

Call for Papers

Journal of Children and Media

Special Issue: Children, Television, and Risk Behavior

Guest Editors:

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Despite the growing importance of 'new' media, television viewing is still one of the most popular leisure activities among children and adolescents. Today's young generations continue to be attracted by the images and stories television disseminates and it therefore remains important for scholars, policymakers, and educators to understand to what extent, and how, television viewing affects young people's wellbeing. Building on extensive content analytic research showing that television portrays various kinds of risk behavior in a frequent and appealing way, decades of television effects research has explored the relationship between young individual's television viewing and problem behaviors such as alcohol and tobacco use, sexual risk-taking, reckless driving, academic underachievement, and aggressive and antisocial behavior. At present, it seems timely to reflect on what has been achieved and what the future holds. This special issue seeks papers that address and extend this important area of research, focusing, for instance, on its theoretical advancement, on explanatory mechanisms for the frequent (but often rather weak) relationships that have been found, on moderators that may help to identify particular high-risk categories, on differences and similarities between types of risk behavior, on insights that may increase our understanding of the impact of other media, on novel forms and formats of television in the digital era. This special issue is designed, then, to mark out future directions for researchers interested in contesting/reformulating our understandings of the association between television viewing and risk behavior.

We invite contributions to a special issue on Children, Television and Risk Behavior from a wide range of disciplines, theoretical perspectives, and methodological approaches. The guest editors are particularly interested in compiling quality papers that can be seen as "state of the art" and indicate potential for the future development of this field of research.

A 300 word abstract, full contact information for the corresponding author, and a biographical note (up to 75 words) on each of the authors should be submitted to Dr. Keith Roe

(Keith.Roe@soc.kuleuven.be) as an e-mail attachment by **no later than March 31, 2012**.

Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by April 30, 2012 and will then be invited to submit a full paper to the guest editors. Manuscripts should be no more than 8,000 words, including notes and references, conform to APA style, and submitted by September 30, 2012.

Expected publication date is February 2014, with pre-publication online access shortly after final submissions are accepted. An invitation to submit a full paper does not constitute a commitment for publication; all papers will be subject to anonymous peer review following submission. We look forward to what we anticipate will be interesting and important papers.