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## Ylva Ågren

University of Gothenburg

Ylva Ågren, Senior Lecturer in Child and Youth Studies at the Department of Education, Communication and Learning at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. Ågren and Sparrman are both currently working with the research project “Children as professional Influencers and Internet Celebrities”.

## Amina Ally

Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Amina is a PhD Candidate specializing in Child Studies within the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning as part of the Critical Child and Youth Studies (CCYS) research group at NTNU. Amina's research focuses on children's cultural identity, belonging and citizenship, in relation to popular culture and digital media. Her research interests include decolonial and intersectional approaches to childhood, posthumanism, embodied inquiry and arts-based/creative approaches to research.

## Meredith A. Bak

Rutgers University

Meredith A. Bak is an Associate Professor of Childhood Studies at Rutgers University. She is the author of *Playful Visions: Optical Toys and the Emergence of Children's Media Culture* (MIT Press, 2020). Her work has appeared in journals including *Ninth Letter*, *The Journal for Cinema and Media Studies*, *Early Popular Visual Culture*, *The Velvet Light Trap*, and *Film History*, and in several edited collections. She is at work on a project about the role of cardboard in children's environmental pedagogy.

## Khadija Baig

MediaSmarts

Khadija Baig, Research and Evaluation Associate at MediaSmarts. Khadija supports the planning, implementation and dissemination of key findings from original MediaSmarts' research studies and program evaluations. Khadija is also a Research Associate at Carleton University's Human Oriented Research in Usable Security lab.

## Tina Benigno

Albertus Magnus College

Tina Benigno is an Assistant Professor and Advisor in the English & Communications department at Albertus Magnus College in Connecticut. Tina completed her PhD in 2021 at York where she

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specialized in girlhood, and young people's media and cultures. Tina holds a MA in Film Studies from York and a BA in Cinema, English, and Italian Studies at the University of Toronto.

## Lies Beugnies

Ghent University

Lies Beugnies is a PhD researcher in Communication Sciences at Ghent University in Belgium. Her research interests lie within sustainable and healthy food promotion, child and family food consumption and consumer behavior in general. In her PhD project, she investigates how children and families can be persuaded to eat more environmental friendly food options and waste less food.

## Pat Bonner

Concordia University

Pat is a PhD candidate in Film and Moving Image Studies at Concordia University and a coordinator for the Global Emergent Media Lab. His research interests include film and television, media history, and cultural studies, with a focus on Canadian television. His current research focuses on Canadian children's television, Canada-U.S. media production, and the Canadian kids network YTV.

## Maria Angeles Blanco Ruiz

Rey Juan Carlos University

Maria Blanco-Ruiz has a PhD in Media Research from Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M) and a degree in Journalism and Audiovisual Communication from the UC3M. They are a professor in the Department of Advertising and Audiovisual Communication at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos de Madrid (URJC). Her lines of research focus on the analysis of gender representations in the media, new technologies in young people and gender violence. She coordinates and directs the Annual International Congress of Young Researchers with a Gender Perspective since its creation in 2016. She is co-director of the *Journal Comunicación y Género* (UCM).

## Kara Brisson-Boivin

MediaSmarts and Carleton University

Dr. Kara Brisson-Boivin, is the Director of Research at MediaSmarts. Kara is responsible for the planning, methodology, implementation, and dissemination of key findings from original MediaSmarts' research studies as well as evaluations of MediaSmarts' programs. Kara also holds

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an appointment as an Adjunct Research Professor in the Sociology and Anthropology at Carleton University.

## Alan Bui

University of Toronto

Alan Bui is a graduate student at the University of Toronto and a research assistant on the Child Appropriate Game Design (CAGD) Project. His interests in video games and science communication brought him to the field of children's media research. He has worked on projects looking at media content ratings across spatial scales as well as children's books as a form of science communication. Since joining the CAGD team, he currently explores "age appropriateness" in video games and how the interpretations can vary between children and adults.

## Casey Burkholder

University of New Brunswick

Dr. Casey Burkholder (she/her) is an Associate Professor at the University of New Brunswick, interested in critical teacher-education, and participatory visual research. In choosing a research path at the intersection of resistance & activism, gender, sexuality, DIY media-making, art production and participatory archiving, Casey engages in research for social change through participatory visual approaches to local issues with queer & trans youth, adults, elders, and pre-service teachers. She is the co-founder of the Fredericton Feminist Film Collective, and PI of Pride/Swell+.

## Jessica Campbell

York University

Jessica L. Campbell is a student and research assistant at York University where she has won several academic awards. Jessica brings to her studies insights to young people's play cultures from her experience working with children in early learning centers. Recently, she completed a work-placement at Right to Play where she gained valuable knowledge about play and play-based methodologies. Her research interests include participatory methodologies, children's rights, play, and young people's digital spaces.

## Kara Chan

Hong Kong Baptist University

Dr. Kara Chan research on areas of advertising and cross-cultural consumer studies. She was a Fulbright Scholar at Bradley University. She was the Finalist for the 2020 University Grants Committee Teaching Award, and a recipient of President's Award of Outstanding Performance in

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Research Supervision, Outstanding Performance in Scholarly Work. She was named World's Top 2% Scientists in the Economics and Business subject field in 2022 and 2023.

