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WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS-2023

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CTD: 18CY- CHILDREN, YOUTH AND CHILDHOOD: CROSS CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES
SUB-DOMAIN: CHILDHOOD RESEARCH: METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES & CHALLENGES

PANEL TITLE: ETHNOGRAPHY OF CHILDREN AND CHILDHOOD

CONVENOR: PROF. GEETIKA RANJAN

ABSTRACT

Ethnographic writings on children show lack of adequate focus on children and their issues. Sporadic writings which do speak about them, discuss them from the perspectives of the adults and children's voices are conspicuous with their absence. There has been an almost unspoken acceptance of the mindset that children and their issues are anything but to be taken seriously. Nevertheless, with time a growing consciousness has been witnessed amongst people from diverse fields and vocations towards understanding children and their lives keeping children at the core. Fieldwork is the cornerstone of Anthropology. Ethnography is both the process and the product. Taking an insider's perspective of a culture is one of the hallmarks of Anthropology. Anthropology has contributed immensely towards making ethnographic research a pivotal part of the methodology applied to understand humans and their ways. It has influenced other disciplines which too have underscored the relevance of ethnographic research. The panel brings together diverse presentations on ethnographic experiences with children. In the common thread of ethnography of children, the perspectives of a fiction writer, a historian, activists, and anthropologists shall together explore the rich understanding of children and childhood through lived experiences.

Keywords: Ethnography, field, fiction,

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