

Call for papers

Child and Teen Consumption 2016 Cultural Contexts, Relations and Practices

Aalborg University, Denmark, 27-29th April 2016.
PhD workshop 26th of April 2016

Aalborg University is happy to host the 7th Child and Teen Consumption conference.

For the 7th Child and Teen Consumption Conference the theme is: 'Child and Teen Consumption: Cultural Contexts, Relations and Practices'. Understanding child and teen consumption demands insight into the settings and ways in which consumption takes place and the conference will focus on the significance of relations, contexts, and practices.

As consumers, between peers, parents, markets, and media, children and teens navigate in contested fields. Being part of consumer society, on the one hand, means taking part in ubiquitous consumption, on the other hand it means experiencing or encountering messages about economic crises, bio hazards, environmental threats, and overconsumption.

Children's and teens' experiences of consumption come in many forms and shapes. Traditions for childrearing, cultural ideals for good childhood and family patterns, traditions for inviting to child participation, habits and routines coupled with impulses from markets, media and consumers, locally and globally, all set the frames for child and teen consumption. During the Child and Teen Consumption Conference in 2016 focus will be on how we can understand the contexts, relations and practices in which child and teen consumption is embedded.

Whether this involves mundane or out-of-the-ordinary consumption in Western societies, children's consumption in developing or emergent markets, in former Communist settings or in societies with a growing movement of contested consumption or in virtual worlds, the way child and teen consumption plays out is fascinating to investigate. New theoretical and methodological approaches along with new empirical studies are sought to how child and teen consumption can be understood and explored, particularly through the voices of children and teens themselves, but also through their parents, markets, institutions, media and through historical perspectives.

The conference is interdisciplinary, inviting contributions from anthropology, cultural studies, history, consumer studies, marketing, media, policy, sociology, economy, psychology, childhood studies, tourism studies, etc.

Keynote speakers will include Professor Linda Price from University of Arizona, Associate Professor Allison Pugh from University of Virginia, and Professor Anna Sparrman from Linköping University.

The following tracks on child and teen consumption are suggested, but other ideas for special sessions and tracks are welcome:

- Historical and social contexts in consumption
- Consumption practices
- Part of the family: Parent/child negotiations and socialization
- Childhood autonomy: Independent consumers and co-producers of culture
- Children as consumers of places and spaces
- Earning money, spending money, saving money
- Virtual worlds: the role of (social) media and digital media literacy
- Advertising and its new interactive forms
- Branding and marketing
- Food, health and well-being
- Gender, ethnicity and inequality
- Political consumption, anti-consumption and resistance
- Sustainability, food waste and environmental concerns
- Globalization and regional differences
- New risks: obesity, overconsumption and debt
- Reinventing methodologies
- Theorizing child and teen consumption

Special Session:

Children's and teenagers' food practices in contexts of poverty and inequality

Convenors

Dr Rebecca O'Connell, Senior Research Officer, UCL Institute of Education, UK

Dr Wendy Wills, Reader in Food and Public Health, University of Hertfordshire, UK

Important dates

Submit abstract: September 1st 2015

Application for PhD workshop: November 1st 2015

Notification of acceptance: November 30th 2015

Submission of final version of abstract: January 15th, 2016

Early bird registration deadline: February 15th, 2016

Submitted abstracts can be max 1000 words and must contain a brief abstract of 50-100 words.

Submitted abstracts must present original work, and must explain use of methods and theory and the contribution of the work.

The conference language will be English.

We look forward to seeing you in Aalborg in 2016

Malene Gram
Anette Therkelsen
Bodil Stilling Blichfeldt
Pernille Hohnen
Julie Skibsted Larsen
Maxine Johnson

The organizing committee