## **Natalie Coulter**

### **York University**

Natalie Coulter is an Associate Professor in Communication and Media Studies and Director of the Institute for Digital Literacies (IRDL) at York University, Canada. She is co-author of *Media and Communication in Canada* (9th ed) and co-editor of *Youth Mediations and Affective Relations* (2019) and author of *Tweening the Girl* (2014). She is a founding member of the Girls' Studies Research Network (GSRN) at York University, and the Association for Research on the Cultures of Young People (ARCYP).

## **Luc Cousineau**

### **Dalhousie University**

Dr. Luc Cousineau, Dr. Kris Taylor, and Maeve Park are researchers and practitioners who co-developed and delivered research-based anti-misogyny workshops for teachers and youth through the Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Fund (Aotearoa New Zealand). Luc Cousineau is an instructor of recreation management at Dalhousie University.

## **Martha Currie**

### **Queen's University**

Martha Currie (she/her) has a particular interest in nostalgia capitalism, fandom studies and screen-to-screen adaptations within reboot cinema. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Culture Studies with a specialization in Film and Media at Queen's University as an Ontario Graduate funded scholar. Prior to starting her doctorate degree, Martha worked in the independent film industry in Toronto including her positions at the Canadian Film Centre, TIFF and Hot Docs.

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## Ricardo Curtis

### House of Cool

Ricardo Curtis, a Jamaican-born and Toronto-raised animation professional, has contributed to over 20 feature animated films with top studios like Pixar, DreamWorks, Fox, and Warner Bros. A graduate of Sheridan College's Classical Animation Program, Curtis worked on notable projects such as *The Incredibles* and *The Iron Giant*. In 2004, he co-founded House of Cool, the industry's preeminent preproduction studio, later acquired by WildBrain. He is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

## Juan Francisco Dávila

### Universidad de Piura

Juan Francisco Dávila is an associate professor of marketing at the Universidad de Piura, Lima, Peru. His research focuses on children, young people, materialism and social networks. He has co-authored articles in *Young Consumers*, the *Journal of Consumer Affairs*, and the *International Journal of Consumer Studies*. He participated in the CTC in 2012 (Milan), 2018 (Angoulême) and 2022 (Madrid).

## Valérie-Inés de la Ville

### Poitiers University

Valérie-Inés de La Ville has a PhD in strategic management from Lyon III University. Full Professor at the Business Administration Department (IAE) of the University of Poitiers (France) where I run a master's degree in "Digital Youth Marketing" based in Angoulême. My research is carried out at the European Center for Children's Products (CEPE) and deals with the economic socialisation of young consumers, the innovation processes in industries targeting families and children, as well as the corporate social responsibility of companies operating in children's markets.

## Desiree de Jesus

### York University

Desiree de Jesus, Ph.D. is an assistant professor in Communication and Media Studies at York University in Toronto Canada. She is also a video essayist and moving images curator. Her research and teaching explore the intersections of race, gender, aesthetics, and technology in narrative film and media through traditional, creative/curatorial, and maker methodologies.

## Antara Dey

### York University

Antara Dey is a Ph.D. student in the Communication and Culture program at York University, researching popular culture, food, and semiotics. She holds a Master of Design and Master of

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Public Relations and Advertising from the University of New South Wales and a Bachelor of Design from the National Institute of Fashion Technology, Delhi. She's a Research Assistant on Dr. Anne F. MacLennan's SSHRC Insight Grant, "The role of entertainment media in the persistence of Canadian and American poverty."

## Michael Dezuanni

### Queensland University of Technology

Michael Dezuanni is a full professor in the School of Communication at Queensland University of Technology and he is a Chief Investigator in the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child. Michael undertakes research about digital media, literacies and learning in home, school and community contexts. He is the author of 'Peer Pedagogies on Digital Platforms - Learning with Minecraft Let's Play videos' (MIT Press 2020).

## Nina Duque

### Université du Québec à Montréal

Nina Duque, a Ph.D. candidate at UQAM, teaches in their Public and Social Communication Department and School of Media. With 20 years experience in media, she serves on MediaSmarts' board at the Canadian Centre for Digital Literacy. Her research at the Digital Research Network and LabCMO focuses on adolescent digital practices and sociability.

## Harry Dyer

### University of East Anglia

Harry T. Dyer is a digital sociologist and educational researcher at the University of East Anglia. His research broadly explores the impact of social media on culture, public knowledge, and education. He serves as Editor of Digital Culture and Education, and is a co-convenor of the British Sociological Association's Digital Sociology Study Group. His second book, titled *Researching Digital Society: An Introduction* is due for publication with Sage in 2025.

