



THE TROUBLED TEEN INDUSTRY

Here is a selection of books, videos, and podcasts that provide more information about the Troubled Teen Industry (TTI)

BOOKS

[*Help at Any Cost: How the Troubled Teen Industry Cons Parents and Hurts Kids*](#) by Maia Szalavitz

This book is the first in-depth investigation into the TTI and details cases of abuse and death within TTI facilities

[*Stolen: A Memoir*](#) by Elizabeth Gilpin

The author details her experiences in wilderness and therapeutic boarding school programs and how she fought to heal in the aftermath of the TTI

[*This Will Be Funny Later: A Memoir*](#) by Jenny Pentland

The author, daughter of comedian Roseanne Barr, describes how her mother's rise to fame coincided with the placement of her and her sister at several TTI facilities

[*Troubled: The Failed Promise of America's Behavioral Treatment Programs*](#)
by Kenneth R. Rosen

The author, now a *New York Times* journalist, shares his own experiences within multiple TTI programs while reporting on the lives of program survivors in their adult years

[*Jesus Land*](#) by Julia Scheeres

This memoir describes how the author and her brother were sent to Escuela Caribe, a religious reform school in the Dominican Republic

[*The Nickel Boys*](#) by Colson Whitehead

This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is based on the true story of the [*Dozier School for Boys*](#), which operated for over a century in Florida and closed in 2011. Later adapted into the movie [*Nickel Boys*](#) (2024)

FILM AND TV

[*The Program: Cons, Cults, and Kidnapping*](#) (2024)

In this Netflix series, the director and her peers return to the campus at Academy at Ivy Ridge years later to expose the abuse in TTI programs

[*Cruel Instruction*](#) (2022)

This Lifetime movie is based on the experiences of survivors from Provo Canyon School

[*This is Paris*](#) (2020)

Celebrity Paris Hilton confronts her unresolved trauma that developed from attending TTI programs as an adolescent

[*The Last Stop*](#) (2017)

This documentary explores a pioneering TTI program, the Elan School, which operated in Maine from the 1970s until 2011

[*Kidnapped for Christ*](#) (2014)

A documentary about Escuela Caribe, a religious TTI program known to engage in conversion “therapy”

[“Trauma & Healing: Life after the troubled teen industry”](#) *NBC News* 9/21/21

A family works to collectively heal their trauma after their teenage son returns home from TTI programs

[“Children that Play”](#) *NBC News with Kate Snow* 4/20/21

This is a multi-year investigation into Sequel Youth and Family Services, accusations of abuse, and the 2020 death of Cornelius Frederick

[“Broken Circle”](#) *Dateline NBC* 2/11/21

This episode investigates the reform school Circle of Hope and interviews Amanda Householder, the program owners’ daughter who ultimately exposed the program’s abuses on TikTok

PODCASTS

[“The Rebekah House Miniseries”](#) *Surviving Abuse Podcast* 8/18/22

This 3-part miniseries interviews survivors of the Rebekah House, a Christian girls’ group home which began operating in the 1970s

["The TikTokkers Taking Down the Troubled Teen Industry"](#) *ICYMI* 5/14/2022

TTI survivors are using TikTok to mobilize and speak out about their experiences to a larger audience

["The Troubled Teen Industry"](#) *Very Bad Therapy* 4/12/2021

Kenneth Rosen discusses wilderness programs, dysfunctional family dynamics, and the role of educational consultants in creating the TTI pipeline

["The Bad Place"](#) *Reveal* 11/21/2020

This episode explores the growth of for-profit adolescent treatment programs and interviews TTI survivors and parents of survivors

["Dr. Janet Parker Investigating the Troubled Teen Industry"](#) *Inside the Program* 10/16/20

Dr. Janet Parker discusses the legal loopholes that benefit TTI programs

[On the Emmis](#)

This podcast focuses on Bob Meehan and Enthusiastic Sobriety programs. Includes interviews with survivors, advocates, and mental health professionals

[Sent Away](#)

This year-long investigation from *The Salt Lake Tribune*, AMP Reports, and KUER focuses on Utah's failing to protect youth harmed and/or killed in TTI facilities in that state

[The Time Out Room](#)

This survivor-led podcast focuses on Cross Creek Programs

[Trapped in Treatment](#)

This podcast takes a deep dive into many aspects of the TTI and includes interviews with survivors, legislators, investigators, and a former program CFO

[Troubled](#)

This survivor-led podcast discusses aspects of the Troubled Teen Industry and interviews former program staff, TTI survivors, and parents of survivors

[The Lost Kids](#)

This podcast investigates the disappearance of Daniel Yuen, a 16-year-old who ran away from CEDU Running Springs in 2004 and was never found

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