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Elements in Psychology and Culture

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## GLOBAL CHANGES IN CHILDREN'S LIVES

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## Global Changes in Children's Lives

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**Abstract:** This Element compares the nature of childhood in four representative societies differing in their subsistence activities: bands of Australian hunter-gatherers, Tibetan nomadic pastoralists, peasants and farmers residing in Maya villages and towns, and South Korean students growing up in a digital information society. In addition, the Element traces a variety of intertwined global changes that have led to sharply reduced child mortality rates, shrinking family sizes, contested gender roles, increased marriage ages, long-term enrollment of children (especially girls) in educational institutions, and the formation of "glocal" identities.

**Keywords:** global childhood, Australian Aborigines, Tibetan nomads, Maya farmers, South Korean students

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