## Mackenzie Edwards

### York University

Mackenzie Edwards is a PhD candidate in Gender, Feminist, and Women's Studies at York University. Her research uses queer, anti-capitalist, and disability influenced approaches to study fatness and resistance in popular and social media. Mackenzie's dissertation research navigates the body positivity movement on Instagram in Toronto/Tkaronto. She is the Communications Officer of CUPE 3903 and a member of the Centre for Feminist Research's Critical Femininities Cluster, as well as a co-editor and social media manager of Excessive Bodies. Her previous experience includes advocacy, event planning, and community organizing. Mackenzie's work has been published in *Fat Studies*, *Canadian Woman Studies*, and *Screen Bodies*. She has presented at

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conferences internationally, both virtually and in-person. Mackenzie is the recipient of an Ontario Graduate Scholarship among other awards for her work.

## Nesreen El Kord

University of Windsor and Mount Saint Vincent University

Nesreen Elkord is a Professor of Child and Youth Studies at Mount Saint Vincent University. She also serves as part-time faculty at the University of Western Ontario and holds the position of Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Education at UWindsor. Nesreen teaches undergraduate and graduate courses, contributing to the Bachelor of Education, Master of Education, and Child and Youth Studies programs. Committed to research, her focus includes inclusive education, cross-cultural student experiences, newcomer students' education, and teachers' intercultural competence to enrich educational opportunities for diverse learners.

## Charlene Elliott

University of Calgary

Charlene Elliott is a Professor of Communication at the University of Calgary. Her program of research focuses on promotional culture and taste, exploring how marketing and regulation channel sensory experiences (through promotion, packaging and trademarking). Dr. Elliott held the Canada Research Chair in Food Marketing, Policy and Children's Health (2011-2022) and has published extensively on this topic. She is editor/co-editor *Food Marketing to Teens on Digital Platforms: Probing mediated tastes and persuasive power* and author of several books, including (most recently) *Communication and Health, Media, Marketing and Risk* (Palgrave, 2022).

## Christina Fawcett

University of Winnipeg

Dr. Christina Fawcett is a genre and media scholar, monster theorist and video game scholar in the Department of English at the University of Winnipeg working in young people's texts and cultural spaces. Her work has focused monstrosity, trauma, emotion and affect, recently moving into the cozy turn at work in young people's monster texts and digital games.

## Beatriz Feijoo

Universidad Internacional de la Rioja

Beatriz Feijoo is an Associate Professor of Advertising and Marketing at the School of Business and Communication, Universidad Internacional de la Rioja (Spain). Her research focuses on communication and children, the use of screens in new generations, and more recently on the relationship between minors and advertising through the mobile devices. She is also the principal

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investigator of funded research projects on communication, new media, childhood, and adolescence.

## Estee Fresco

York University

Estee Fresco is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication & Media Studies at York University. She is a scholar of sport media, promotional culture, Canadian identity, citizenship and Indigenous-Settler relations. She is the author of the book *Red Mitten Nationalism: Sport, Commercialism and Settler Colonialism in Canada*.

## Patricia Núñez Gómez

Complutense University

Patricia Núñez Gómez is the Head of Applied Communication Science Department in Complutense University, Spain. Director of Excellence Complutense Chair of digital Communication for kids and teens. She is also the Spanish Chair of Unesco Unitwin (University Network) in Gender, Media and ICT, the Vice-Chair in IAMCR (Section Gender and Media). Member of the ECREA Executive Board. She is leading the European project Safe Internet for kids and Branded Content project funded by UK. She is the Head of Advertising Section in AE-IC and the Headmaster of the Complutense Research Group Socmedia: (Socio-communication competences and digital Natives).

## Isabella Fortino

York University

Isabella L. Fortino (she/her) is a student and research assistant in Children, Childhood and Youth Studies at York University. She is a recipient of the Carole Carpenter Memorial Prize in Writing. Isabella's research explores child-centred literature, foreign childcare policy, and methods to advocate for children's rights.

## Shaney Fullwood

York University

Shaney A. Fullwood is a student at York University. Shaney brings to her research valuable insights gleaned from her experience working with children in the Toronto District School Board. She is an active volunteer in her community and school-based environments. Her many roles have deepened her understanding of children's physical and digital play cultures making significant contributions to her research approach. Recently, she worked as a member of the organizing committee for the Children, Youth, and Performance Conference of 2023.



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## Robert Gabriel

George Mason University

Robert Gabriel has taught courses in media and communication studies at Fordham University and George Mason University. His research interests include popular culture, television studies, tween studies, and class. He received a PhD in Television Studies at the University of Glasgow, an MA in TV/Film/Radio at Syracuse University, and a graduate certificate in Media Studies/Media Management from The New School.

## Bharghavi Gopakumar

Mount Saint Vincent University

Bharghavi Gopakumar is a first year graduate student at Mount Saint Vincent University and she is currently pursuing her master's in Child and Youth Study. She holds a master's degree from Amity University and has experience working with children and youth as a psychotherapist. She is interested in studying factors that affect agency and sense of self in children and youth.

## Sara Grimes

McGill University

Sara M. Grimes is the Wolfe Chair in Scientific and Technological Literacy and a full Professor in the Department of Art History and Communication Studies at McGill University. She is the principal investigator of the Child Appropriate Game Design project. Previously, she was part of the global team that conducted the children's consultation for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child's General Comment 25 on children's rights in the digital environment. Dr. Grimes is the author of the award-winning book, *Digital Playgrounds: The Hidden Politics of Children's Online Play Spaces, Virtual Worlds, and Connected Games* (UTPress, 2021).

