Special Issue Proposals

From the Autumn of 2014, Childhood only considers Special Issue proposals after an Open Call announcement or by invitation. Please check the website regularly.

Guest Editors who have been invited to be responsible for a Special Issue of Childhood should note the following guidelines for a proposal:

- A statement of the overall concept of the special issue, its thematic coherence and especially how it relates to the aims and scope of Childhood.

- A bridged (2-3 page) CV for the special issue editor, indicating any editorial experience with peer-reviewed publications.

- An indication of the scholars and venues where this topic or issue has been addressed—i.e., conference, edited volumes, articles—to give a sense of its importance as something worthy of focused examination.

Editorial guidelines

Special issues must conform to the standards and practices of Childhood. These include articles that are no longer than 7000 words, including all notes and references and usually 8-9 articles per issue. Guest Editors and contributors should consult “Notes for Contributors” found at the back of any issue of the Journal. A Guest Editor is expected to write a brief (2000-3000 word) Introduction to the Special Issue outlining the content theme and contents. Guest Editors should expect a process of about 14-16 months from when the Call for Papers has been announced and until the submitted papers have been reviewed, accepted and are ready for further production.

Reviewing procedures

Guest Editors are responsible for all aspects of the editorial process, including obtaining at least 2 blind peer review assessments per submission. Once a special issue has been approved by the journal Editors to begin the review process, an Editor will be assigned to assist the Guest Editor(s) and to oversee the special issue. Guest Editors work closely with the assigned journal Editor in all matters of review, editorial policy and the ultimate dispensation of the special issue.

In the case where a Guest Editor(s) wishes to submit her/his work for consideration for publication in the special issue—other than the Introduction—the assigned Childhood Editor will oversee the review process for that manuscript.

It is important to note that the final determination of any and all submissions for an approved special issue rest in the hands of the Editors of Childhood. This determination is always based on the overall quality of the submissions and their relevance the journal’s readership and mission. Approval to move ahead on a special issue does not guarantee that all proposed submissions necessarily will be included. If a successfully reviewed and accepted submission does not make it into the proposed
special issue, effort will be made to include it in a subsequent issue of *Childhood*. In addition to issues of quality and mission, considerations of space as well as policies put forth by Sage Publications may play a part in the final determination of what is included in the special issue. For the same reasons, the timing of a special issue cannot be guaranteed.

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The Editors of *Childhood*