

# Contents

List of Illustrations	page ix
List of Boxes	xii
Preface	xv
<b>1 Where Do Children Come from?</b>	<b>1</b>
The Anthropologist's Veto	1
When Did Childhood Begin?	5
What's So Special about Human Childhood?	6
The Challenges of Studying Children in Culture	9
Outline of the Volume	12
<b>2 The Value of Children</b>	<b>27</b>
Introduction	27
Expensive Little Cherubs	28
Calculating the Costs	30
Delayed Personhood	35
Children as Chattel	48
Milk Debt	52
Child Adoption and Circulation	54
Child Labor	59
Children in Paradise	63
The Priceless Child	67
<b>3 To Make a Child</b>	<b>74</b>
Introduction	74
One Big, Unhappy Family	77
The Mother's Perspective	82
Pregnancy and Childbirth	84
Gene Roulette	90
Pink Ribbons or Blue, Many or Few?	92
Promoting Survival	97
Child Illness and Folk Medicine	101
Accounting for Death	106
The Extremes of High and Low Fertility	108



<b>4</b>	<b>It Takes a Village</b>	<b>115</b>
	Introduction	115
	Infant Care	117
	Alloparents as Mother's Helpers	122
	Going to Grandma's Place	128
	Absentee Fathers	131
	The End of Infancy	137
	Her Brother's Keeper	141
	Playing on the Mother Ground	145
	Childcare in Complex Society	146
	The Birth of Intensive Parenting	149
	The "Great" Transition	150
	Parenting in a Neontocracy	152
<b>5</b>	<b>Making Sense</b>	<b>161</b>
	Introduction	161
	The Wisdom of Babies	163
	Children as Spectators	165
	Learning in the Environment	169
	Exploration and Play with Objects/Tools	171
	It's Only Make-Believe	175
	Learning from Peers	179
	Fitting in to the Family Circle	181
	The Importance of Good Manners	187
	Socializing Aggression	193
	Controlling Children's Behavior: Obedience versus Freedom	196
	The Age of Reason	202
	Socializing Gender	206
	Teaching and Cultural Transmission	210
<b>6</b>	<b>Of Marbles and Morals</b>	<b>215</b>
	Introduction	215
	Marbles	216
	The Utility of Toys	219
	Blowing off Steam	223
	Constructing the Dominance Hierarchy	225
	Gamesmanship	227
	The Importance of the Playgroup	230
	The Universality of Make-Believe	233
	The Moral Lessons in Folklore	237
	How the Cultural Ethos Shapes Children's Play	240



Suppression of Play	244
Adult Contributions to Children's Play	248
<b>7 The Chore Curriculum</b>	<b>255</b>
Introduction	255
Work, Gender, and Identity	258
The Play Stage	263
Running Errands	268
Children Rebuffed or Redirected	271
Progress in the Chore Curriculum	275
Children as a Reserve Labor Force	288
Learning Crafts: Pottery, Weaving, Stone Tool Making	293
Apprenticeship	302
<b>8 Living in Limbo</b>	<b>308</b>
Introduction	308
Middle Childhood: The Path to Respect	310
Hangin'	313
Creating Warriors	317
Sexuality	322
Becoming a Woman	326
Marriage Arrangements	330
Adolescence and Social Change in Traditional Societies	333
<b>9 Taming the Autonomous Learner</b>	<b>339</b>
The Autonomous Learner	339
The Rise of Schooling: First the Stick, Then the Carrot	345
Village Schools	350
Schooling and Investment	360
Parents as Teachers	367
An Educated Woman	373
The Schooled Mind	376
<b>10 Elastic Childhood</b>	<b>381</b>
Introduction	381
Childhood Curtailed	382
Children as Breadwinners	384
Children without Parents	389
Street Culture	393
Children's Agency and the Plight of Children in Poverty	399
Overprotection	402
What Have We Learned?	408



References	419
Author Index	546
Topic Index	554
Society Index	558
Introduction	1
Work, Gender, and Identity	131
The Play Stage	137
Running Errands	141
Children Rejected or Rejected	145
Progress in the Chore Curriculum	146
Children as a Reserve Labor Force	149
Learning Crafts: Pottery, Weaving, Spinning, and Basketry	151
Apprenticeship	152
Living in Limbo	8
Introduction	151
Middle Childhood: The Path to Respect	151
Hangin'	151
Creating Wardens	151
Sexuality	151
Becoming a Woman	171
Marriage Arrangements	175
Adolescence and Social Change in Traditional Societies	181
Pitting in to the Circle	181
Taming the Autonomous Learner	181
The Autonomous Learner	181
The Rise of Schooling: First the State, Then the Church	181
Village Schools	202
Schooling and Investment	202
Parents as Teachers	202
An Educated Woman	212
The Schooled Mind	212
Elastic Childhood	212
Introduction	212
Childhood Curtailed	212
Children as Breadwinners	212
Children without Parents	212
Street Culture	212
Children's Agency and the Right of Children in Poverty	212
Overprotection	212
What Have We Learned? Let's Rebuild a World of Childhood	212
References	419
Author Index	546
Topic Index	554
Society Index	558
Introduction	1
Work, Gender, and Identity	131
The Play Stage	137
Running Errands	141
Children Rejected or Rejected	145
Progress in the Chore Curriculum	146
Children as a Reserve Labor Force	149
Learning Crafts: Pottery, Weaving, Spinning, and Basketry	151
Apprenticeship	152
Living in Limbo	8
Introduction	151
Middle Childhood: The Path to Respect	151
Hangin'	151
Creating Wardens	151
Sexuality	151
Becoming a Woman	171
Marriage Arrangements	175
Adolescence and Social Change in Traditional Societies	181
Pitting in to the Circle	181
Taming the Autonomous Learner	181
The Autonomous Learner	181
The Rise of Schooling: First the State, Then the Church	181
Village Schools	202
Schooling and Investment	202
Parents as Teachers	202
An Educated Woman	212
The Schooled Mind	212
Elastic Childhood	212
Introduction	212
Childhood Curtailed	212
Children as Breadwinners	212
Children without Parents	212
Street Culture	212
Children's Agency and the Right of Children in Poverty	212
Overprotection	212
What Have We Learned? Let's Rebuild a World of Childhood	212