## Kishonna L. Gray

University of Michigan

Kishonna L. Gray is a Professor in the School of Information at the University of Michigan. She is also a faculty associate at the Berkman Klein Center at Harvard University. Dr. Gray is the author or co-editor of numerous books and articles including her foundational 2014 work *Race, Gender, and Deviance in Xbox Live: Theoretical Perspectives from the Virtual Margins*, 2018's edited collections *Woke Gaming and Feminism in Play*, and most recently *Intersectional Tech: Black Users in Digital Gaming*. She also has a book currently under contract titled *Black Game Studies*. Dr. Gray is a highly sought-after speaker and regularly addresses both academic and industry audiences such as at the Game Developers Conference. She is the winner of a number of awards over the years, including The Evelyn Gilbert Unsung Hero Award and the Blacks in Gaming Educator Award.

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## Alison Halsall

York University

Dr. Alison Halsall is Associate Professor in the Department of Humanities at York University, Toronto, Canada. She specializes in Victorian and modernist literatures, with a particular emphasis on visual cultures, which includes the study of paintings and illustrations, contemporary film, comics and graphic narratives. She co-edited the first-ever collection of LGBTQ+ comics criticism, which was published by the University Press of Mississippi in 2022 and won an Eisner Award for best scholarly work on comics.

## Soomin Hong

The University of Sydney

Soomin Hong is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Gender and Cultural Studies at the University of Sydney. Her M.A. thesis was about a 50-year history of interrelations and mutual interdependency between Japanese girl consumers and Magical Girl franchise. A book based on this research has been published in Korea in 2022 and later translated into Japanese in 2023. Currently, Soomin is working on her second book project in Korea and her Ph.D. dissertation about the theorization of toys.

## Kholod Saleh Huneiti

Eastern Mediterranean University

Kholod Saleh Huneiti, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the College of Media and Communication Technologies at Gulf University, Bahrain. Her research interest areas include children & media, consumer behavior, media literacy, young consumers, children & media psychology, consumption decision making for (Children, Parents, Family), health & communication, and positive media psychology for children.

## Helle Strandgaard Jensen

Aarhus University

Helle Strandgaard Jensen is Associate Professor in the Department of History and Classical Studies at Aarhus University, Denmark. She is the author of *Sesame Street: A Transnational History* and *From Superman to Social Realism: Children's Media and Scandinavian Childhood*. She holds a Ph.D. in History from the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, and has been a visiting fellow at universities in the UK, the US, Norway, Canada, and Sweden.

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## Jasmine Irwin

### Brock University

Jasmine Irwin is a Manager at Springboard Policy, a public policy consulting firm that helps organizations to use their expertise to shape important policy conversations. Jasmine has spearheaded projects ranging from mapping the infrastructure gap in Canada's North, to developing policy strategies for national non-profits, to exploring career guidance as a policy tool for those with barriers to work. She has also co-authored a research paper examining the role of artificial intelligence technologies on children's privacy rights. Before Springboard, Jasmine worked as a Policy Advisor and Press Secretary to Ontario's Deputy Premier.

## Ben Johnson

### Brock University

Ben Johnson is an MA student at Brock University in the Department of Child and Youth Studies under the supervision of Dr. Erin Panda. He is also a member of the Lifespan Development Research Institute. He received a BA in Psychology at Brock University. He has a variety of research interests, including digital technology, invisible disabilities, and children's literacy. He is also passionate about the ways in which research informs policy and practice, particularly in the educational context.

## Maria Karmiris

### University of Toronto

Maria Karmiris (she/her) currently teaches as a sessional lecturer at Toronto Metropolitan University and OISE/UT. She has also been an elementary school teacher in the Toronto District School Board since 2002. Her research interests include critically examining the role of racism, ableism, heteropatriarchy, and classism in sustaining the practices of conditional inclusion/exclusion in schools.

## Melissa Keehn

### University of New Brunswick

Melissa Keehn (she/her) is a SSHRC-funded PhD student in Education at the University of New Brunswick. Her doctoral work includes researching the intersections of participatory visual research, gender, sexuality, and sexuality education.

## Kate Moo King-Curtis

### Toronto Art Therapy Institute

Through art, peer facilitation, and volunteering, Kate has committed a lifetime to children, youth, and their communities in Venezuela, the US, and Canada. From literacy and mentorship to

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responding to issues like grief and marginalization, her passion has been for building collective care. With over 20 years of experience at the highest levels of the Animation industry, Kate has worked as a Layout artist at Fox, DreamWorks and Warner Bros., contributing to films such as *Anastasia* (1997), *The Prince of Egypt* (1998), *The Road to El Dorado* (2000), *Osmosis Jones* (2001) and *Curious George* (2006). Upon her return to Canada, Kate taught at her alma mater, Sheridan College. In 2004, she became a founding member of *House of Cool*, a boutique pre-production studio in Toronto, where she shaped her approach to production, trained talent, built community, and managed projects at the studio until 2017. Kate earned an Honours BA in Children, Childhood and Youth Studies and an MA in Humanities at York University (Toronto, ON, Canada). As an art therapy advocate, she is pursuing a post-grad in Art Therapy at the Toronto Art Therapy Institute to do practice and participatory-based research with young people and their communities.

