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Public School Literature, Civic Education and the Politics of Male Adolescence (Hardback)

By Jenny Holt

Taylor Francis Ltd, United Kingdom, 2008. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 158 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, British society gradually began to see adolescence as a distinct social entity worthy of concentrated study and debate. Jenny Holt argues that the social construction of the public schoolboy, a figure made ubiquitous by a huge body of fictional, biographical, and journalistic work, had a disproportionate role to play in the development of social perceptions of adolescence and in forming ideas of how young people should be educated to become citizens in an age of increasing democracy. With attention to an admirably wide range of popular books as well as examples from the periodical press, Jenny Holt begins with a discussion of the ideas of late-eighteenth-century social radicals, and ends with the First World War, when the more serious public school literature, which sought to involve juvenile readers in complex social and political issues, declined suddenly in popularity. Along the way, Jenny Holt considers the influence of Victorian Evangelical thought, Social Darwinism, and the early-twentieth-century National Efficiency movement on concepts of adolescence. Whether it is shedding new light on...



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