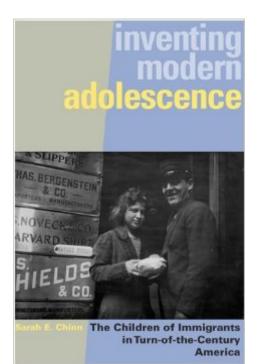
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# Inventing Modern Adolescence: The Children Of Immigrants In Turn-of-the-Century America (Rutgers Series In Childhood Studies)





## Synopsis

The 1960s are commonly considered to be the beginning of a distinct "teenage culture" in America. But did this highly visible era of free love and rock 'n' roll really mark the start of adolescent defiance? In Inventing Modern Adolescence Sarah E. Chinn follows the roots of American teenage identity further back, to the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth centuries. She argues that the concept of the "generation gap"â "a stereotypical complaint against American teensâ "actually originated with the division between immigrant parents and their American-born or -raised children. Melding a uniquely urban immigrant sensibility with commercialized consumer culture and a youth-oriented ethos characterized by fun, leisure, and overt sexual behavior, these young people formed a new identity that provided the framework for today's concepts of teenage lifestyle.Addressing the intersecting issues of urban life, race, gender, sexuality, and class consciousness, Inventing Modern Adolescence is an authoritative and engaging look at a pivotal point in American history and the intriguing, complicated, and still very pertinent teenage identity that emerged from it.

## **Book Information**

Series: Rutgers Series in Childhood Studies Paperback: 216 pages Publisher: Rutgers University Press (November 5, 2008) Language: English ISBN-10: 081354310X ISBN-13: 978-0813543109 Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.6 x 8.8 inches Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (1 customer review) Best Sellers Rank: #644,459 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #373 in Books > History > Americas > United States > Immigrants #589 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Children's Studies #913 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Children's Studies #913 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Children's Marking #100 for the state = 100 f

## **Customer Reviews**

Chinn's argument, that early 20th century immigrant youth were the first teenagers (conceptualized as having disposable income and out of control desires) is the kind of "wow, why didn't anyone think of that before?" that can completely change your way of thinking about history. On top of that, Chinn

### is a clear and engaging writer. Great book!

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