



At the Threshold: The Developing Adolescent

By S. Shirley Feldman, Glen R. Elliott

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Adolescents embody the best hopes of American society. Their vital role in shaping our future lends particular significance to their success in negotiating the passage from childhood to adulthood, while their intensity and visibility often make them barometers of social change. It is all the more remarkable, then, that this critical period has only recently captured the full attention of researchers. *At the Threshold* presents the long-awaited findings of the Carnegie Foundation study on adolescence. It offers a comprehensive overview of what investigators are learning about normal development and provides an interdisciplinary synthesis of research into the biological, social, and psychological changes occurring during this key stage in the life span. While focusing on the contexts of adolescent life - social and ethnic, family and school, leisure and work-it also addresses how researchers are doing in the effort to understand the intersection of processes that initiate and sustain adolescent development and to characterize the extraordinary changes that occur during these years. Contrary to popular belief, large numbers of young people continue to mature into productive members of society. *At the Threshold* seeks to allow professionals and nonprofessionals alike important access to the reality of normal adolescent experience. The authors recognize that only if we begin to understand and clearly articulate the parameters of successful adolescent development can we hope to intervene with those individuals whose lives seem aimed toward unsatisfactory futures.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Funded by the Carnegie Foundation, this book is a summary of groundbreaking research. Individual chapters are written by leading authorities on adolescence from the fields of education and social science and cover issues ranging from the biological to the historical and sociocultural roots of adolescence. The chapters are somewhat uneven but are generally scholarly, and yet written so as to be accessible to interested laypersons. Of particular relevance are those that put an up-to-date focus on the problems of minority youth. Given the volume's strengths, it is disappointing that many of the chapters are somewhat redundant and too often have a bland atheoretical "scientific" focus. Statistical generalities about the "normal" adolescent predominate over the excitement (and, yes, turmoil) of the non-normative individual. The book is therefore of greatest interest to scholars in related social sciences.

- *Paul Hymowitz, New York Medical Coll.*

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Review

An impressive and useful volume that will have a major impact on the field. (Dale A. Blyth, Executive Secretary of the Society for Research on Adolescence, and Director, American Medical Association Center for Adolescent Health Analysis.)

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Elizabeth Ashton:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be up-date about what going on or information even knowledge to make them keep up with the era which is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe can update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what type you should start with. This At the Threshold: The Developing Adolescent is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and need in this era.

Anna Elam:

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