

**Curriculum Vitae  
KEN JACOBSON**

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**ACADEMIC AREAS OF INTEREST**

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

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS**

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

Amherst, MA  
Continuing  
1998

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY**

Visiting Researcher Department of Anthropology  
*Anthropology of Mental Disorders*

Boston, MA  
Continuing  
Spring 2006

**BROWN UNIVERSITY**

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

Providence, RI  
  
Summer 2009  
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

**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

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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**

2014 Conversation Hour: The World as Non-Adults See It. 43rd Annual Meeting SCCR, Charleston, SC.

2012 Addiction: The Quest to Understand the Unconscious Processes of Human Behavior. 52nd Annual Conference Northeastern Anthropological Association. Bridgewater MA.

2012 Organizer Session: The Curve of Life: What Lies Ahead? Bi-Annual Meeting Society for Cultural Anthropology, Providence, RI.

2011 Profiting from Social Construction of (Learning) Disability. 110th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Montreal, QC, Canada).

2011 (Learning) Disability: Profit Driven Social Construction? 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting SCCR, Charleston, SC.

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- 2011 Profiting from Social Constructing Disability. 51st Annual Conference  
Northeastern Anthropological Association, Rindge NH.
- 2010 Blaming the Messengers: Dispelling the Myth that Disruptive, Inattentive  
Students Cause Poor Educational Outcomes. 39th Annual Conference of the  
Society for Cross-Cultural Research, Albuquerque, MN.
- 2010 Peer Leadership Rather than Peer Pressure: The Paradox of Acting Age  
Inappropriately. 50th Annual Conference, Northeastern Anthropological Association  
Buffalo, NY.
- 2009 Rethinking Deflation: Why a Collapse of the Global Economy Could  
be Beneficial to the Future of this Planet with Special Emphasis on  
American Children. 49th Annual Meeting, Northeastern Anthropological  
Association, Providence RI.
- 2008 Organizer Session: Theory, Relevance, Methods, and the Future of  
Cognitive Anthropology II. 108th Annual Meeting, American Anthropological Association, San Francisco,  
CA.
- 2008 Cultural Robot or Aware Self: Towards Developing a Model of Brain, Behavior,  
and Culture. 108th Annual Meeting, American Anthropological Association, San  
Francisco, CA.
- 2008 Workshop: Teaching and Democratic Education. International  
Democratic Education Conference, Vancouver BC.
- 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.
- 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.

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- 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.

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- 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.
- 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  
Northeastern Anthropological Association  
Society for Cross Cultural Research

## **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*** 1967-2008  
**Ken Jacobson Real Estate**

Licensed real estate broker Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Rehabilitation, sales and leasing of residential and commercial property; management of residential and commercial properties. Starting as a rental broker, I moved into ownership and rehabilitation as a direct result of my association with Brookline Supply. After the sale of Brookline Supply I devoted my efforts exclusively to all aspect of the real estate business.

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

Advised nationwide non-profit organizations on all aspects of fund raising. My biggest account in the marketing consultancy was the Boy Scouts of America, for whom I devised a fund raising program involving both the sale and planting of seedlings, as well as an environmental education component from which the youth learned about the myriad of challenges to the earth's environment and about their responsibilities regarding those challenges. Some councils had over 100,000 youth members; and it was only the word of mouth from their colleagues that made those very busy individual not only willing to meet with me, but to accommodate my schedule as I traveled through their state.

I attended and presented the program at many district meetings as well (scout councils are organized by district then individual unit). The program was so well received, that I was invited to spend a weekend at a resort in the Catskills presenting the program to scout management from the Northeast Region. In addition to meeting with CEOs,

***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. Brookline Supply was started by my parents just after World War Two. Initially, my father drove from plumbing shop to plumbing shop taking orders and making deliveries. In 1949 they rented a small store on Harvard St. in Brookline MA. That business operated at low volume and high margins specializing in repair parts. In 1970, the Town of Brookline decided to re-build a grammar school and took the property in which the store was located by eminent domain. I was teaching at Emerson College, but joined the business since it was my mother and father's sole source of income. I was able to buy and re-hab an industrial building in the neighborhood. With the expanded space, an SBA line of credit, an increase staff, longer operating hours, and more competitive pricing, that business prospered. Due to my father's health, my parents retired shortly after the move; and the business supported them, my growing family, as well as our employees.

**Publishing**

***Boston After Dark***

1966-1967

Was hired as Business and Advertising manager for an entertainment listing and review newspaper that was distributed to over 150,000 full and part-time college student in Greater Boston. Paper was run from the Harvard Business School and owned by a recent Business School graduate. At the time, the paper had very little advertising and consisted of only four tabloid sized pages. After about a year, I had moved the paper to its own offices, hired a sizable sales staff, and expanded to 66 tabloid sized pages thought the sale of both display and classified advertising. My position then was basically managing editor. Because of my association with *Boston After Dark*, I was hired to teach review and editorial writing at Emerson College.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

***Hadley, MA, Cultural Council***

On going

Chair of Hadley Cultural Council. This council not only is responsible for distributing grants of approximately \$4000 annually. But it has recently embarked on a program to engaged with community groups to encourage cultural activities (including history and science) year round.



***Brookline Access Cable*** 1996-2006  
**“Point counter Point”**

Moderate discussions on issues ranging from the local (political, educational, life style) to the philosophical (universality of morality with Rabbi Frank Waldorf). Over a six year period my guests included people from every aspect of life in Brookline. Through it, and my other political activities, I came to know just about all of Brookline’s elected and volunteer officials.

***Brookline Public Library*** 1990-2002  
**Trustee**

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*** 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 Local Access Cable Board*** 2003-2005  
**Member**

Appointed by the town selectman to oversee professional Executive Director, oversee station policy, help with fundraising and community outreach.

***Brookline Housing Advisory Board*** 1990-1996  
**Member**

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.