

Contents

List of figures and tables	x
Preface	xi
1 Introduction to the issues	1
<i>Introduction</i>	1
<i>Common themes</i>	3
<i>Stage-wise theories in growth</i>	3
<i>Major determinants of development</i>	6
<i>The construction of the social world</i>	8
<i>Some methodological issues</i>	17
<i>Conclusion</i>	18
2 Politics and government	19
<i>Introduction</i>	19
<i>Political attitudes</i>	20
<i>Political knowledge</i>	23
<i>Stages of development</i>	28
<i>Political socialization</i>	32
<i>Conclusion</i>	33
3 Economics and trade	35
<i>Introduction</i>	35
<i>The acquisition of specific economic concepts</i>	36
<i>Developmental stages in the acquisition of economic concepts</i>	56
<i>Economic socialization and education</i>	59
<i>Conclusion</i>	64
4 Work and employment	66
<i>Introduction</i>	66
<i>Attitudes to school, work and employment</i>	67
<i>Youth unemployment</i>	72
<i>Knowledge of different occupations</i>	77

Contents

	<i>Vocational choices</i>	80
	<i>Stage-wise theories</i>	84
	<i>Conclusion</i>	85
5	Sex and gender	87
	<i>Introduction</i>	87
	<i>Sex differentiation</i>	88
	<i>Sex-role and gender attitudes and knowledge</i>	94
	<i>Socialization into sex roles: family influences</i>	98
	<i>School influences on gender understanding</i>	100
	<i>Other influences</i>	103
	<i>Adolescent sexuality</i>	105
	<i>Conclusion</i>	108
6	Religion and spiritual matters	111
	<i>Introduction</i>	111
	<i>Young people's religious beliefs</i>	114
	<i>Infancy and childhood understanding of religion</i>	118
	<i>Adolescent beliefs and understandings</i>	123
	<i>The socialization and counter-socialization of religion</i>	127
	<i>Conclusion</i>	131
7	Race, colour and prejudice	133
	<i>Introduction</i>	133
	<i>Understanding of skin colour</i>	134
	<i>Racial attitudes and preferences</i>	138
	<i>Socialization</i>	145
	<i>Direct interracial contact</i>	148
	<i>Racial prejudice</i>	151
	<i>Conclusion</i>	154
8	Law and justice	155
	<i>Introduction</i>	155
	<i>Developmental perspectives and stage-wise models</i>	157
	<i>Attitudes to law enforcement and crime</i>	166
	<i>Conclusion</i>	169
9	Social class and stratification	172
	<i>Introduction</i>	172
	<i>Developmental trends and stage-wise theories</i>	175
	<i>Social differences</i>	179
	<i>Uses of stratification information</i>	182
	<i>Conclusion</i>	184
10	Conclusion	186
	<i>Introduction</i>	186
	<i>The structure of social attitudes to society</i>	187

<i>What determines the extent of young people's knowledge</i>	190
<i>The growth of understanding: stage-wise theories</i>	192
<i>The socialization of understanding</i>	193
References	195
Name index	209
Subject index	214