## Stephen Kline

### Simon Fraser University

After graduating with a BA in Psychology from U of T, Stephen Kline completed his PhD entitled “*Structure and characteristics of television news broadcasting: their effects upon opinion change*” at the London School of Economics, UK. In 1975 he returned to Canada and taught Environmental Communication and Media Studies at York University, Toronto, until 1989. In 1990 he joined the School of Communications at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, where as Professor and Director of the Media Analysis Laboratory he taught and researched advertising and promotional communication, applied media analysis and audience research, and children’s media cultures and play. Having overseen and collaborated on many interdisciplinary research projects Stephen has written numerous essays on children’s media and play culture, news and promotional communication, environmentalism and public health and authored five books: *Social Communication in Advertising* (1986), *Out of the Garden* (1993), *Digital Play* (2003), *Researching Audiences* (2005) and *Globesity: Food Marketing and Family Lifestyles* (2011). He became Professor Emeritus in 2018 upon retirement.

## Marine Lambolez

### Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon

Marine Lambolez is a PhD candidate in Sociology. She is a member of the Max Weber Center, the sociology unit of the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon. She studies the ways in which teenagers learn romantic norms and behaviors through media consumption, under the supervision of Pr Christine Détrez. She was awarded the PhD contract of the ENS de Lyon for the year 2021. Her work is featured in journals such as *Genre*, *Education*, *Formation* and *Cultural Express*.

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## Grace Lao

York University and Toronto Metropolitan University

Mary Grace Lao (she/her) is a PhD candidate in the Joint Graduate Program in Communication and Culture at York and Toronto Metropolitan Universities and an instructor in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning. Her doctoral research looks at media(ted) discourses of gender-based violence and rape culture. She is part of a SSHRC-funded project, “The Embodied Tween: Living Girlhood in Digital Spaces,” that examines media constructions of girlhood and its intersections with race and class. Her favourite superhero is Superman.

## Anna Lippman

York University

Anna Lippman is a third-generation Ashkenzi Jewish settler on Turtle Island (North America). She is a PhD student in Sociology at York University. Anna’s research looks at identity, and how young people’s thoughts about themselves are influenced by the world around them.

## Xiaoran Liu

Tsinghua University

Xiaoran Liu is currently a PhD candidate on communication at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China. She got her MA degree from Tsinghua University, and her MS degree from Columbia University, Journalism School on broadcasting and documentary. In between, she has worked in the documentary industry for over 10 years. Her films won Chinese Film Academy Documentary Award, Hong Kong ArtHouse Film Festival Best Documentary, etc. She has spent half a year at Simon Fraser University for her research on children images.

## Taylor Lodge

University of Sussex

Taylor Lodge has completed their graduate education at the University of Sussex studying Gender and Media. Throughout this MA, they wrote numerous academic essays analysing portrayals of gender, sexuality and queerness in film and television, as well as explored the evolution of visual media from early cinema to the internet and social media. Their master thesis focuses on Gen Z representations of sexuality in Netflix original programming with an emphasis on the emergence of queer relationships and identities in mainstream television.

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## Sheng-mei Ma

### Michigan State University

Sheng-mei Ma is Professor of English at Michigan State University in Michigan, USA, specializing in Asian Diaspora culture and East-West comparative studies. He is the author of over a dozen books, including *The Tao of S* (2022); *Off-White* (2020); *Sinophone-Anglophone Cultural Duet* (2017); *The Last Isle* (2015); *Alienglish* (2014); *Asian Diaspora and East-West Modernity* (2012); *Diaspora Literature and Visual Culture* (2011); *East-West Montage* (2007); *The Deathly Embrace* (2000); *Immigrant Subjectivities in Asian American and Asian Diaspora Literatures* (1998). Co-editor of five books and special issues, *Transnational Narratives* (2018) and *Doing English in Asia* (2016) among them, he also published a collection of poetry in Chinese, *Thirty Left and Right* (三十左右).

## Katie MacEntee

### University of Toronto

Dr. Katie MacEntee is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. Her scholarship includes working with children, youth, and adults internationally, most often through the use of participatory visual methodologies, to explore intersecting issues associated with access to education and healthcare.

## Anne MacLennan

### York University

Anne F. MacLennan is an Associate Professor, Department of Communication and Media Studies, York University and co-author of *Seeing, Selling, and Situating Radio in Canada, 1922-1956* and published in *Media and Communication*, *Journal of Radio & Audio Media*, *Women's Studies*, *Radio Journal*, *Relations Industrielles*, *Urban History Review*, and edited collections. She researches popular culture, identities, widows, radio history, community radio, podcasting, poverty, women, and research methods as well as SSHRC grants on poverty and entertainment media and *Interrogating Canadian Identities*.

