

GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY



Growing Up in the Ice Age: What we know about the lives of Paleolithic Children and how we know it

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> Monday, November 1st, 2021 11:30 am – 12:50 pm CLE A207

Option to view the talk via Zoom for those unable to come in person will be available – you will be limited to viewing only and quality will differ depending on connection. See <u>website</u> for details.

It is estimated that in prehistoric societies children comprised at least forty to sixty-five percent of the population, yet by default, our ancestral landscapes are peopled by adults who hunt, gather, fish, knap tools and make art. But these adults were also parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles (however they would have codified these kin relationships) who had to make space physically, emotionally, intellectually, and cognitively for the infants, children and adolescents around them. The economic, social, and political roles of Paleolithic children are often understudied because they are assumed to be unknowable or negligible. Drawing on the most recent data from the cognitive sciences and from the ethnographic, fossil, archaeological, and primate records, this talk challenges these assumptions. By rendering the "invisible" children visible, a new understanding will be gained not only of the contributions that children have made to the biological and cultural entities we are today but also of the Paleolithic period as whole.

EVERYONE WELCOME

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