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# SPRING/SUMMER 2021

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We wish to acknowledge the land on which University of Toronto Press operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

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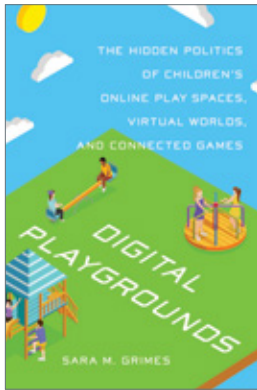


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## Digital Playgrounds

The Hidden Politics of Children's Online Play Spaces, Virtual Worlds, and Connected Games



Sara M. Grimes

*Digital Playgrounds* makes the argument that online games play a uniquely meaningful role in children's lives, with profound implications for children's culture, agency, and rights in the digital era.

*Digital Playgrounds* explores the key developments, trends, debates, and controversies that

have shaped children's commercial digital play spaces over the past two decades. It argues that children's online playgrounds, virtual worlds, and connected games are much more than mere sources of fun and diversion – they serve as the sites of complex negotiations of power between children, parents, developers, politicians, and other actors with a stake in determining what, how, and where children's play unfolds.

Through an innovative, transdisciplinary framework combining science and technology studies, critical communication studies, and children's cultural studies, *Digital Playgrounds* focuses on the contents and contexts of actual technological artefacts as a necessary entry point for understanding the meanings and politics of children's digital play. The discussion draws on several research studies designed and marketed to children aged six to twelve years, revealing how various problematic tendencies prevent most digital play spaces from effectively supporting children's culture, rights, and – ironically – play.

Approx. 400 pp. / 6 x 9 / August 2021

12 illustrations

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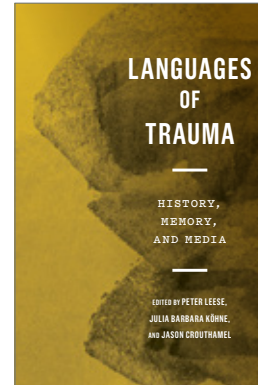
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Cultural Studies

## Languages of Trauma

History, Memory, and Media



Edited by Peter Leese,  
Julia Barbara Köhne,  
and Jason Crouthamel

*Languages of Trauma* explores how, and for what purposes, trauma is expressed in historical sources and visual media.

This volume traces the distinct cultural languages in which individual and collective forms of trauma are expressed in diverse variations, including oral or written narratives, literature, comic strips, photography, theatre, and cinematic images. The central argument is that traumatic memories are frequently beyond the sphere of medical, legal, or state intervention.

Prevailing definitions of trauma can best be understood according to the cultural and historical conditions within which they exist. *Languages of Trauma* explores what this means in practice by scrutinizing varied historical moments from the First World War onwards and particular cultural contexts from across Europe, the United States, Asia, and Africa – striving to help decolonize the traditional Western-centred history of trauma, dissolving it into multifaceted transnational histories of trauma cultures.

**Peter Leese** is an associate professor in the Department of English, Germanic and Romance Studies at the University of Copenhagen.

**Julia Barbara Köhne** is FONTE visiting professor in the Faculty of Culture, Social Sciences and Education at Humboldt-University Berlin.

**Jason Crouthamel** is a professor in the Department of History at Grand Valley State University.

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