

**Curriculum Vitae  
KEN JACOBSON**

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**ACADEMIC AREAS OF INTEREST**

**Psychological Anthropology: Issues of Mental Health  
Cognitive Anthropology  
Socialization Practices: Adult/Child Relationships  
Educational Theory and Practice: Alternative Methodologies  
Economic Anthropology**

**EDUCATION**

**UNIVERSITY of MASSACHUSETTS** Amherst, MA

**Doctor of Philosophy, February 2003  
Department of Anthropology,  
Dissertation: *When Order Becomes Disorder: A Cross-Cultural Study of  
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and its Implications for the  
Social Construction of "Normal"***

Field research utilizing qualitative and Focal Individual Sampling methodologies was conducted at a public primary school in New England; a publicly funded primary school in Oxfordshire, England; and at a school for severely dyslexic children in England. Project used a cross-cultural study of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) as a probe to look from the children's perspectives at socially constructed cultural differences in the creation of the categories: "disorder," "normal," and "learning disability." Future research will continue looking from that perspective at areas of tension between adults and children.

**BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY** Waltham, MA

**Master of Science in Neuroscience, 1997  
Neuroscience Program**

**Master of Arts in Anthropology, 1997  
Anthropology Department**

**UNIVERSITY of MASSACHUSETTS** Amherst, MA

Bachelor of Arts in History, with honors, 1965

**TEACHING**

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY**

Research Associate Department of Anthropology  
*Anthropology of Mental Disorders*

Boston MA  
Continuing  
Spring 2006

**BROWN UNIVERSITY**

Lecturer Department of Anthropology  
*Culture and Cognition*  
*Culture and Human Behavior*

Providence, RI  
  
Spring 2004  
Summer 2002

**BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE**

Visiting Lecturer Department of Sociology,  
Anthropology, and Criminal Justice:  
*Introduction to Physical Anthropology; Global  
Indigenous Peoples; Indigenous Peoples of North  
America.*

Bridgewater, MA  
Spring 2003

**RODGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY**

Lecturer Department of Anthropology and Sociology  
*Culture and Personality*

Bristol, RI  
  
Spring 2003

**CURRY COLLEGE**

Instructor Department of Sociology and  
Criminal Justice: *Introduction to  
Anthropology; Methodology; Social Problems;  
Reading Course, Introduction to Archaeology*

Milton, MA  
2000- 2002

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Teaching assistant, Anthropology 150, *Introduction  
to Archaeology.*

Amherst, MA  
1998

**EMERSON COLLEGE**

Instructor, Departments of Broadcast Journalism  
and English

Boston, MA  
1968-1970

**PUBLICATIONS**

Jacobson, Ken

2006 ADHD from a Cross-Cultural Perspective: Insights into Adult-Child Power. In Lloyd, Stead and Cohen Eds., *Critical New Perspectives on ADHD*. London, Rutledge.

Jacobson, Ken

- 2004 Power and the Definition of "Order": The Misuse of the Diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. In Subhash Durlabhji, Ed. Power in Focus. Wyndham Hall Press.

Jacobson, Ken

- 2002 ADHD in Cross-Cultural Perspective: Some Empirical Results. American Anthropologist, 104 (1): 283-287.

Jacobson, Ken

- 2001 The Social Construction of "Normal" and "Average:" Policy Implications From a Cross-Cultural Study of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD). World Cultures: A Journal of Comparative and Cross-Cultural Research, 12(2): 126-140.

Jacobson, Ken

- 2001 Aztec Money: An Inquiry into Substance, Sources and Heuristic Value. Research Report. Anthropology Department, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Jacobson, Ken,

- 1996 Suggested Theoretical Model for Interventions to Stop Group-based or Group Motivated Adolescent Aggressive Behavior. Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, 794: 360-364.

### **INVITED TALKS**

- 2006 A Cross-Cultural Look at Children and ADHD: Should Might Make Right? Union College, Schenectady, NY
- 2004 Abuse of Power: Conclusions from a Cross-Cultural Study of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Tohoku University, Sendai Japan.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- 2008 Cultural Robot or Aware Self: Towards Developing a Model of Brain, Behavior, and Culture. 37th Annual Meetings of the SCCR. New Orleans, LA.
- 2007 Re-Re-Thinking Schema Theory and Cultural Modeling. SPA Biennial Meeting Los Angeles CA.
- 2006 Rethinking Mental Illness: Alternative Hypotheses Concerning Universality. 105th Annual Meeting, American Anthropological Association, San Jose CA.

