

Call for Abstracts


Children, Youth & Environments

for a Special Issue of

Children, Youth and Environments

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“Children, Violence, Community and the Physical Environment”

Guest Editor

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Key words

Children, youth, violence, community, place, physical environments, harmful environments, on-line environments, child friendly environments, environmental psychology, design and violence, children's freedom of movement.

Aims

The aim of this issue is to explore the influence of the community and physical environment / place on violence against children. Violence and abuse of children have received much attention from researchers and policymakers in recent times. However, the physical environment in which violence occurs is not often a focus. This special issue of *Children, Youth and Environments* shall examine the interplay between the communities in which children live, the physical parameters of these environments and the nature and incidence of violence experienced by children and young people - that is, the socio-ecological factors which moderate or aggravate violence against children. The primary aim shall be to examine the physical environment in which community relations occur and the effect these have on violence against children / youth, or the creation of places of refuge and healing.

All papers should concern themselves with aspects of place. They should make clear how children enact their lives in particular places and how specific place-related characteristics affect their safety.



Expressions of interest

One-page abstracts of your paper ideas (up to 200 words) should be sent by **November 30, 2011** to Dr. Kevin Lalor <kevin.lalor@dit.ie> and copied to <cye@colorado.edu>. A selection of abstract authors will be invited to submit full papers for peer review. Full papers will be due by **April 30, 2012**. Abstracts should mention how the ideas in the full paper will apply directly to research or practice.

Abstracts for research papers, reviews and field reports may be submitted. Abstracts that offer a comparative or international perspective are particularly welcome.

Illustrative Questions

The following questions are intended to illustrate the parameters of the debate and discussion. Authors are invited to submit papers that address one or more of these questions, or related questions.

1. What role does the physical environment play in violence against children?
2. What design features of children's environments minimise violence?
3. In places of heightened violence (eg, war zones; unsupervised cityscapes), what steps can be taken to protect children from violence and abuse?
4. What community structures or housing or living arrangements can help protect children from violence and abuse?
5. How can we incorporate children's physical environments (homes, neighbourhoods, streets, parks, schools) into initiatives to reduce violence against children, and create child friendly environments?
6. What are good practices to create physical environments that protect children from violence and abuse or promote healing if violence has occurred?
7. What factors are operating in the unequal protection from violence based on where children live?
8. What are children's perceptions of place and safety in their communities?
9. How do physical environments facilitate and hinder the coping responses of children exposed to violence?
10. How can design features minimise violence in school communities?
11. Are there physical environments that facilitate violence against children?
12. What role does 'community supervision' play and how is this moderated by the physical landscape, or place?