## April Mandrona

### Nova Scotia College of Art & Design University

Dr. April Mandrona (she/her) is an Associate Professor and director of the Institute for Art, Community, and Transdisciplinary Studies at NSCAD University. Her expertise includes Art Education as related to young peoples' visual culture, rurality, ethics, participatory visual research, and curriculum design. Her current research looks at creative methodologies as pathways to solidarity and social connection with young refugees.

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## Remya Ann Mathew

University of Delhi

Remya Ann Mathew is a PhD student at the department of Sociology, University of Delhi, India. Her work focuses on internet usage among children. She is interested in childhood studies.

## Riley McNair

University of Toronto

Riley is a PhD student in the Faculty of Information at The University of Toronto, where she researches the impacts of datafication processes on children's rights and wellbeing. Her research interests are motivated by her professional experiences developing community support programs in her former career in the non-profit sector.

## Kisha McPherson

Toronto Metropolitan University

Dr. Kisha McPherson is an Assistant Professor in the School of Professional Communication (ProCom). She is an educator and scholar with over 15 years of research and teaching experience in social justice education, critical race, and cultural studies. Dr. McPherson completed her Ph.D. in the Faculty of Education at York University (2019). Her dissertation focused on the intersectional identities and experiences of Black girls in the Greater Toronto Area. With a continued focus on media and Black communities, Dr. McPherson uses community-based approaches to develop interdisciplinary scholarship that examines the impact of media, popular culture, and contemporary representations of Blackness on the identity and education of Black youth. Dr. McPherson grounds her work within a variety of Black feminist approaches to center anti-oppressive pedagogies and research approaches, which support effective and sustainable teaching and learning practices in both formal and informal educative spaces.

## Melody Minhorst

Brock University

Melody is a PhD student in Child and Youth Studies at Brock University. She completed her Master of Education at York University and holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture and Bachelor of Arts - Psychology from the University of Guelph. Melody has a background in transdisciplinary approaches and an interest in exploring children's voices and experiences of space/place and learning. Melody is currently working with Dr. Rebecca Raby and Lindsay C. Sheppard on a project about teens' early work experiences.

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## Emily Mohabir

University of Calgary

Emily is a PhD Candidate at the University of Calgary. Her research interests include child and youth media cultures, transmedia texts and industries, South Korean texts and their global consumption, and cultural studies. Her dissertation research focuses on North American youth transmedia engagement with South Korean webtoons and dramas, with particular focus on youth creativity and transcultural identity, as well as how webtoons and dramas shape a discursive transmedia ecosystem within South Korean and North American media industries.

## Madison Moore

Trent University

Madison Moore is a multifaceted educator and researcher with a dedication to understanding and empowering children and youth. Madison holds a Ph.D. in Cultural Studies (May 2024) from Trent University, where she studied how creating and posting images in online spaces are emotionally and socially complex for youth. She is currently an instructor in the Children and Youth Studies program at Trent University Durham.

## Samantha Morris Mastai

Toronto Metropolitan University and York University

Samantha Morris Mastai is a PhD student in the joint graduate program in Communication and Culture at York University and Toronto Metropolitan University. She is a critical feminist researcher focusing on creative work and authorship in media production industries. Samantha is also a producer and creative executive with twenty years of experience in the development and production of successful films and scripted television series.

## Parastoo Mazaheri

Toronto Metropolitan University and York University

I am a first-year PhD student in the Joint Program in Communication and Culture at York University, Toronto, Ontario. I also hold a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's (from York University) in Management and Marketing. I have over 20 years of professional experience in different industries, such as Finance, Customer Service, and Information Technology. One of my research interests focuses on the intersection of sustainable marketing and youth consumption behaviors, particularly how advertising and marketing strategies can promote green consumption among young people. This aligns with my interest in contributing to discussions on environmental sustainability, consumer culture, and the role of marketing in shaping youth attitudes and behaviors toward a sustainable future.



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## Stephanie O'Donohoe

University of Edinburgh

Stephanie O'Donohoe is the Professor of Advertising and Consumer Culture at the University of Edinburgh. An interpretive consumer researcher, her work focuses on the role of consumption in family life, including grandchild-grandparent relationships. She also examines books as a lens on family relationships during difficult transitions.

## Ololade Olaniyan

York University

Ololade Olaniyan is a second-year master's student at York University, specializing in Media and Culture. She earned her bachelor's degree in Communication and Language Arts from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. Ololade's research focuses on the intersection of children, digital technology, and surveillance capitalism. Throughout her academic career, Ololade has engaged in various projects and presentations that explore the influence of broadcast and digital media. Her current research examines how parenting is performed on social media, particularly its connection to economic opportunities. Ololade is deeply interested in children's rights in the digital world and aims to influence policy through her research.

## Maeve Park

Dr. Luc Cousineau, Dr. Kris Taylor, and Maeve Park are researchers and practitioners who co-developed and delivered research-based anti-misogyny workshops for teachers and youth through the Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Fund (Aotearoa New Zealand). Meadhbh (Maeve) Park is a practitioner and freelance researcher in the field of Countering Violent Extremism.

