

# Contents

---

Figures and tables	ix
Acknowledgements	xi
Abbreviations	xiii
Introduction	1
<i>1 Youth Policy and the New Vocationalism</i>	
<i>    The adolescent generation and the state</i>	<i>7</i>
1 Young people and policy: Priority One?	15
Employment programmes and transition education	16
Priority One is employability	21
Skills formation, job search and economic dependency	26
Discipline, regulation and social control	33
2 Skills, youth training and a reconstructed Australia	38
Technology and skill	40
Workforce skills and the labour market	49
The labour process	52
Skills formation and youth training	57
The Australian Traineeship Scheme	62
Different training orientations	67
Training and labour-market transitions	72
3 Back to school and minimalist education	75
Schooling and the roles of education	76

Technology, skills and schooling	80
Polarisation in education	84
Minimalism and the creation of compliance	93
Training as an alternative to school	95
The failure of the technological dream	100
<i>II Youth Crime, Moral Panics and Public Order</i>	
<i>Media images, the 'youth problem' and social regulation</i>	103
4 Car theft and the crime of no space	111
Car theft and criminological analysis	112
Car theft and the local district	114
Working-class culture, gender relations and car theft	121
Economic activity and the informal economy	128
Space of their own	134
5 Young people, law and the street	136
Young people and the law	138
The social nature of the street	140
Female street kids	146
Young Aborigines	150
Regulating the street: the Drug Offensive	156
Rules of the game	163
6 Youth services and the role of 'soft cops'	164
The origins and emergence of youth work	165
State intervention and youth work	169
Perspectives on youth work	174
Theory and practice in youth work	179
Beyond the 'soft cop' syndrome	186
7 Conclusion: control, space and rebellion	189
The politics of youth	190
Individual responses and subcultural solutions	195
Youth organisations and social change	201
References	214
Index	231

---

# Figures and tables

---

Figure 2.1	Australian Traineeship Scheme, July 1986–July 1987	63
Table 1.1	Income support for young people 1987–88	31
Table 2.1	Traineeships created and commenced, May 1987	65
Table 2.2	Training programmes: characteristics	68
Table 4.1	Offenders involved in motor-vehicle larceny, by age and sex, South Australia, 1985–86	119
Table 4.2	Alleged offenders involved in motor-vehicle larceny, by age and sex, South Australia, July–December 1985	120
Table 5.1	Issues seen as important by young people in various situations	154
Table 5.2	Expenditure on the Drug Offensive, 1986	159