



AMERICAN CHILDHOOD

A Photographic History

TODD BREWSTER

American Childhood

Anne Scott MacLeod



American Childhood:

Shapers of American Childhood Kathy Merlock Jackson, Mark I. West, 2018-10-08 The experience of growing up in the U S is shaped by many forces Relationships with parents and teachers are deeply personal and definitive Social and economic contexts are broader and harder to quantify Key individuals in public life have also had a marked impact on American childhood These 18 new essays examine the influence of pivotal figures in the culture of 20th and 21st century childhood and child rearing from Benjamin Spock and Walt Disney to Ruth Handler Barbie s inventor and Ernest Thompson Seton founder of the Boy Scouts of America

The Vietnam War in American Childhood Joel P. Rhodes, 2019 A sort of nebulous sad thing happening forever and ever childhood socialization to the Vietnam War Why couldn t I fight in a nice simpler war comic books and Mad magazine Who bombed Santa s workshop militarizing play with commercial war toys One of the most agonizing years of my life knowing someone in Vietnam Mom tried to make it for us like he wasn t even gone father separation and reunion God bless dad wherever you are POW MIA How come the flags around town aren t flying at half mast Gold Star children Yes I am My Lai but My Lai is better than Viet Cong Vietnamese adoptees and Amerasians

American Childhood Todd Brewster, 2023-05-23 A remarkable collection of over 200 stunning photographs of children from the Civil War era to the present that captures the ever changing experience of childhood throughout American history Did Americans invent childhood Author Todd Brewster believes we did or at least childhood as a period of life cordoned off from that of full maturity covered with a veil of protection and subject to a program of nurture That s the inspiration behind this rich compelling volume of rarely seen historical images drawn from the photography collections at the Library of Congress The Metropolitan Museum of Art the New York Public Library and the Magnum Photo Agency as well as dozens of other archives flea markets and antique shops The result is a carefully curated paean to American youth 200 plus photos from all parts of American history joined by a series of deeply insightful essays on the topic of the American child American Childhood reveals American children of all types white Black gay straight poor middle class upper class in cities on farms at work at play lost in reverie posing for the camera or captured in their innocence as the lens gazes at them from afar Some of them would go on to fame A young Mark Twain is here So is a juvenile Thomas Edison Shirley Temple Lady Gaga Sammy Davis Jr Truman Capote and dozens of others Can you see the spark of genius in the life of a child Brewster thinks so Still most subjects here are unknown in many cases a photograph may be the only public trace they have left behind Both a powerful study of American childhood and a beautiful gallery of extraordinary photography American Childhood is a terrific addition to an under appreciated part of American history

American Childhood Anne Scott MacLeod, 1995-10-01 In this collection of fourteen essays Anne Scott MacLeod locates and describes shifts in the American concept of childhood as those changes are suggested in nearly two centuries of children s stories Most of the essays concern domestic novels for children or adolescents stories set more or less in the time of their publication Some essays also draw creatively on childhood memoirs travel

writings that contain foreigners observations of American children and other studies of children s literature The topics on which MacLeod writes range from the current politicized marketplace for children s books to the reestablishment and reconfiguration of the family in recent children s fiction to the ways that literature challenges or enforces the idealization of children MacLeod sometimes considers a single author s canon as when she discusses the feminism of the Nancy Drew mystery series or the Orwellian vision of Robert Cormier At other times she looks at a variety of works within a particular period for example Jacksonian America the post World War II decade or the 1970s MacLeod also examines books that were once immensely popular but currently have no appreciable readership the Horatio Alger stories for example and finds fresh intriguing ways to view the work of such well known writers as Louisa May Alcott Beverly Cleary and Paul Zindel

An American Childhood Annie Dillard, 1989 Appearing on bestseller lists everywhere including five weeks on the New York Times bestseller list the hardcover edition of this title instantly captured the hearts of readers across the country with its joyous exhilarating memories of growing up in the 1950s

