INTL 433/533 Childhood in International and Cross-cultural Perspective

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Office hours to be announced

Course overview
In this course we will explore the experience of childhood around the world, and examine how this experience is shaped by beliefs about who and what children are as well as by local conditions and contingencies. We will need to weave together three separate strands throughout the quarter - beliefs about children and childhood, actual childhoods as lived experiences in different cultural settings, and important issues that cut across theoretical models and manifest in every human society.

This course is a seminar and active student participation is expected.

Readings
DeLoache & Gottlieb A World of Babies
Stephens Children and the Politics of Culture
Scheper-Hughes & Sargent Small Wars
Burr Vietnam's Children in a Changing World

Requirements
Annotated Bibliography of Readings (due in class on day reading is assigned - 18 in all)
By the end of this course, you will each have compiled an annotated bibliography which you will be able to use and refer to in future endeavours, such as a thesis, a grad school or scholarship application, or a grant proposal. An annotated bibliography consists of a summary and a separate critique of each reading assignment.

** Separate summary for each chapter or article, but the critique can integrate them.
** Critiques should respond to both the content of the reading, as well as the reading per se.
** Must include at least one question for discussion
** Must also include one quote (with page #) that most struck you, shocked you, informed you or challenged you, along with a statement (~1 paragraph) explaining why you chose that quote.
** 1-2 pp in length, single space, with a space between paragraphs
** Grading:
  "check plus" exceeds requirement: 4 pts
  "check" meets requirement: 3.5 pts
  "check minus" does not meet requirement: 2.5 pts

Fieldwork
Visit, observe, analyze and report on a child-related venue where you can observe "theories in action". Suggested locations include child care centers, schools, theme parks, toy stores, etc. (2-4 pp)

Parenting philosophy paper (2-4 pp)
This is your chance to reflect on how you were raised at home, at school and in the wider community and to explore your own parenting philosophy and/or your philosophy about the relationship between adults and children in your society.
**Graduate students**
Each of you will be responsible for leading class discussion on one day (10 pts)

**Attendance and in-class reflections**
You may miss one class, no questions asked. Attendance is mandatory, and 2 pts will be taken off for each missed class. From time to time, there will also be the opportunity for in-class writing assignments, asking you to reflect on a relevant and complex issue. These will not be graded, but 2 pts will be taken off for each one missed.

**Grading**
Based on a 100-point system as follows:
- Annotated bibliographies 68
- Parenting philosophy 15
- Fieldwork 15
- Oral report on fieldwork 2

**Extra credit**
Read *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah, and view *Blood Diamond*. Write a critical essay (2-4 pp) integrating the two, especially comparing Beah's firsthand account of being a child soldier with the portrayal in the feature film. How accurately is the life a child soldier portrayed in this feature film? Would you recommend it to anyone who wants to learn more about child soldiers? Can you suggest ways it could be improved? What did you learn from the book, and what did you learn from the movie? etc.

**Format for all assignments:** Single spaced, with a space between paragraphs. No electronic submissions, please. Assignments are due on time even if you miss class.
Schedule of topics and readings (subject to change)

Week 1
Tuesday, 6 January: no class
Thursday, 8 January: Overview, introductions, "Right to play"

Week 2
Tuesday, 13 January: Write up of World of Babies Foreward, Note, Ch. 1 & 2WOB Ch. 3, 4 & 7
Thursday, 15 January: WOB Ch. 5,6 & 8

Week 3
Tuesday, 20 January: Small Wars Introduction, Whiteford, Sargent & Harris
Thursday, 22 January: SW Picone, Morgan, Weiss

Week 4
Tuesday, 27 January: SW Olujic, Bourgois
Thursday, 29 January: SW Korbin, Scheper-Hughes & Hoffman, Goldstein

Week 5
Tuesday, 3 February: Children and the Politics of Culture Preface, Ch. 1,3 & 4
Thursday, 5 February: CPC Ch. 7 & 12

Week 6
Tuesday, 10 February: CPC Ch. 8 & 9
Thursday, 12 February: CPC Ch. 10 & 11

Week 7
Tuesday, 17 February: Convention on the Rights of the Child (CPC Appendix), Cultural Survival Quarterly Ennew
Thursday, 19 February: CSQ Rizzini & Klees, Baker, Reddy

Week 8
Tuesday, 24 February CSQ Ledward, Ledward & Mann, Peters
Thursday, 26 February: CSQ Boyden, Dale

Week 9
Tuesday, 3 March: Vietnam's Children in a Changing World Ch. 1-3
Thursday, 5 March: VCCW Ch. 4-6

Week 10
Tuesday, 10 March: VCCW Ch. 7-9
Thursday, 12 March:

Parenting philosophy, fieldwork writeup and extra credit due Tuesday, 17 March by 3 pm