

Registration
now open!

Becoming Human? Childhood, Development and the Human Sciences

Colloquium 2025

Monday 23rd June 9.15am-5.30pm
Centre for the History of Childhood
Magdalen College Oxford | Online

Register to attend in person, Oxford, UK: <https://becominghumaninperson.eventbrite.co.uk/>
Register to attend online: <https://becominghumanonline.eventbrite.co.uk/>

9.15	Welcome - Julia Gustavsson (University of Oxford)
9.30-11.00	Age and the State Kristine Alexander (University of Lethbridge) <i>'Infants in the eyes of the law': Age and Development in the History of Canadian Indian Policy</i> Jessamy Carlson (The National Archives) <i>'Lorry girls': absconding and the adultification of girls in government discourse</i> Vicky Taylor (University of Oxford) <i>Adultified and criminalised: the construction of childhood in the UK government's response to people arriving on 'small boats'</i>
11.15-12.05	Keynote Paper - Laura Tisdall (University of Newcastle) <i>'It wasn't about trying to be adults': becoming child-ish in late Cold War Britain</i>
12.50-1.40	Keynote Paper - Bonnie Evans (University of Manchester) <i>Why internationalism matters to the history of childhood: The World Health Organisation and universal approaches to neurodevelopment, 1948-2025</i>
1.45-3.00	Developing Bodies Suzanna Winterbourne (University of Oxford) <i>'People are apt to look upon the subject in a wholly frivolous way': children's dress, growth and movement in British popular literature (1880-1914)</i> Shereece Linton-Ramsay (University of Oxford) <i>Staff discipline and Black children's responses at New York juvenile prisons (1915-1950)</i> Serena Iacobino (Université Libre de Bruxelles) <i>Degeneration theories and the construction of the 'new imperial child': the case of girls' education in colonial Congo (1908-1960)</i> Leting Zheng (University of Oregon) <i>Competing (R)evolutionary narratives: children, labour and happiness during the Great Leap Forward (1958-1962)</i> Charlie Bell (Kings's College, London) <i>'Food for thought': the (pseudo)science of child development in late 20th century Britain</i>
3.15-4.45	Normalisation and Welfare Hugh Morrison (University of Otago) <i>Colonisation and the language of age: southern New Zealand (1848-1868)</i> Katie Joice (Birkbeck College, University of London) <i>The limits of Bowlbyism: disability, social policy, and the 'right to childhood' in 1970s Britain</i> Thomas Parkinson (University of Cambridge) <i>Becoming a normal, voluble human: on speech and hearing science in India</i>
4.50-5.25	Keynote Commentary – Sally Shuttleworth (University of Oxford) <i>Recording childhood: from baby biographies to neuroscience</i>

Find out more about the Centre for the History of Childhood: <https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/centre-history-childhood>.

Join the Centre's mailing list: <https://web.maillist.ox.ac.uk/ox/info/history-of-childhood>

Image: Eadward Muybridge, *Animal Locomotion* (1887), plate 481 [Wellcome Public Domain Collection](#)



MAGDALEN COLLEGE
OXFORD

FACULTY OF
HISTORY