My American Childhood Pasquale De Marco, 2025-08-10

My American Childhood is a book about the American experience It is a book about the things that make America unique the things that make Americans proud to be Americans It is also a book about the challenges that Americans face and the things that need to be done to make America a better place for all Pasquale De Marco was born and raised in America He is a product of the American public school system He has served in the American military He has worked in the American economy He has raised a family in America He has seen the best and worst of America Pasquale De Marco believes that America is the greatest country on Earth He believes that America has the potential to be a beacon of hope and freedom for the world But he also knows that America has a long way to go America needs to address the challenges that it faces and make America a more just and equitable society This book is Pasquale De Marco s attempt to contribute to that conversation He hopes that it will help readers to understand the American experience and inspire them to work towards a better future for our country America is a land of opportunity It is a place where anyone can achieve their dreams regardless of their background or circumstances But opportunity is not always equally distributed There are still too many barriers to success for too many Americans Americans need to work to break down those barriers Americans need to make sure that every American has a fair shot at success Americans need to invest in children schools and communities Americans need to make sure that everyone has access to affordable healthcare and housing America is a nation of immigrants America is a nation of people who have come from all over the world to build a better life for themselves and their families Immigrants have made America the great country that it is today But America needs to do more to welcome immigrants to the country America needs to make sure that immigrants have a fair chance to succeed America needs to protect the rights of immigrants and value their contributions to society America is a democracy America is a government of the people by the people and for the people But American democracy is under attack There are those who would undermine American democracy and silence the

voices of Americans Americans need to defend their democracy Americans need to make sure that everyone has the right to vote Americans need to make sure that elections are fair and free Americans need to make sure that their voices are heard America is a land of hope America is a place where anything is possible But Americans need to work to make sure that the American dream is a reality for all Americans Americans need to work to make sure that everyone has a fair shot at success Americans need to work to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to live a good life If you like this book write a review

An Un-American Childhood Ann Kimmage,1998-10-01 This is the story of a young woman s secret life behind the Iron Curtain

The End of American Childhood Paula S. Fass,2017-11-07 How American childhood and parenting have changed from the nation s founding to the present The End of American Childhood takes a sweeping look at the history of American childhood and parenting from the nation s founding to the present day Renowned historian Paula Fass shows how since the beginning of the American republic independence self definition and individual success have informed Americans attitudes toward children But as parents today hover over every detail of their children s lives are the qualities that once made American childhood special still desired or possible Placing the experiences of children and parents against the backdrop of social political and cultural shifts Fass challenges Americans to reconnect with the beliefs that set the American understanding of childhood apart from the rest of the world Fass examines how freer relationships between American children and parents transformed the national culture altered generational relationships among immigrants helped create a new science of child development and promoted a revolution in modern schooling She looks at the childhoods of icons including Margaret Mead and Ulysses S Grant who as an eleven year old was in charge of his father s fields and explored his rural Ohio countryside Fass also features less well known children like ten year old Rose Cohen who worked in the drudgery of nineteenth century factories Bringing readers into the present Fass argues that current American conditions and policies have made adolescence socially irrelevant and altered children s road to maturity while parental oversight threatens children s competence and initiative Showing how American parenting has been firmly linked to historical changes The End of American Childhood considers what implications this might hold for the nation s future

[The American Child](#) Steven Mintz,Distinguished University Professor of History Emeritus Peter N Stearns,Peter N. Stearns,2025-10 The American Child The Transformation of Childhood Since World War II is the most comprehensive and balanced account of contemporary American childhood to date Written by two leading authorities on the history of childhood it offers fresh insights into today s most pressing issues including the rise in childhood anxiety depression ADHD autism spectrum disorder and obesity as well as the profound effects of family changes like divorce single parenting and cohabitation The book also examines less discussed but equally critical topics such as shifting educational experiences the evolution of children s culture and the deepening diversity and inequality among children Going beyond popular explanations that blame social media or family breakdown this book uncovers the larger forces shaping modern childhood from economic transformation to government

policy It also underscores the indispensable role of history in understanding phenomena often seen as purely psychological or biomedical offering fresh perspectives on why issues like autism or dyslexia emerged and evolved as public concerns Combining historical depth with contemporary relevance The American Child provides the perspective society needs to grapple with the challenges and opportunities facing children today Provided by publisher [African American Children in Early Childhood Education](#) Iheoma U. Iruka, Stephanie M. Curenton, Tonia R. Durden, 2017-05-31 This book presents both the challenges and opportunities that exist for addressing the critical needs of black children who have been historically underserved in the U S education system

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