Emerging Adulthood: The Winding Road from the Late Teens through the Twenties

On the 10th Anniversary of the publication of his groundbreaking work, the second edition fully updates and expands the author’s findings and includes brand new chapters on media use, social class issues, and the distinctive problems of this life stage.

Merging stories from the lives of emerging adults themselves with decades of research, Arnett covers a wide range of topics, including love and sex, relationships with parents, experiences at college and work, and views of what it means to be an adult. He also refutes many of the negative stereotypes about emerging adults today, finding that they are not “lazy” but remarkably hard-working in most cases, and not “selfish” but rather concerned with making a contribution to improving the world. As the nature of American youth and the meaning of adulthood further evolve, Emerging Adulthood will continue to be essential reading for understanding the face of modern America.

New to this Edition: Newly added chapters cover media use, social class issues, and the distinctive problems of emerging adulthood. Completely updated throughout to reflect research conducted over the past decade. Includes new evidence that there are no differences according to social class background in the main features of emerging adulthood.