

# Children

**Middle-class parents are consumed by the pressure to acquire parenting expertise. They spend literally billions of dollars on parenting advice and equipment. But at the same time, the social institutions of the United States, the great originator and epicenter of parenting, provide less support to children than those in any other developed country. The United States, where all those parenting books are sold, also has the highest rates of infant mortality and child poverty in the in the developed world.**

**Alison Gopnik,  
The Gardener and the Carpenter**

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