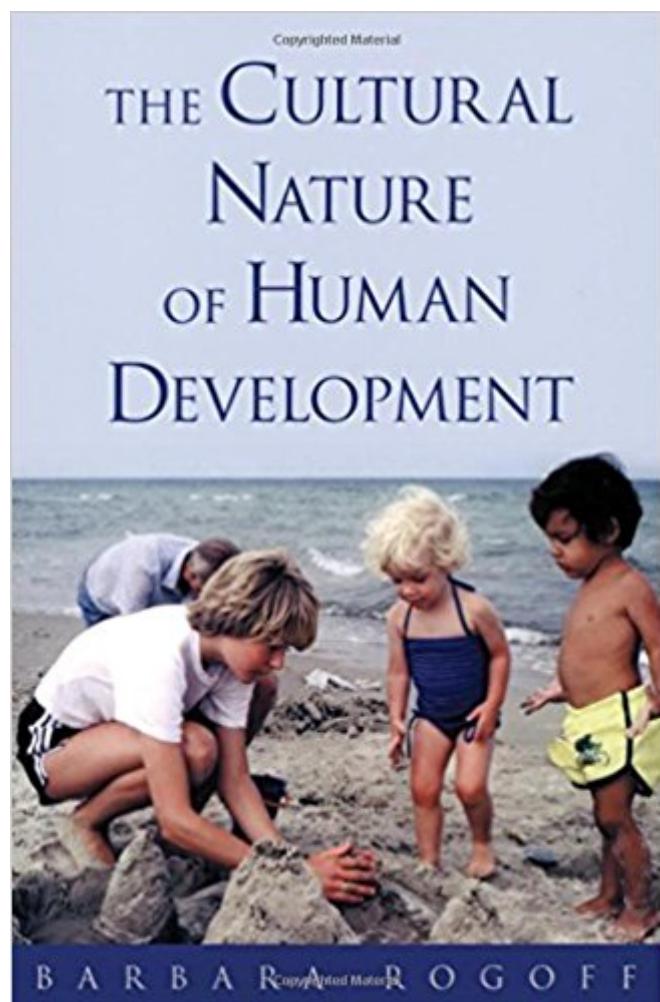


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The Cultural Nature Of Human Development



Synopsis

Three-year-old Kwara'ae children in Oceania act as caregivers of their younger siblings, but in the UK, it is an offense to leave a child under age 14 ears without adult supervision. In the Efe community in Zaire, infants routinely use machetes with safety and some skill, although U.S. middle-class adults often do not trust young children with knives. What explains these marked differences in the capabilities of these children? Until recently, traditional understandings of human development held that a child's development is universal and that children have characteristics and skills that develop independently of cultural processes. Barbara Rogoff argues, however, that human development must be understood as a cultural process, not simply a biological or psychological one. Individuals develop as members of a community, and their development can only be fully understood by examining the practices and circumstances of their communities.

Book Information

Hardcover: 448 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; Reprint edition (February 13, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0195131339

ISBN-13: 978-0195131338

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 1.1 x 6.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (22 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I used this book during my graduate program and still use this book today! I found it VERY helpful in the study of human development and would recommend this book to anyone studying child development!

We cannot understand the structure and organization of an adult human brain if we cannot account for how it developed. This beautifully written summary of a vast amount of developmental ethnography demonstrates the great diversity of human development, embedded as it is in specific

cultural practices. This book should be the springboard for a host of human cognitive and neuroanthropological studies.

Great book! Very interesting and full of rich information. We read this for homework every week and it has always kept me interested. The author has rich descriptive example of what she is talking about which is extremely helpful! It is also easy to read and understand.

This book has many interesting examples of how adults view children totally differently all over the world. What my culture considers appropriate and good for children may be considered abuse by another culture, and vice versa. I was fascinated by the diversity of culture around child-rearing. It made me question some of my culture's assumptions.

Rogoff's acclaimed concepts about how human development and culture naturally intertwine unfold in a highly intricate matter within this text. Like Jerome Bruner, her prose can overpopulate itself with too many techy terms for the average educator; however, if you can push through the woods of her thick style, you will uncover many truths about culture. As she puts forth, culture springs from the natural progression of social history and interaction. Each culture possesses its own scripts and nuances on what exists as "typical" development. I invite anyone to delve into her mind.

significant correction to narrow biological thinking about human behavior, psychology and psychiatry

I have this for a text book but it such a great read... I love when teachers use books that are not classic text books. This book was great to read and very well balanced.

Received book fairly quickly. The book was required for my class so it was not a novel of my choice. Although the book was not interesting to me, the book is written well.

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