## Artemis Papailia

Democritus University of Thrace

Artemis Papailia earned her PhD in Children's Literature in 2022 from Democritus University of Thrace, where she continues her scholarly journey as a post-doctoral researcher. Presently serving as an Adjunct Lecturer of Children's Literature at the same institution in Greece, and her academic exploration is meticulously carved around theoretical frameworks in Children's Literature. Her research keenly delves into the intricacies of meaning-making strategies, wordless books and philosophy with picturebooks.

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## **Glinicy Piyus**

### **Indian Institute of Science Education and Research**

Glinicy Piyus is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Humanities and Social Science at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, India. Her research focus is on the field of childhood studies in relation to postcolonial theories, caste and gender studies. She is currently working in the politics of representation of children and childhood in Kerala at various intersections.

## **Janne Poikolainen**

### **University of Helsinki**

Janne Poikolainen, PhD, is currently working as a lecturer in Home Economics at University of Helsinki, Finland. His research and teaching focus on consumer studies and consumer education. Poikolainen's recent research topics include children's fandom and music consumption; practices and pedagogy of consumer education; sustainable clothing consumption; and young people as second-home dwellers. Poikolainen has also worked as a postdoctoral researcher at Finnish Youth Research Society.

## **Rebecca Raby**

### **Brock University**

Rebecca Raby is a sociologist in the Department of Child and Youth Studies, Brock University, Canada. She studies constructions of childhood and youth, intersecting inequalities in young lives, qualitative approaches, and theories of participation and agency. Her recent publications include the edited collection *The Sociology of Childhood and Youth in Canada* (2018, CSP, with Xiaobei Chen and Patrizia Albanese). Her current research projects focus on young people's experiences of 1) very early work and 2) living in a housing shelter.

## **LaTiana Ridgell**

### **Rutgers University—Camden**

LaTiana Ridgell is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Childhood Studies at Rutgers University, Camden. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Nursing from California State University, Chico, and a Master's degree in Public Health from Drexel University. Her research interests include visual and material culture, children's consumer culture, and Black girlhood. Specifically, her work examines the hair care industry's marketing strategies targeting Black girls and Black mothers through children's hair relaxer advertisements.

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## Aleesha Rodriguez

Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child, QUT

Dr Aleesha Rodriguez is a tech-sociologist who explores the ways in which people and technology shape each other. Their background is in digital media communication and Science and Technology Studies (STS), and they are currently a Research Fellow at the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child at Queensland University of Technology QUT. Aleesha's runs speculative design fiction workshops with children and adults to help elicit their imaginaries about future digital technologies.

## Katayoon (Kat) Salehi

York University and Toronto Metropolitan University

Katayoon (Kat) is a Master's student in the Communication and Culture program at York and Toronto Metropolitan Universities. Her research focuses on studying the ontology and sociopolitical economy of the metaverse, through infrastructural analysis across the tech industry. Her research interests include digital capitalism, affordances, user behaviour and affect theory. She aims to contribute to the development of ethical digital practices that enhance trust, regulations and user awareness.

## Victoria Sands

Toronto Metropolitan University

Victoria Sands is a PhD Candidate in the Communication and Culture program at Toronto Metropolitan University.

## Abigail Shabtay

York University

**Abigail Shabtay**, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Children, Childhood and Youth Studies at York University. Dr. Shabtay's research and teaching focus on child- and youth-centered research practices, children's rights, and drama-based research. Dr. Shabtay is the Principal Investigator of several research projects funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

## Lindsay C. Sheppard

York University

Lindsay C. Sheppard is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Sociology, York University. She holds a BA and MA in Child and Youth Studies from Brock University. Lindsay has worked on projects about youth's early work (with Rebecca Raby), children's experiences of COVID-19 (with Rebecca

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Raby), and parenting with technology during COVID-19 (with Natalie Coulter). Using a feminist posthuman framework, Lindsay's dissertation will explore girls' feminism on Instagram to understand questions of gender, age, technology, and collective feminist identity.

## Nithya Sivashankar

Texas State University

Dr. Nithya Sivashankar is an Assistant Professor at Texas State University. Her research on South Asian, Asian American, African and African American children's and young adult literature has been published in the form of peer-reviewed journal articles in *Children's Literature in Education*, *Research on Diversity in Youth Literature*, *The ALAN Review* and *Journal of Children's Literature*, and several edited collections.

## Ingvild Kvale Sørenssen

Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Ingvild Kvale Sørenssen is an associate professor in childhood studies and education at the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning (IPL), Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). Her research interests revolve around children's age identity, socialization, and meaning making in the interplay of popular culture, friendships, and family life. Her theoretical focus is on the relationality of human and nonhuman actors in different sociomaterial assemblages.

## Anna Sparrman

Linköping University

Anna Sparrman, Professor in Child Studies at the interdisciplinary Department of Thematic Studies, Linköping University, Sweden. She is also Visiting Professor in child culture at the Faculty of Education, Department of Arts and Cultural Studies, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences.

## Anuppiriya Sriskandarajah

York University

Anuppiriya Sriskandarajah, Ph.D, is an assistant professor in the Children, Childhood, and Youth program in the Humanities Department at York University in Toronto, Canada. Her research interests include girlhood, space, race, and youth activism. She recently authored "Re-imagin(in)g Neighbourhood and Belonging through Photo-Voice: An Exercise in Citizenship in *Reconstructions of Canadian Identity*, edited by Maria Joao Dodman and Vander Tavares. Manitoba: University of Manitoba Press.

