

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### **The Mobility of Children and Youth: Current Research and Nascent Themes**

2010 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers,  
April 14-18, Washington DC

Sponsored by Transport Geography Specialty Group (TGSG), Urban Geography Specialty Group (UGSG) and Disability Specialty Group (DSG) of the AAG

Children and youth are increasingly shuttled from place to place in cars, particularly in North America. The reasons underlying the transformation of child/youth mobilities from active to motorized modes are many and varied. Scholars have debated the role of the built environment and sprawl in such processes, and certainly issues of safety (perceived and otherwise) have become paramount. The immersion of children and youth within the dominant culture of (auto) mobility may have dire consequences over the longer-term. Stemming the broader reinforcement and rise of automobility, as scholars such as Garrison and Wellar have suggested, may come to rely on how successful we are in connecting children and youth with “legacy” forms of mobility – i.e., walking, cycling. This session is intended to stimulate research on children’s transportation and provide a forum for a critique of the contemporary urban system, while shedding some light on future directions. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Built environment and school transportation
- Independent mobility, quality of life, and the urban experience of children
- Transforming notions of “family” and the mobility of children and youth.
- City building for children and youth.
- Barriers and enablers of children’s independent mobility.
- Automobility, walkability, and disability: tensions and complementary themes
- Children and participatory/collaborative planning discourses
- Emerging data collection for more-inclusive children’s transport studies
- Children, youth and transport policy
- Childhood overweight, obesity, and active transportation

Send an abstract of no more than 250 words and your personal identification numbers (received from the AAG after applying online at [www.aag.org](http://www.aag.org)) to one of the organizers by **October 20, 2009**.

#### **Organizers:**

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