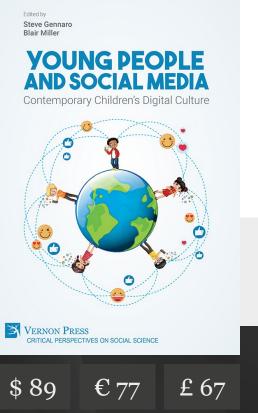Edited by Steve Gennaro, Blair Miller

# Young People and Social Media

*Contemporary Children's Digital Culture*

CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIAL SCIENCE

## Summary

'Young People and Social Media: Contemporary Children's Digital Culture' explores the practices, relationships, consequences, benefits, and outcomes of children's experiences with, on, and through social media by bringing together a vast array of different ideas about childhood, youth, and young people's lives. These ideas are drawn from scholars working in a variety of disciplines, and rather than just describing the social construction of childhood or an understanding of children's lives, this collection seeks to encapsulate not only how young people exist on social media but also how their physical lives are impacted by their presence on social media. One of the aims of this volume in exploring youth interaction with social media is to unpack the structuring of digital technologies in terms of how young people access the technology to use it as a means of communication, a platform for identification, and a tool for participation in their larger social world. During longstanding and continued experience in the broad field of youth and digital culture, we have come to realize that not only is the subject matter increasing in importance at an immeasurable rate, but the amount of textbooks and/or edited collections has lagged behind considerably. There is a lack of sources that fully encapsulate the canon of texts for the discipline or the rich diversity and complexity of overlapping subject areas that create the fertile ground for studying young people's lives and culture. The editors hope that this text will occupy some of that void and act as a catalyst for future interdisciplinary collections. 'Young People and Social Media: Contemporary Children's Digital Culture' will appeal to undergraduate students studying Child and Youth Studies and—given the interdisciplinary nature of the collection— scholars, researchers and students at all levels working in anthropology, psychology, sociology, communication studies, cultural studies, media studies, education, and human rights, among others. Practitioners in these fields will also find this collection of particular interest.

## About the editor

**Dr. Steve Gennaro** holds a Ph.D. from McGill University. In his thesis, he explored the intersections of media, technology, psychology, and youth identity. He completed a Postdoc in Philosophy of Education at UCLA with Douglas Kellner. Apart from being one of the founding members of the Children, Childhood, and Youth Studies Program at York University, Steve is the author of 'Selling Youth' and co-author of 'The Googleburg Galaxy' (forthcoming in 2022). He regularly publishes in areas related to the philosophy of technology, education, critical theory, and media studies of youth, identity, and politics.

**Blair Miller** is a published author and poet. He has a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy and a Master's in Film Studies, and his scholarship and publications continue to explore the connections between the self and media technologies. Blair teaches at York University in the Department of Humanities and the Department of Film Studies, where he has taught Stories in Diverse Media, Popular Technology and Cultural Practice, and Information and Technology, among others, for the last decade.

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