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## **Bengi Sullu**

**Medgar Evers College, CUNY**

Bengi's research delves into the convergence of social change and human development, with a focus on children's play, family leisure, education policy, and social inclusion. Prior to joining Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York as a lecturer of social sciences, she held graduate research and teaching fellowships and taught introductory, developmental and environmental psychology courses.

## **Bronwyn Swerdfager**

**University of Toronto**

Bronwyn is a PhD student in the department of Curriculum and Pedagogy at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). She is researching ethical arts-based ways to facilitate chronically ill and disabled children's participation in society. Bronwyn brings a child rights and social justice orientation to her work with the CAGD team.

## **Kris Taylor**

**University of Auckland**

Dr. Luc Cousineau, Dr. Kris Taylor, and Maeve Park are researchers and practitioners who co-developed and delivered research-based anti-misogyny workshops for teachers and youth through the Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Fund (Aotearoa New Zealand). Kris Taylor is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Auckland and works with Shifting the Line NZ.

## **Sharon Shahrokhi Tehrani**

**Canadian Broadcasting Association**

Sharon Shahrokhi Tehrani is a distinguished product leader with a proven track record in leveraging big data, machine learning, and AI to drive product development and enhance business capabilities. In her role as a Product Manager at CBC, Sharon leads the development of a cutting-edge data, ML, and AI platform. This platform empowers content teams to make data-driven decisions, ensuring the delivery of relevant, diverse, and personalized content to audiences. Recognized as one of Canada's Top 25 Women in AI, Sharon is also a key advocate for bridging academia and industry to foster innovative solutions.

## **Thepa Thusiyanthathas**

**York University**

Thepa Thusiyanthathas is a student and research assistant at York University. Thepa's experience working in various after school programs, community centres and classrooms brings insights to her studies and research pertaining to young people's cultures. She is a member of the organizing

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committee for the Children, Youth, and Performance Conference as well as a board member for the not-for-profit organization, Tamil Woman in Academia. Her research interests include children's rights, educational policy, young people's digital cultures and art-based research methods.

## Kristen Tollan

### York University

Kristen Tollan (she/her) is a doctoral candidate in the Communication and Culture program at York University. Her dissertation research focuses on the use of social media by disabled youth for fostering friendships. She also explores topics in fan studies, queer experience and media representations of marginalized communities. Kristen is a teaching and research assistant at York and TMU and is fuelled by delivery Starbucks. She lives in the Greater Toronto Area with her study buddies, Smudge, Rory and Sailor.

## Olivia Trono

### Toronto Metropolitan University and York University

Olivia Trono is a PhD Candidate in the Communication and Culture program, joint between Toronto Metropolitan & York Universities. Her PhD research focuses on representations of magic in contemporary popular media, and her MA thesis was a podcast about the podcasting medium.

## Ryan Tuchow

### KidScreen

Ryan Tuchow is senior reporter at KidScreen, the top trade publication covering the global kids entertainment industry. Ryan oversees content for the magazine as well as the Daily newspaper, which is read by industry professionals around the world every day.

## Amber-Lee Varadi

### York University

Amber-Lee Varadi is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at York University, Canada. She holds an MA in Critical Sociology from Brock University and a BSc (Hons) from the University of Toronto. Her current research interests focus on the intersections of gender, sexuality, race, and class in young people's online and offline experiences, regulation and discourse studies, qualitative methods, and research ethics. She resides in Toronto with her wife-to-be, Sofia, and two cats, Serafina and Leona.

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## Tharini Viswanath

University of South Carolina

Dr. Tharini Viswanath is an Assistant Professor of Children's and Young Adult Literature at The University of South Carolina. Her work has been published in a number of journals including *Papers*, *Jeunesse*, *The ALAN Review*, and *South Asia*. Viswanath is currently working on a book project on the voice, choice, and material agency of feminine characters in young adult literature.

## Rebekah Willet

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dr Rebekah Willett is a Professor in the Information School at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the United States. She has conducted research on children's media cultures, focusing on issues of play, literacy, identity, and learning. Her publications include work on makerspaces, playground games, amateur camcorder cultures, families' screen media practices, and children's story writing. She has published in journals in the fields of education, childhood studies, media studies, and library and information science.

## Kim Wilson

Toronto Metropolitan University

Kim Wilson is dedicated to children's television and interactive content in public television. From TVOntario to the CBC, she's had an unwavering drive to develop high-quality original content to entertain and educate kids from preschool to tween. Kim is a leader in developing and blending television with interactive content and community events that create engaging experiences for children. Through worldwide partnerships, Kim has inspired kids across Canada and the globe with convergent and innovative programs and initiatives.

## David Woodger

Goldsmiths University London

David Woodger is Senior Lecturer in Community Studies in the Department of Social, Therapeutic and Community Studies (STaCS) at Goldsmiths University London. His research focuses on institutional racism in a range of contexts.