

Childhoods Today

In this Eleventh and final volume of *Childhoods Today* we present a brief review of the Journal's development and focus alongside a tribute to Doctoral and early career authors and the Editorial teams that have supported their development.

For the last decade, *Childhoods Today* has been an international, externally reviewed journal published by the Centre for the Study of Childhood and Youth at the University of Sheffield (UK). It has always been, and will remain, an open access journal. Articles are published in .pdf format and can be accessed free of charge. The Journal is archived by the British Library.

Childhoods Today was founded by Professor Adrian James of the University of Sheffield and the Norwegian Centre for Child Research (NOSEB) at the University of Trondheim as part of a commitment to nurturing the next generation of childhood studies researchers. The journal aimed to provide an international forum enabling the online publication of articles by postgraduate students (those studying for an MA, M.Phil. or PhD), as well as those who had recently completed their PhDs in the field of childhood studies.

The initial vision for *Childhoods Today* was to provide an opportunity for postgraduate research students and early career academics to begin their publishing careers in a supportive environment. The Journal drew upon the expertise of members of the international editorial board, renowned childhood studies scholars from across the globe, to provide positive, constructive yet rigorous peer review, enabling authors to develop confidence and competence in their writing skills. As new editors took over responsibility for the journal, this vision was maintained, constituting a key commitment within editorial teams.

Over its lifetime the journal has been ably and imaginatively guided by the hard work of a number of editors. Following the initial leadership of Professor Adrian James, Dr Afua Twum-Danso Imoh took over as editor and was succeeded by Dr Lisa Procter and Dr Abi Hackett. Pat Gordon-Smith (Managing Editor, Journals UCL IOE Press), Flavia Pires (Universidade Federal da Paraíba. Brasil) and Christiane Falcão (Universidade Federal de Pernambuco. Brasil) contributed to the success of the Journal as guest editors for a special issue of papers from the Institute of Education, University of London and a special issue focusing on Children and Childhoods in Latin America.

Editors and Editorial Assistants:

Professor Adrian James, Emeritus Professor of Applied Social Science, University of Sheffield

Dr Afua Twum-Danso Imoh, Lecturer in the Sociology of Childhood, University of Sheffield

Dr Lisa Procter, Lecturer, School of Childhood, Youth and Education Studies, Manchester Metropolitan University

Dr Abi Hackett, Research Fellow, School of Childhood, Youth and Education Studies, Manchester Metropolitan University

Victoria Earley, Doctoral Student, School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Sheffield.

Present and past members of the International Editorial Board

- Professor Myra Bluebond-Langner, University College London, UK
- Professor Jo Boyden, University of Oxford, UK
- Professor Linda Caldwell, Penn State University, USA
- Professor Ferran Casas, University of Girona, Spain
- Professor Susan Danby, Queensland University of Technology, Australia
- Professor Noel Dyck, Simon Fraser University, Canada
- Dr Eva Gulløv, Aarhus University, Denmark
- Professor Roger Hart, City University of New York, USA
- Professor Allison James, University of Sheffield, UK
- Professor Anne Trine Kjørholt, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Norway
- Professor Jill Corbin, Case Western Reserve University, USA
- Professor Bekir Onur, Ankara University, Turkey
- Professor Irene Rizzini, Potifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Professor Anne Smith, University of Otago, New Zealand
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- Professor Nigel Thomas, University of Central Lancashire, UK
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- Professor Martin Woodhead, University of Oxford, UK
- Michael Wyness, University of Warwick, UK
- Professor Jens Qvortrup, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Norway
- Associate Professor Deevia Bhana, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
- Professor Yolanda Corona, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco, Mexico

Following the publication of its first volume in 2007, the journal achieved a high level of International recognition. Over the next decade authors contributed to the internationalisation of childhood scholarship as *Childhoods Today* provided an outlet for research and researchers from Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Greece, India, Republic of Ireland, Japan, Madagascar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Serbia, Sweden, the UK and the USA. Authors have provided insights into children's childhoods and the everyday lives of children across the lifespan, from early years through to youth studies and have considered a diverse array of themes and contexts. Contributors have drawn attention to policy contexts framing children's childhoods and the social and political domains of children's lives. The particularities of both rural and urban childhoods have been illustrated and scholars have demonstrated sustained interest in children's mobilities, focusing on transnational families, children's migration, left behind children and micro-mobilities within the built environment. Attention has been drawn to child

labour, to media representations of children within diverse contexts and to the institutionalisation of children's lives. Children's understanding of morality has threaded through a number of contributions as have methodological discussions, particularly those focusing upon participatory approaches and ethical considerations in research with children and young people. Finally, articles have lent new insights into children's learning, literacy practices and the role of play, particularly in the lives of young children.

As academic pressures change, and higher education in particular becomes more heavily influenced by market considerations and subjected to research quality audits such as the UK Research Excellence Framework, space to provide the supportive formative publication outlet that has been the core vision of *Childhoods Today*, has become increasingly constrained. In 2017, the Centre for the Study of Childhood and Youth therefore took the decision to cease publication of *Childhoods Today*.

On behalf of the Centre for the Study of Childhood and Youth, I would like to offer our profound thanks to all members of the Editorial Team, members of the International Editorial Board and especially to all the contributors to this Journal. We hope that *Childhoods Today* provided a valuable early step for you as authors embarking on what will hopefully be long and rewarding academic careers.

Penny Curtis

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University of Sheffield.