Contents

List of Figures
Acknowledgments
List of Abbreviations

Introduction

PART I FINDING CHILDREN

1 Documenting the Undocumented: Children in the Earliest Egyptian Monasteries
2 The Language of Childhood

PART II REPRESENTATIONS

3 Homoeroticism, Children, and the Making of Monks
4 Child Sacrifice: From Familial Renunciation to Jephthah’s Lost Daughter
5 Monastic Family Values: The Healing of Children

PART III A SOCIAL HISTORY

6 Making New Monks: Children’s Education, Discipline, and Ascetic Formation
7 Breaking Rules and Telling Tales: Daily Life for Monastic Children
Contents

  8 The Ties That Bind: Emotional and Social Bonds between Parents and Children 160
  Conclusion: Monastic Genealogies 191

Bibliography 220
Index of Ancient Sources 247
Index of Names and Subjects 250