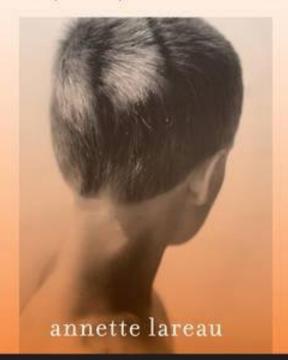


CLASS, RACE, AND FAMILY LIFE



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2011-09-20

Language : English

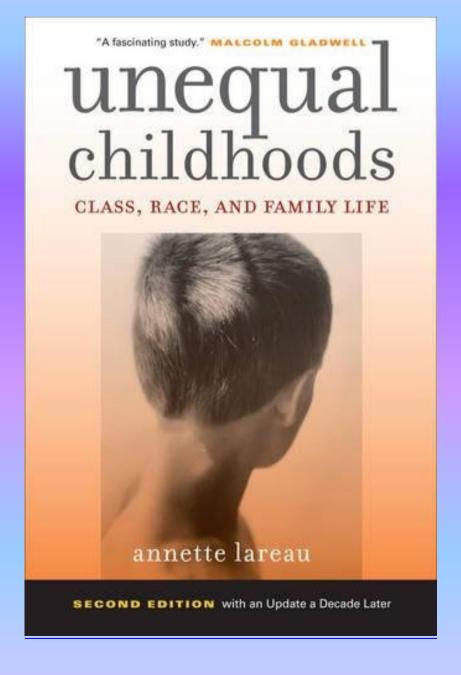
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ABOUT THE BOOK

Class does make a difference in the lives and futures of American children. Drawing on indepth observations of black and white middleclass, working-class, and poor families, Unequal Childhoods explores this fact, offering a picture of childhood today. Here are the frenetic families managing their children's hectic schedules of "leisure" activities; and here are families with plenty of time but little economic security. Lareau shows how middle-class parents, whether black or white, engage in a process of "concerted cultivation" designed to draw out children s talents and skills, while working-class and poor families rely on "the accomplishment of natural growth," in which a child s development unfolds spontaneously—as long as basic comfort, food, and shelter are provided. Each of these approaches to childrearing brings its own benefits and its own drawbacks. In identifying and Read more



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