Childhood and Youth in the Contemporary World

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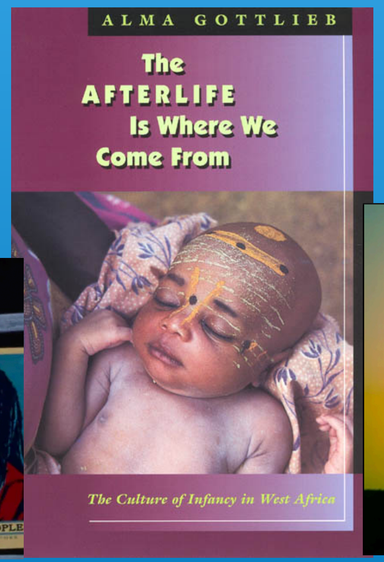

Module overview

Social sciences have long taken childhood and youth into account. However, these were often based on adults' views on children. This has shifted to an engagement with young people's own perspectives and practices in the contemporary world.

Every generation faces unique challenges. How do young people actively interact with and shape their environment in different social, political and economic contexts?

Module themes and issues:

- Theories of childhood and gender socialisation
- Researching with / about children and youth
- Bodies and selves
- Aspiration and education
- Migration and transnational relations
- Child labour
- Child and youth protection
- Children, youth and violence
- Children and youth activism

Broader theoretical discussions are complemented by in-depth ethnographic material from cultures and societies across the globe.

Module learning outcomes:

- Demonstrate a comprehensive grasp and critical analysis of the history of anthropological and other relevant disciplinary approaches to childhood
- Demonstrate thorough knowledge and critical awareness of a range of innovative ethnographic methods in child-centred research
- Demonstrate advanced and critical understanding of key themes, arguments and perspectives that arise from cross-cultural research on childhood
- Critically apply key concepts to a wide range of child-related ethnographic material
- Undertake advanced independent research, either field-or library based, on a topic relating to children and childhood

Assessment

- The module is assessed by a 5000 word term paper.
- You write your own essay question (with help and support from your module tutors) on any of the themes linked to the module.

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