The Anthropology of Children and Childhood Interest Group of the American Anthropological Association... was launched in 2007. The initiative to form an Interest Group and to secure official standing was undertaken by Kristen Cheney from the University of Dayton and Susan Shepler from American University. This website was developed and is maintained by David F. Lancy and his students at Utah State University. In the submission seeking Interest Group status these goals were put forth:

The Anthropology of Children & Childhood Interest Group will serve as a forum for interested scholars to meet, network, collaborate, and communicate about their work. Its goals are... 1. **To promote and facilitate** the development of anthropological scholarship pertaining specifically to children and childhood, broadly defined, and to emphasize its relationship to the development of inclusive, comparative theoretical models, as well as fieldwork methodology, for the discipline of anthropology;  To encourage research with child-focused perspectives which emphasize the centrality of children in cultural production, not only as objects of socialization but as social agents in their own right;  To engage researchers in discussion of ethical considerations particular to working with children;  To contribute anthropological knowledge to the interdisciplinary efforts to address the contemporary problems facing children and to establish links with other professional associations concerned with the study of children and childhood for professional collaboration in teaching, research, and scholarship;  To promote the professional interests of members and help produce the next generation of anthropologists whose work will influence policy in both governmental and non-governmental agencies concerned with children’s issues. 2. **The need for an interest group** concerned with children and childhood centers on the fact that, despite growing interest in the area of cross-cultural research on childhood, children’s experiences, and children’s rights, there is currently no established place for such work, especially outside the realm of education. In contrast to the Council on Anthropology & Education, which concerns itself solely with studies on learning and schooling, members of the Anthropology of Children & Childhood Interest Group will explore a broad variety of the social realms children inhabit as well as the ways children interact with and influence those realms. The Anthropology of Children & Childhood Interest Group will advocate for members who are developing this vital yet neglected field. It will provide a forum for the increasing number of anthropologists and other researchers broadly concerned with children and childhood to develop ideas, network, and share resources in this growing field. 3. **Members will meet** to discuss the development of interest group bylaws at AAA annual meetings. Future conveners and other officers will be selected by a well-defined nomination and member voting process defined by the membership itself. 4. **A board** has been constituted to guide the organization in its formative period. Board members include, besides Cheney, Shepler and Lancy, Helen Schwartzman from Northwestern. Myra Bluebond from Rutgers—Camden and Tom Weisner from UCLA. 5. **The Interest Group** met in an open meeting at AAA in 2008 and will do so again in 2009. The AAACIG has also sponsored numerous sessions at AAA in 2009. 6. **A List-Serv** facilitates communication among the approximately 700 AAACIG adherents. To join, go to and select ACIG-L. [http://www.american.edu/oit/software/Listserv-Info.cfm](http://www.american.edu/oit/software/Listserv-Info.cfm) 7. **Two Issues of the Newsletter** have been published to date and can be found on this website. DFL