The social contexts in which children develop have transformed over recent decades, but also over millennia. Modern parenting practices have diverged greatly from ancestral practices, which included natural childbirth, extensive and on-demand breastfeeding, constant touch, responsiveness to the needs of the child, free play in nature with multiple-aged playmates, and multiple adult caregivers. Only recently have scientists begun to document the outcomes for the presence or absence of such parenting practices, but early results indicate that psychological wellbeing is impacted by these factors.

Ancestral Landscapes in Human Evolution addresses how a shift in the way we parent can influence child outcomes. It examines evolved contexts for mammalian development, optimal and suboptimal contexts for human evolved needs, and the effects on children’s development and human wellbeing. Bringing together an interdisciplinary set of renowned contributors, this volume examines how different parenting styles and cultural personality influence one another. Chapters discuss the nature of childrearing, social relationships, the range of personalities people exhibit, the social and moral skills expected of adults, and what ‘wellbeing’ looks like. As a solid knowledge base regarding normal development is considered integral to understanding psychopathology, this volume also focuses on the effects of early childhood maltreatment. By increasing our understanding of basic mammalian emotional and motivational needs in contexts representative of our ancestral conditions, we may be in a better position to facilitate changes in social structures and systems that better support optimal human development. This book will be a unique resource for researchers and students in psychology, anthropology, and psychiatry, as well as professionals in public health, social work, clinical psychology, and early care and education.

“This is a magnificent and much needed synthesis of recent scholarship in developmental psychology, evolutionary biology, ethology, neurobiology, epigenetics, and anthropology that converges on the critical tasks of childrearing. It should be widely read by students in all of these fields, as well as by healthcare and educational professionals and policymakers concerned about the future impact of current unprecedented social experimentation with child care, education, family structure, and parenting practices.” - Joshua D. Sparrow, MD, Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School
**Table of Contents**

**Preface**
**Acknowledgments**
**About the Editors**
**Contributors**

**SECTION ONE: Baselines For Human Mammalian Development**

1. Children’s Development in Light of Evolution and Culture  
   Darcia Narvaez, Peter Gray, James J. McKenna, Agustin Fuentes, and Kristin Valentino

2. The Epigenetics of Mammalian Parenting  
   Frances A. Champagne  
   Commentary: As Time Goes By, A Touch is More Than Just a Touch  
   Eric E. Nelson

3. Nonhuman primate models of mental health: Early life experiences affect developmental trajectories  
   Amanda M. Dettmer, Stephen J. Suomi, and Katherine Hinde  
   Commentary: Look how far we have come: A bit of consilience in elucidating the role of caregivers in relationship to their developing primate infants and children  
   James J. McKenna

**SECTION TWO: Evolution’s Baseline: Hunter Gatherer Contexts**

4. Relationships and Resource Uncertainty: Cooperative Development of Efe Hunter-Gatherer Infants and Toddlers  
   Gilda Morelli, Paula Ivey Henry, and Steffen Foerster  
   Commentary: Social Connectedness vs. Mothers on Their Own: Research on Hunter-Gatherer Tribes Highlights the Lack of Support Mothers and Babies Receive in the U.S.  
   Kathy Kendall-Tackett

5. Batek childrearing and morality  
   Karen L. Endicott and Kirk M. Endicott  
   Commentary: Parenting in the Modern Jungle  
   Michael Jindra

   Barry Hewlett and Jennifer W. Roulette  
   Commentary: Intertwining the Influences of Culture and Ecology Broadens a Definition of the Importance of Closeness in Care  
   Wendy Middlemiss

7. The Environment of Evolutionary Adaptedness, rough-and-tumble play, and the selection of restraint in human aggression  
   Douglas Fry  
   Commentary: Evolutionary Adaptation and Violent Aggression: From Myths to Realities  
   Riane Eisler

8. The Play Theory of Hunter-Gatherer Egalitarianism  
   Peter Gray  
   Commentary: Comparative Studies of Social Play, Fairness, and Fitness: What We Know and Where We Should be Heading  
   Marc Bekoff

**SECTION THREE: Contexts for the Evolution of Families and Children**

9. Incentives in the family I: The family firm, an evolutionary/economic theory for parent-offspring relations  
   Joan Roughgarden and Zhiyuan Song

10. Preliminary steps towards addressing the role of non-adult individuals in human evolution  
    Agustin Fuentes  
    Commentary: Conflict and evolution  
    Melvin Konner

