



CHILDHOODS

2005 Oslo

*Children and Youth in Emerging and Transforming Societies*  
International Conference, University of Oslo, Norway  
June 29 – July 3, 2005

***Call for papers from the thematic group***

**Childhood research**  
**Changing perspectives in child and childhood research**

*Coordinators:*

Randi Dyblie Nilsen, dr.polit, The Norwegian Centre for Child Research (NOSEB)  
Gunilla Halldén, professor, Tema Barn, University of Linköping, Sweden

**Abstract due 15 January, 2005**

The title of the conference refers to a world where new ethno-cultural encounters, new markets, technology and globalization shape the structure of social change, of new childhoods and the lives of children and young people. Plenary sessions will relate to this theme of change. The conference will be made up of parallel sets of sessions hosted by different thematic networks.

The sessions on *Childhood research* will constitute a special focus on *Changing perspectives in child and childhood research* and welcomes contributions that illuminate and discuss 'new' and changing approaches across various thematic issues. This implies contributions that are studying children's everyday life, changing childhoods, and that emphasise the necessity of contextualisation and theoretical reflexivity.

Through a social constructionist perspective, children are understood as social actors that are inscribed in discourses of childhoods, which travel across local and global spaces. We highlight the importance of contextualised studies of children's everyday life in private, semi-public and public places (e.g. day-care centres, schools, neighbourhoods, family home).

For instance, children's everyday lives can be understood as processes of meaning making where children create local peer cultures as well as participating in cross-generational and wider processes of cultural (re)production. Furthermore, children's

daily lives are part of ongoing historical process. This exemplifies itself in a range of ways, such as institutionalisation, individualisation and familialisation.

We encourage explorative analysis of such issues as well as discussions on how changing childhoods are conceptualised in contemporary theoretical perspectives in child and childhood research.

- **We invite paper submissions for the session on *Childhood research Changing perspectives in child and childhood research***

We welcome abstracts of individual or co-authored papers as well as suggestions of a symposium (consisting of for example 4 papers and discussants) on a defined thematic issue. However, as is the case with abstracts for papers, symposium suggestions will be evaluated according to the above stated intentions of the thematic group of *Childhood research. Changing perspectives in child and childhood research.*

Abstracts are limited to 200 words.

The abstract can be registered through the conference web-site <http://childhoods2005.uio.no>. If this is a problem, abstracts can also be submitted by e-mail, marked "**Childhood research + Your name**" to the conference secretariat [childhoods@uv.uio.no](mailto:childhoods@uv.uio.no) or by mail (diskette) to the address below by **January 15, 2005**.

Mail address:  
"Childhoods 2005"  
University of Oslo  
Faculty of Education  
**Childhoods 2005 Oslo**  
P.O.Box 1161, Blindern  
NO-0318 Oslo, Norway

Final registration for the conference will close on March 15, 2005.  
For information regarding program, registration, conference fees and other practical issues see the conference website <http://childhoods2005.uio.no>

The purpose of the conference *Childhoods 2005* is to situate modern childhood and youth in a global perspective. Consumption and consumer culture have become an arena where matters of social class and status, exclusion and inclusion, participation, welfare, identity, life histories, sequencing of the life course, personal biographies and other well known social processes and mechanisms are played out with new and continuously renewed vehicles.