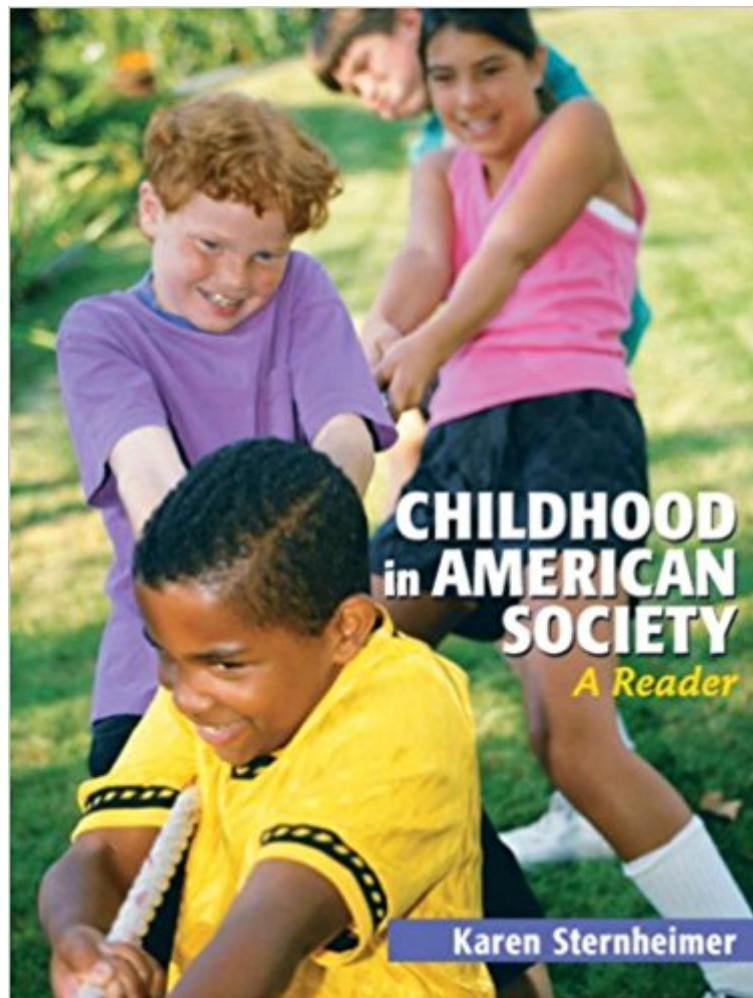




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# Childhood In American Society: A Reader



## Synopsis

This anthology from scholarly literature about children explores the ways society makes meaning of the period called childhood, the social forces that shape children, and the strategies children use to influence each other, their families, and the larger adult world. The anthology includes 34 readings in 7 topic areas: I. Meanings of Childhood II. Theorizing Childhood III. Studying Children IV. Relationships V. Constructing Race, Ethnicity and Gender VI. Popular Culture, Consumption and Play VII. Social Problems and Inequality

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Overall, this reader will provide an excellent, current, thoughtful, and much needed selection of work for courses in the sociology of childhood and interdisciplinary courses in childhood studies. • Dr. David M. Hummon, Holy Cross College It is a strong counterbalance to the endless developmental approaches to the study of childhood. There is a real need for this type of book. • Dr. Nancy Finley, University of Alabama Huntsville I would definitely adopt a book like this. There has been a real need for this type of book for quite some time. The theory in the sociological study of childhood has advanced far beyond the publications appropriate for student texts. I look forward to its publication. • Dr. Nancy Finley, University of Alabama Huntsville This reader has several strengths. First, it uses the New Sociology of Childhood approach, recognizing children as active agents in their own right. Second, the reader draws heavily from the authors who have forged new ground in sociology of children (Thorne, Corsaro, Prout and James, Fine, and Adlers) and also includes a variety of new authors who are moving that

work forward in exciting ways.Â Third, the organization is sound.Â It provides both historical and contemporary contexts and theoretical and methodological frameworks; then it covers childrenâ™s diversity and ends with some key issues.â • Dr. Sue Marie Wright, Eastern Washington University

This anthologyÂ from scholarly literature about childrenÂ explores the waysÂ society makes meaning of the period called childhood, the social forces that shape children, and the strategies children use toÂ influence each other, their families, and the larger adult world. The thirty four readings in *Childhood in American Society* examine how definitions of "normal" and "ideal" childhood change across place and time, and vary with differences of race, class, and gender. They challenge traditional development and socialization approaches to studying childhood, andÂ provide many examples based on ethnographies with children. Â Karen Sternheimer is a member of the Sociology Department at the University of Southern California. She is also the author of *Kids These Days: Facts and Fictions About Today's Youth* (Rowman & Littlefield) and *It's not the Media: The Truth About Pop Culture's Influence on Children* (Westview Press).

This was required in my sociology class. The reading was very dry although there were some enlightening articles. I will not go back to it as a resource.

This is the book I needed for class.

The book is very eye opening and different from most childhood books. I highly recommend reading it to get a different perspective of what childhood is and how it affects children in American culture.

This book was very interesting and I now wished I had not sold it. May purchase another in the future.

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