**SECTION FOUR: Contexts Gone Awry**

11. Child Maltreatment and Early Mother-Child Interactions  
    Kristin Valentino, Michelle Comas, and Amy K. Nuttall  
    Commentary: Ancestral attachment: How the evolutionary foundation of attachment informs our understanding of child maltreatment interventions  
    Alyssa Crittenden

12. The Importance of the Developmental Perspective in Evolutionary Discussions of PTSD  
    Robyn Bluhm and Ruth A. Lanius  
    Commentary: The modeling of complex PTSD can benefit from the careful integration of evolutionary and developmental accounts  
    Pierre Lienard

13. From the Emergent Drama of Interpretation to Enscreenment  
    Eugene Halton  
    Commentary: Darwinism and Children  
    Jonathan Marks

**SECTION FIVE: Child Flourishing**

14. Children’s Environments and Flourishing  
    Tracy Gleason and Darcia Narvaez

15. Postscript: Back to the Future  
    James McKenna

**Index**
To ensure that *Ancestral Landscapes in Human Evolution* receives the widest attention possible within the academic community, here are some ways in which you, as an Oxford contributor, will be able to support us in spreading the word amongst your colleagues and contacts.

**E-MAIL/ONLINE**
- We've created a custom promotional PDF flyer for your title. You will be able to e-mail this to your friends, family, colleagues, relevant organizations, and online discussion forums and blogs, and distribute at appropriate meetings and conferences.
- Include OUP’s online catalog link for your title, or a clickable thumbnail of the book jacket on your e-mail signature (jacket images available upon request):
  
  OUP recently published my work in *Ancestral Landscapes in Human Evolution*. For more information, visit: http://global.oup.com/academic/product/ancestral-landscapes-in-human-evolution-9780199964253
- If your school has an intranet, we will supply you with the book blurb, jacket art, and order form for you to post.

**CONFERENCES**
- Are you planning to speak at any events or meetings in the near future? If so, let us know and we will provide the appropriate promotional materials.

**UNIVERSITY/ORGANIZATION**
- Your university is a great resource to help you spread the word about your publication. If you provide us with the contact details for your press office or public relations department, we'll be happy to discuss additional promotion possibilities with them.
- Does your university’s library currently carry your publication? If not, submit the enclosed library referral form to your librarian or library acquisitions committee.
- Does your alumni publication feature the published works of alums? If so, please provide us with the publication’s editorial contact information, and we will reach out to them.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY**
- Would you like your friends, family, and colleagues to have an opportunity to purchase your publication at a special price? Send your contacts a copy of the enclosed flyer along with the following message (e-mail or letter):

  Hello,

  Oxford University Press recently published my work in *Ancestral Landscapes in Human Evolution*. It is a comprehensive and timely reference, and I believe it will be a valuable addition to your collection. Oxford has generously arranged to make *Ancestral Landscapes in Human Evolution* available to “friends and family” of the work at a special price for a limited time. Oxford offers you the opportunity to receive a discount if you purchase the work within the next twelve months.

  You will receive more than **20% off** the list price of $69.95! For more information or to take advantage of this exclusive discount, please visit [http://www.oup.com/us](http://www.oup.com/us) and type promotion code: **32567** in the top right corner of the screen.

  All best regards,

  Your name

*Ancestral Landscapes in Human Evolution*

March 2014  |  364 pages  |  9780199964253  |  $69.95 / $55.95

For more details, please contact: Ryan.Cury@oup.com  * For editorial inquiries, please contact: Sarah.Harrington@oup.com
Dear Librarian/Library Acquisitions Committee:

I am a contributor to a major, multi-authored publication and I recommend that the library purchase this new volume for its collection.

**ANCESTRAL LANDSCAPES IN HUMAN EVOLUTION**
Culture, Childrearing and Social Wellbeing
Edited by Darcia Narvaez, Kristin Valentino, Agustin Fuentes, James J. McKenna, and Peter Gray

March 2014 | 364 pages | 9780199964253 | $69.95 / $55.95

Thank you for your consideration. I believe that *Ancestral Landscapes in Human Evolution* will greatly enhance our existing collection for the following reasons:

- Addresses the question: How do culture and parenting influence child development as well as individual and cultural wellbeing?
- Offers an in-depth examination of hunter-gatherer cultural practices relevant to child development
- Examines children’s contributions and collaborations with parents in human evolution
- Explores mammalian early care effects on wellbeing

Name_________________________________________________________
Position________________________________________________________________________________________
Department_______________________________________________________________________________________
Additional Comments________________________________________________________________________________

Save 20%!
Promo code 32567