



Encyclopedia of the Life Course and Human Development

NEW TITLE  This unique new reference explores three major life stages of human development from a sociological perspective: Childhood and Adolescence, Adulthood and Later Life. Serving as a basic research guide supporting undergraduate classes in the sociology of human development and life course studies, this first-of-its-kind guide is perfect for both survey courses as well as more targeted coursework in the sociology of childhood, adulthood and aging. Multidisciplinary in scope, it also supports studies in the range of factors related to the life course and human development.

Encyclopedia of the Life Course and Human Development examines in detail how enduring experiences, major transitions and events such as having children and childcare, education, stress, marriage, career, addiction, friendship, disease, spirituality and retirement influence and affect an individual's life course. Written by a team of more than 200 renowned contributors, each of the approximately 400 signed entries was peer-reviewed by an editorial board of academic experts specializing in life course sociology and human development.

Each volume in *Encyclopedia of the Life Course and Human Development* focuses on a major life stage in human development, exploring Childhood and Adolescence, Adulthood and Later Life. Each major stage is introduced with a detailed overview essay followed by individual topic entries that apply sociological as well as economic, biological, psychological and educational perspectives to a range of issues. Also covered are the range of sociological theories significant to life course studies;

the impact of social and governmental policies; and racial, gender and geographic patterns of major life course phenomena.

Indispensable for social science studies, *Encyclopedia of the Life Course and Human Development* brings together a wide range of information and perspectives on each of the three major life stages, meeting research needs in life course studies, sociology, psychology, gerontology, child development, family studies, gender studies, education, economics, occupational therapy, human ecology and other related fields. Articles covered in this comprehensive set include:

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