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Children's Rights Towards Social Justice

Anne B. Smith

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HEALTH

Children's Rights: Towards Social Justice

A marked change in traditional thinking about children and childhood was promoted by the adoption by the United Nations (in 1989) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In the early 90s sociologists in the United States and the UK developed Childhood Studies to promote a holistic view of children's lives, recognition of their competence and agency, and the impact and value of their everyday experiences. As a result of this impetus, different thinking has emerged about the role and recognition of children, the institutions of childhood, and the way we view and treat children in modern societies.

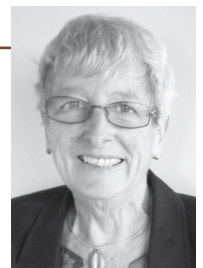
This book focuses on research emerging from Children's Rights and Childhood Studies thinking, which has important implications for developing policies and practices to improve children's well being and rights. The author presents the implications of children's rights for six contexts of children's everyday lives: families; early childhood education; schooling; child protection services; health services; and employment.

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About the Author: Anne B. Smith

Anne B. Smith professor emeritus at the University of Otago and adjunct professor at Southern Cross University, New South Wales. She was Director of the Children's Issues Centre, a research, education and advocacy centre for children's rights, from 1995 to 2006. Anne has been involved in teaching, research, policy development and advocacy about children and childhood since the 1970s. Her focus has been on such issues as family and early

childhood education influences, marital transitions, friendships and conflict, children's perspectives, and children's rights. She has published 132 peer-reviewed journal articles or book chapters and received an A grade in a recent New Zealand research assessment exercise (PBRF). Her career as a researcher and her many research publications, as well as her policy experience, will influence the content of this book.



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