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- 2006 The Business of Learning Disabilities. 46th Annual Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association. Albany NY
- 2005 Just a Normal Family: Hidden Tensions and Children's Problems Among Middle Class English and Americans 104th Annual Meeting, American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C.
- 2005 Rethinking Schema theory and Cultural Modeling in the Analysis of Childrearing Practices in England and the United States. 45th Annual Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association. Lake Placid, NY.
- 2005 Rethinking Schema theory and Cultural Modeling in the Analysis of Childrearing Practices in England and the United States SPA Biennial Meetings April 2005 San Diego, California
- 2003 Abuse of Disorder: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Unethical Psychiatric Practice. 102nd Annual Meeting, American Anthropological Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2003 Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Considered Through a Free School Lens. International Democratic Education Conference, Troy, NY.
- 2003 The Social Construction of Disorder: Explaining the Phenomena of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). American Ethnological Society Meeting, Providence RI.
- 2003 The Social Construction of a Mental Disorder: A Cross-Cultural Study of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADHD). Biennial Meeting, Society for Psychological Anthropology, San Diego CA.
- 2003 You're an Anti-Christ Because You're a Scientist. 43rd Annual Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association, Burlington, VT.
- 2002 Potential Fallacies in Some of the Assumptions of "Accountability:" Social Psychological and Cultural Questions Concerning Minority "Failures" of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System Test. Boston College Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture Second Annual Diversity Challenge Boston, MA
- 2002 A Social Psychological Experiment Leads to Anthropological Questions Concerning School Accountability and Minority "Failure." 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association, Bridgewater MA
- 2001 Bad Boys are Popular: Conflating Attention Seeking Behaviors with Attention Deficit Behaviors. 100th Annual Meeting, American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC.

- 2001 Of Politics, Educational Practice And Stereotype Threat: The Neo-Colonialism Of Standardized Testing. Biennial Meeting, Society for Psychological Anthropology, Decatur, GA.
- 2001 The Social Creation of Difference: Looking at Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Dyslexia As Moral (Immoral) Phenomena. American Ethnological Society Meeting, Montreal, Canada.
- 2001 What's in a Name? Test Labels Can Produce Stereotype Threat for Academically Stigmatized Minorities. Paper presented by Dr. Ryan Brown Annual Meeting of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology. San Diego CA.
- 2001 Child Development. Roundtable presented with Dr. Marida Hollos. Northeast Meeting, Society for Psychological Anthropology, Queens, NY.
- 2001 The Social and Biological Nature of Dyslexia and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). 5th British Dyslexia Association International Conference, York England.
- 2001 Of Paradoxes, Plasticity, Schema and Memes: Re-Thinking the Relevance of Evolutionary Theory to Behavioral Patterns. 41st Annual Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association Hartford CN.
- 2000 The Social Construction of "Normal" and "Average:" Policy Implications From a Cross-Cultural Study of Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD). 40th Annual Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association Jamaica, NY.
- 1999 In search of a "Normal" Student-Six Months in a British Classroom. 98th Annual Meeting, American Anthropological Association, Chicago, IL.
- 1999 In Loco Parentis: An Ethos of Discipline in a British Primary School. Biennial Meeting, Society for Psychological Anthropology, Albuquerque, NM.
- 1998 Medium Spiny Neurons, Another View of Aversive Conditioning: A Possible Biological Basis for Schema theory. 38th Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association, Orono, ME.
- 1998 Will the Real Informant Please Stand Up: Stress, Post-Traumatic and Otherwise, Problematics in Gauging Cultural Reconfigurations. 38th Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association, Orono, ME.
- 1997 Striatal Medium Spinal Neurons: Another View of Aversive Conditioning. Poster presented at Biennial Meeting, Society for Psychological Anthropology, San Diego, CA.

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1997 Aztec Money. 37th Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Society, Quebec Canada.

1997 A Semi-Anthropological, Semi-Neuroscientific Approach to the Role of Consciousness in Behavior. 37th Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Society, Quebec Canada.

1996 Trobriand Exchanges and the Concept of Money. 36th Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association, Plymouth, NH.

1996 Youth and Violence: Theoretical Model for Intervention. 36th Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological Association, Plymouth, NH.

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Anthropological Association  
Society for Psychological Anthropology  
Society for Neuroscience

**PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS: Invited**

*Summerhill Conference: The Free Child*, Summerhill School, Leiston, England, July 1999

*British Dyslexia Association: Multilingualism and Dyslexia*, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, Manchester, England, June 1999

*National conference on Violence*, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, March, 1998

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

***Real Estate Management and Development*** 1967-Present  
**Ken Jacobson Real Estate**

Rehabilitation, sales and leasing of residential and commercial property; management of residential and commercial properties.

***Development and Consulting*** 1991-1996  
**Marketing and Motivational Strategies Inc.**

Advised nationwide non-profit organizations on all aspects of fund raising.

***Wholesaling***

**Brookline Supply Co., Inc.**

1970-1983

Directed the growth of a small family wholesale plumbing and heating supply business to revenues of several million dollars annually.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

***Brookline Access Cable***  
**"Point counter Point"**

1996-2006

Moderate discussions on issues ranging from the local (political, educational, life style) to the philosophical (universality of morality with Rabbi Frank Waldorf).

***Brookline Public Library***  
**Trustee**

1990-2002

Elected by the citizens of Brookline to this board of twelve people for a three-year term. Post carries fiduciary responsibility for a \$2 million budget, a \$13.0 million reconstruction of main library, and a \$3.5 million trust fund. Also responsible for supervision of Town Librarian and for the making of policy with respect to library practices and procedures.

***Brookline Town Meeting***  
**Town Meeting Member**

1988-2006

Elected to this representative body which functions as the town's legislature for a three-year term to represent a district of 2500 voters. Town meeting is responsible for a number of warrant articles, including an annual town budget of \$169 million.

***Brookline Housing Advisory Board***  
**Member**

1990-1996

Appointed by the town selectmen to oversee all requests for and expenditures of U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grants for the Town of Brookline. Further responsibilities of advising on policies to create affordable housing and specifically to offset the effects of end of rent control in Brookline.