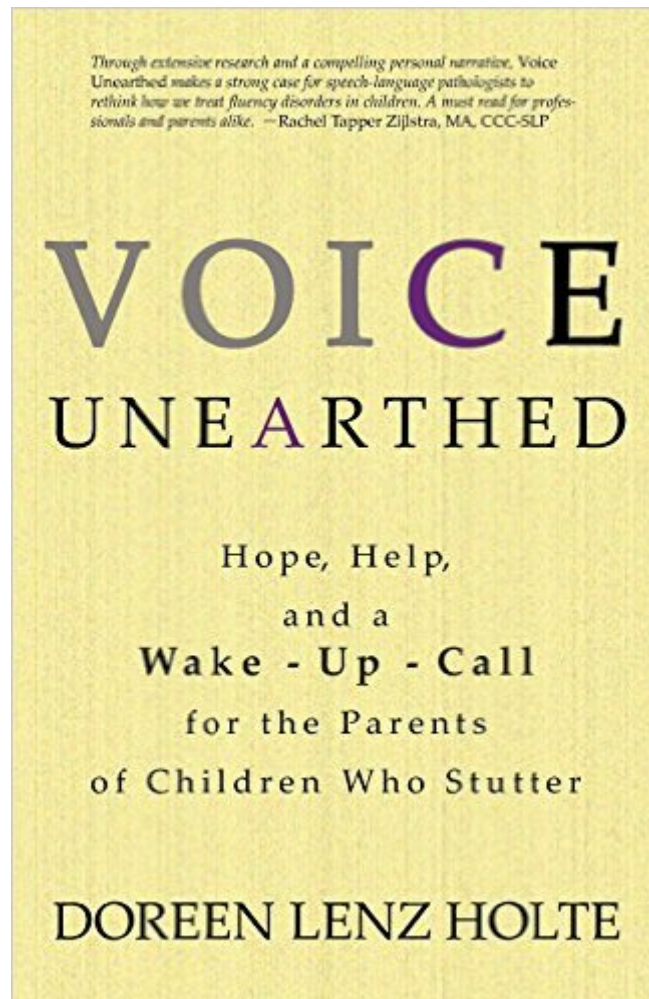


The book was found

# Voice Unearthed: Hope, Help And A Wake-Up Call For The Parents Of Children Who Stutter



## Synopsis

The primary message young children get in stuttering therapy is that they can and should manage their speech -- in other words, try to not sutter -- by utilizing speech tools and techniques. Is it possible that the anxiety this causes can create an even greater burden? Can that burden lead to excessive silence and disengagement -- a far greater handicap than the stuttering itself? Through personal narrative and extensive research, Voice Unearthed answers these questions with a resounding "yes!" It also includes practical guidance that helps keep children talking, while minimizing everyone's anxiety around communicating. Voice Unearthed frees us from the pointless, painful chore of counting speech errors and reminds us to keep our eyes on what truly matters. It's also a wake-up call for parents, professionals, and the entire field of speech therapy -- and a reminder to "first do no harm."

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Voice Unearthed is one of the most memorable documentary books I've come across. This book describes the state of stuttering therapy at the beginning of 21st century as experienced by a parent of a child who stutters and is exposed to two kinds of therapies. The first therapy is the establishment (ASHA, SFA, NSA, and FRIENDS) supported one and a descendant of Van Riper's approach. It can be characterized by its focus on speech tools (working on the speech directly) and success criteria of %ss (per cent of syllables stuttered). The second one is based on changing the attitudes toward both speech and life as advocated by the cowboy therapist Halvorson, loosely based on Wendell Johnson's approach. (For the sake of transparency, the

reviewer is the author of *From Stuttering to Fluency: Manage Your Emotions and Live More Fully*, where he advocates change by first changing self-talk and beliefs and only uses speech techniques (actually only easy bounces) as an adjunct technique to reduce tension and struggle in a speech situation. Thus, he falls in the Halverson/Wendell Johnson camp, although he believes that by utilizing Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy and his personal extension, he has made the method more accessible for day-to-day application to recovery from stuttering.) Returning to the evaluation of *Voice Unearthed* let me mention that Dori Holte wrote this book for the parents of children who stutter. After describing her experience as a parent of a child who stutters she gives advice what she feels could have been better done. Why did she do this? Because in her experience, the standard therapy left her son with an iatrogenic condition of not being willing to talk. And had it not been for the lone voice of Dr.

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