The idea of children’s agency is central to the growing field of childhood studies. In this book David Oswell argues for new understandings of children’s agency. He traces the transformation of children and childhood across the nineteenth, twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, and explores the dramatic changes in recent years to children’s everyday lives as a consequence of new networked, mobile technologies and new forms of globalisation. The author reviews existing theories of children’s agency as well as providing the theoretical tools for thinking of children’s agency as spatially, temporally and materially complex. With this in mind, he surveys the main issues in childhood studies, with chapters covering family, schooling, crime, health, consumer culture, work and human rights. This is a comprehensive text intended for students and academic researchers across the humanities and social sciences interested in the study of children and childhood.

The Agency of Children

From Family to Global Human Rights

DAVID OSWELL
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List of figures</th>
<th>page vii</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Part I  Introduction

1. Introduction 3  
2. Agency after Ariès: sentiments, natures and spaces 9  

## Part II  Social theories of children and childhood

3. Modern social theories: agency and structure 37  
4. Partial and situated agency 51  
5. Subjectivity, experience and post-social assemblages 62  

## Part III  Spaces of experience, experimentation and power

6. Family and household 89  
7. School and education 113  
8. Crime and criminality 139  
9. Health and medicine 162  
10. Play and consumer culture 193  
11. Political economies of labour 215  
12. Rights and political participation 234
### Part IV Conclusions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>13 Conclusions</th>
<th>263</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bibliography</em></td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Index</em></td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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The Agency of Children: From Family to Global Human Rights
David Oswell

More information
Figures

3.1 Modelling childhood as outlined by James, Jenks and Prout, 1998. page 49

7.1 Example of a child-centred primary school classroom. 124
Acknowledgements

To my three daughters – Beatrix, Matilda and Amelia – who are always an inspiration; and to my gorgeous Maria.

Thanks to various colleagues and undergraduate and postgraduate students for always keeping me thinking. And thanks also to the production and editorial staff at Cambridge University Press.