

**Heath S, Brooks R, Cleaver E, Ireland E (2009). Researching Young People's Lives. 224 pages.**

**Sage Publications Ltd, London 19 Mar 2009. ISBN: 9781412910552.**

**<http://www.uk.sagepub.com/books/Book227873>**

## Abstract

**Researching Young People's Lives** provides an overview of some of the key methodological challenges facing youth researchers and an introduction to the broad repertoire of methods used in youth-orientated research.

The book is split into two sections. In the first half of the book, the authors consider the broad methodological and contextual concerns of relevance to the design and conduct of youth research, including ethical issues, the importance of context, and the rise of participatory approaches to youth research. The second part of the book focuses on the use of specific research methods in the conduct of youth research, ranging from surveys and secondary analysis through to interviewing, ethnography, visual methods, and the use of the internet in youth research. Throughout the book, the emphasis is on research in practice, and examples are drawn from recent youth research projects from a wide range of disciplines and substantive areas, and from a range of both UK and non-UK contexts.

This is an ideal introduction to the field for novice researchers, in particular students studying and researching in the broad area of youth studies. It should also appeal to practitioners engaged in evaluation of service provision to young people, and to established youth researchers who might wish to explore the potential of using a different set of methods to those with which they are already familiar.

## Table of Contents

Researching Young People's Lives: An Introduction

### PART ONE: THE CONTEXT OF YOUTH RESEARCH

- Ethical Practice in Youth Research
- Researching Across Difference
- Involving Young People in Research

### PART TWO: METHODS FOR YOUTH RESEARCH

- Qualitative Interviewing
- Ethnographic Approaches
- Visual Methods
- Surveys
- Using Secondary Data
- Using the Internet for Youth Research

Appendix: A Compendium of Web-based Resources for Youth Researchers