

Peggy Orenstein

Quotes

*Girl, Sex, Daughter, Kids, Years, Thinking, Princess, Sexy, Boys, Hair, People,
Jobs, Challenges, Self, Fall, Culture, Identity, Mother, Player, Noise*

The notion is called wabi-sabi life, like the cherry blossom, it is beautiful because of its impermanence, not in spite of it, more exquisite for the inevitability of loss.

~Peggy Orenstein

Sexualization is the performance of sexuality, the performance of sexiness. Girls are super good at that now.

~Peggy Orenstein

Girls are removing pubic hair before fully having it. They would say I feel cleaner, it's for me, but then they'd say if a boy saw pubic hair down there they'd head for the hills.

~Peggy Orenstein

I talked to a junior in college, and she was fed up. She said, "I'm not doing other girls any favours by faking orgasms and not calling out guys when we're having unequal experiences."

~Peggy Orenstein

Marketing to girls constantly presents a hypersexualized idea of girls; they're expected to appear sexy but be cut off from their sexuality.

~Peggy Orenstein

We're afraid if girls find out sex is pleasurable they'll stop being gatekeepers, they'll go out and have sex.

~Peggy Orenstein

Displaying yourself as sexy doesn't do anything to increase sexual self-knowledge or pleasure.

~Peggy Orenstein

Sexualization is imposed from the outside as opposed to sexuality, an understanding of the body's responses and desires and ability to communicate that, cultivated from within.

~Peggy Orenstein

I found that in a perverse way our culture and parents are far more comfortable talking about girls' victimization than girls' sexual agency.

~Peggy Orenstein

All girls over age 14 remove pubic hair. The only touching is to remove hair. That's grim.

~Peggy Orenstein

The point of creativity is to express and challenge yourself, to make meaning, to embrace your life.

~Peggy Orenstein

There is a way hook ups are serving young women. And it was important for me to always talk about how behaviours were serving girls, not just making them the victims.

~Peggy Orenstein

Saying "yes" [to sexual activity] is a pretty low baseline for sexual experience and I wanted to write about what was happening to girls after "yes."

~Peggy Orenstein

Maybe I wanted children, maybe I didn't, but I wanted the decision to be a choice, not a mandate. Last time I checked, childlessness was only supposed to be a condition of career advancement for nuns.

~Peggy Orenstein

A lot of what happens in consensual encounters and in the way we talk to both girls and boys about sex creates a medium in which assault flourishes.

~Peggy Orenstein

I had a lot of girls ask me whether it was weird that they didn't make a lot of noise during sex. I would get so irritated that they had learned this.

~Peggy Orenstein

I'm watching my own daughter grow up. I see this overt sexual culture coming at her like a Mack truck. She's in seventh grade.

~Peggy Orenstein

Parents tend to name all of baby boys' body parts, but with girls they go from belly button to knees with this void in the middle. That doesn't change as kids go into puberty.

~Peggy Orenstein

The anesthetizing against caring really threw me for a loop. I was seeing it with 15-year-olds. It was how they were starting their intimate lives. It alarmed me.

~Peggy Orenstein

But it is Bella, not the supernaturals she falls in with, who is the true horror show here, at least as a female role model.

~Peggy Orenstein

I never expected, when I had a daughter, that one of my most important jobs would be to protect her childhood from becoming a marketers' land grab.

~Peggy Orenstein

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