

Contents

PART I	General Issues at the Intersection of Psychology and Accident Prevention	1
1	Children's Environments, Accidents, and Accident Prevention: An Introduction	3
	Tommy Gärling	
	Introduction	3
	Conceptualizations of the Relationship between People and Environments	4
	Childhood Accidents and Their Prevention	7
	Summary and Conclusions	10
	References	10
2	Theoretical Issues of Child Development and the Problem of Accident Prevention	13
	Jaan Valsiner	
	Introduction	13
	Perspectives on Accident Prevention	13
	Three Frames of Reference in Psychological Research	14
	The Possible and the Actual, and Their Interdependence	16
	Developmental Psychology of Child-Environment Relations	17
	Accident Prevention: Avoidance of Actualization of Some of the Competence	23
	A Proposed Theoretical Framework	25
	Application of the Theoretical Frame to Thinking about Accidents	31
	Conclusions	32
	References	33
PART II	Perception of Danger for Children in Different Environments	37
3	Children at Risk: Are We Underestimating Their General Competence whilst Overestimating Their Performance?	39
	Christopher Spencer and Mark Bladés	
	Introduction	39
	Psychological Moves towards Recognizing the Child's Competence	39
	The Environmental Competence of the Child: Why Might It Have Been Underestimated?	41
	Enhancing the Child's Performance in Novel Environments	42
	Children's Needs with Respect to the Environment	43

	The Child's Performance in the Street	45
	References	46
4	Adults' and Children's Perceptions of Hazard in Familiar Environments	51
	Noel P. Sheehy and Antony J. Chapman	
	Introduction	51
	Hazard and Accident: A Conceptual Analysis	51
	Hypotheses in the Present Research	55
	Study I: Traffic Hazard	56
	Study II: Household Hazard	59
	Discussion	60
	Conclusions	62
	References	63
5	Parent's Knowledge of Children's Competence, Perceptions of Risk and Causes of Child Accidents, and Residential Satisfaction	65
	Anita Svensson-Gärling, Tommy Gärling, and Jaan Valsiner	
	Introduction	65
	A Conceptualization of the Parent-Child Interaction	65
	Knowledge of Children's Competence	66
	Risk Perceptions, Causal Schemata, and Residential Satisfaction	70
	Conclusions	87
	Acknowledgements	87
	References	88
6	Children's Outdoor Environment from the Perspectives of Environmental and Developmental Psychology	91
	Pia Björklid	
	Introduction	91
	A Theoretical Framework	91
	A Study of Children's Outdoor Play	92
	Discussion	102
	Summary and Conclusions	104
	Acknowledgements	105
	References	105
7	Parental Restrictions and Children's Acquisition of Neighborhood Knowledge	107
	Gunilla Torell and Anders Biel	
	Introduction	107
	Hypotheses	108
	Method	109
	Results	110
	Discussion	115
	Summary and Implications	117
	References	117

8	Barriers to Play Activities in the City Environment: A Study of Children's Perceptions	119
	Vittoria Carbonara-Moscati	
	Introduction	119
	Method	120
	Results and Discussion	121
	Conclusions	125
	References	126
PART III	The Social Context of Children's Environmental Danger and Accident Prevention	127
9	The Role of the Family in Childhood Risk: The Origins of Competence	129
	Peter Stratton	
	Introduction	129
	Conceptual Issues	129
	The Care That Children Need	131
	Infants and the Family	133
	Conclusions	140
	References	142
10	Individual Development within the Family: An Analysis of the Child's Growth as a Set of Potential Crises	145
	Kurt Kreppner	
	Introduction	145
	Developmental Crises	146
	A Study of the Interplay between Individual and Family Development	152
	Conclusions	158
	References	159
11	Toddlers at Home: Canalization of Climbing Skills through Culturally Organized Physical Environments	165
	Jaan Valsiner and Claudia Mackie	
	Introduction	165
	The Home as Culturally Structured Environments	165
	Toddler's Climbing in Home Environments	167
	Socialization of Climbing: Canalization of the Developing Motor Skill	172
	Parents' Accounts of Their Toddlers' Climbing and Their Regulation Efforts	174
	Toddlers' Climbing and Its Parental Regulation: Naturalistic Observations	181
	General Discussion	188
	References	190

12	How Parents Create a Social Environment via Proactive Behavior	193
	George W. Holden	
	Introduction	193
	Proactive Thought through Time	194
	Proactive Behavior in Parents	197
	Observational Studies in the Supermarket	201
	The Study of Parental Proactive Behavior	208
	References	212
13	Environment as the Mediator of Human Relationships: Historical and Ontogenetic Aspects	217
	Mati Heidmets	
	Introduction	217
	Environment as Mediator	218
	Conclusions	225
	Acknowledgements	226
	References	226
14	Post Hoc Assessments of Children's Accident Vulnerability: The Psychological Basis of Legal Judgments	229
	Noel P. Sheehy and Antony J. Chapman	
	Introduction	229
	Subjective and Objective Risk	229
	Accidents and Diseases	230
	Extent of the Problem	230
	Risk and Fault	231
	Allurement	232
	Product Liability	233
	The Moral Argument	234
	Compensation Neurosis	234
	No-Fault Compensation: Conclusion	234
	References	235
	PART IV Conclusions	237
15	Children within Environments: Different Approaches and Their Relationship to Accident Prevention	239
	Tommy Gärling and Jaan Valsiner	
	Introduction	239
	Three Different Views of How Children Relate to Their Environments and of How Accidents Are Caused	239
	An Individual-Socioecological Frame of Reference	241
	A Systemic View of the Occurrence and Prevention of Childhood Accidents	243
	Some Methodological Considerations	244
	Conclusions	245
	References	245
	Index	247