



TOP of the WEEK

The Tween Years

The Trouble With Al

The Metabolife War

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: DANUTA OTFINOWSKI, RON HAVIV—SABA FOR NEWSWEEK, LARA JO REGAN—LIAISON AGENCY

ON THE COVER: Tweens are kids from 8 to 14, and they're a **generation on fast forward**. A retailer's dream, they have a seemingly insatiable appetite for the latest thing. Are tweens growing up too fast? Why is this the age of obsession? And what can parents do? **A 2000 BALANCING ACT:** It's desperation versus triangulation. With Al Gore forced into **scrambling to secure his base**, George W. Bush is free to pull a Clinton, attacking extremists in his own party. **METABOLIFE MADNESS:** It's a billion-dollar diet drug, and it's at the center of a war between the manufacturer and the media. The Metabolife craze—and the debate over **its risks and rewards**.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

- Campaign 2000:** Al and W's Balancing Act by Howard Fineman22
- Presidency:** Funding the Clinton Library26
- Celebrities:** Riding the Wave With The Donald28
- New York:** Candidate Hillary vs. Mrs. Clinton29
- History:** Nixon and Anti-Semitism by Michael R. Beschloss30
- FBI:** Facing More Fire by Daniel Klaidman and Michael Isikoff32

INTERNATIONAL

- Nuclear Power:** The Next Chernobyl by Rod Nordland34
- 'Between the Lines':** Bomb Politics by Jonathan Alter41
- Russia:** Apocalypse Again in Chechnya?42
- Kosovo:** The Missing Men of Djakovica44

BUSINESS

- Mergers:** Behind the Phone Frenzy by Allan Sloan46
- Internet:** A Police Raid and a High-Flying Company50
- 'Judgment Calls':** The Gift of a Great Teacher by Robert J. Samuelson54

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- Diet:** Metabolife's PR Battle by Jamie Reno and John Leland56
- Environment:** The Shellfish Dead Zone by Peter Annin60

COVER: Photograph by James Smolka. Grooming by Chuck Jensen—Mark Edwards. Styling by Sonya McCoy—Mark Edwards. Clothing courtesy Ralph Lauren, Tommy Hilfger, Nike, Delia's, Jincó.

SOCIETY

- The Cover:** The Truth About Tweens by Barbara Kantrowitz and Pat Wingert62
- How Parents Can Help**71
- An Expert on the 'Age of Obsession'**72

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

- Movies:** Spike Jonze's Trip to the Big Screen74
- Opera:** An Arthur Miller Play Sings76
- Theater:** Great Dame Edna Everage76
- Film:** 'Fight Club's' Fistful of Darkness77
- TV:** Padre Alberto's Talk Show With Spirit78

FOCUS ON YOUR MONEY

- Investing:** Waiting for the Next Big Thing85
- Money Notes:** A New Way to Bounce Checks86
- 'Leading Questions':** Green Funds Beat the Averages by Jane Bryant Quinn88

DEPARTMENTS

- Periscope**4
- My Turn**12
- Cyberscope**16
- Letters**17
- Perspectives**21
- Newsmakers**90
- 'The Last Word' by Anna Quindlen**92

Newsweek

Letters to the Editor should be sent to NEWSWEEK, 251 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019-1894. In the U.S. send subscription inquiries to NEWSWEEK, P.O. Box 59967, Boulder, CO 80322-9967. NEWSWEEK (ISSN 0028-9604), October 18, 1999, Volume CXXXIV, No. 16. In Canada send subscription inquiries to NEWSWEEK, Inc., P.O. Box 4012, Postal Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W2K1. Canada Post International Publications Mail (Canadian Distribution) Sales Agreement No. 546593. Canadian GST No. 123-321-309. For all changes of address call 1-800-634-6850. For all other inquiries call 1-800-631-1040. Unless otherwise indicated by source or currency designation, all terms and prices are applicable in the U.S. only and may not apply in Canada. NEWSWEEK is published weekly, except for 2 issues combined into one at year-end, for US \$41.08 a year and Canadian \$61.88 a year, by NEWSWEEK, Inc., 251 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019-1894. Richard M. Smith, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief; Stephen Fuzesi Jr., Chief Counsel and Secretary. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. To order reprints (minimum order required: 500 copies) or request permission to publish a NEWSWEEK article, please call 212-445-4870 or fax 212-445-4929. POSTMASTERS: send address changes to NEWSWEEK, P.O. Box 59968, Boulder, CO 80328-9968. Printed in U.S.A.

Newsweek

**THE NEXT
CHERNOBYL**
**THE WAR OVER
METABOLIFE**

October 18, 1999 : \$3.50

www.newsweek.com

KIDS 8 to 14

**Are They
Growing
Up Too
Fast?**

Tweens

**What
Parents
Can Do**



MereMart.com
Gift Quality Vintage Merch

DBMX

#BXBCMDG** CAR-RT SORT ** C-040 0397
#001572564590016#JE00 NI-R
MS FLORENCE I WILLIS P08048H
APT 177 7625 N 1ST ST
FRESNO CA 93720-0959