collection as a starting point. This book goes beyond the what and how of teen services to get to the why, ensuring that both new and experienced practitioners will understand the ways teens want to use public space, discover and create information, and interact with peers and adults.

In six fun-to-read chapters, Velsquez covers a wide range of topics inspired by her own experiences and by the questions she has received from practicing teen services librarians and from students in her introductory course on teen services. She focuses on the why of teen library services and demonstrates the importance of trusting teen ideas and desires regarding library experiences ... Highly recommended for anyone interested in the real world of teen librarian services." --*American Reference Books Annual* "This book is not full of gimmicks. It presents a positive image of how the library can serve a specific population ... Read and reread this book. It has pearls of wisdom, and the practical conversation it promotes will come in handy when serving teen patrons." --*Public Libraries* About the Author Jennifer Velsquez is also a lecturer in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at San Jose State University (CA). In 2005, she was awarded the New York Times Librarian Award in recognition of her work in teen library services. She also received the La Promesa Award for Outstanding Programming to Latino Youth from The National Latino Children's Institute in 1996.