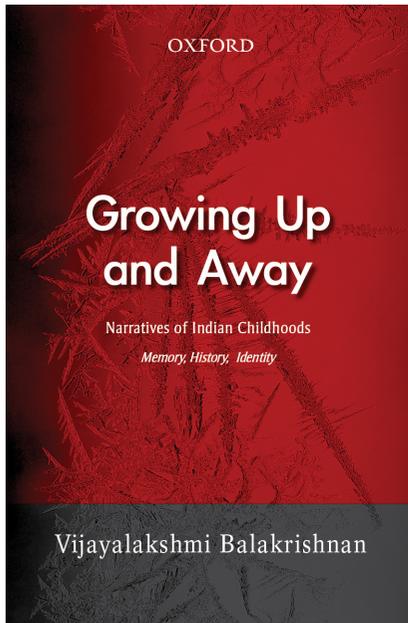


Growing Up and Away

Narratives of Indian Childhoods
Memory, History, Identity

VIJAYALAKSHMI BALAKRISHNAN



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About the Book

This book aims to expand our understanding of the role of institutions, norms, and key players in shaping the evolution of child rights in India. It traces the evolution of the child rights discourse in post-Independence India, suggesting that there are different and political ways of thinking about childhoods.

Divided into three parts, the book begins with analyses of the effects of Partition, which while creating new political and cultural identities framed the child-State relationship. The second part further examines the ways in which the multiplicity of discourses during the nationalist struggle gave way to a singular view, seen in later public conversations on children and their rights. The third part explores the narratives of continuity and change, and maps the departures of memory, history, and identity.

The book emphasizes the point that more than any other event or process, the violence and fears aroused by Partition have influenced the course of modern child development related policy-making. The relationship between the political and cultural identities of all the actors, who influenced the experience of childhoods, had also been deeply affected by these events.

Readership

This book offers invaluable insights to researchers and policymakers as well as students and teachers of law, social work, development studies, gender studies, and politics.

About the Author

Vijayalakshmi Balakrishnan has a Master's degree in development studies from the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, and a postgraduate diploma in social journalism from the Times School, New Delhi. She began her career in journalism and has spent the next 15 years working at the intersection of rights and social development programme management, both in India and overseas.

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