

Delve Deeper into *56 Up*

A film by Michael APTED

This multi-media resource list, compiled by Linda Brawley of San Diego Public Library, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the POV documentary *56 Up*.

*In 1964, a group of British 7-year-olds were interviewed about their lives and dreams in the groundbreaking television documentary *Seven Up*. Since then, renowned director Michael APTED has returned to film the same subjects every seven years, creating one of television's greatest projects. In *56 Up*, the "kids" have settled into middle age and come to terms with both hope and disappointment.*

Check your local public library for the entire "Up" series.

ADULT NONFICTION

Blackwell, Trevor. *Talking Work: An Oral History*. London: Faber & Faber, 1996. Interviews with all varieties of workers - and the unemployed - to come to some conclusions about the work force and the working class in England.

Kerckhoff, Alan C. *Diverging Pathways: Social Structure and Career Deflections*. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1993. This book follows the lives of a group of British friends into early adulthood and examines how different kinds of schools and environments can lead comparably skilled individuals to achieve at very different levels in society.

Lay, Samantha. *British Social Realism: From Documentary to Brit-Grit*. London: Wallflower, 2002. A history of the British social realism movement from its roots in documentary film, to its more recent stylized material.

Levy, Alan H. *Elite Education and the Private School: Excellence and Arrogance at Phillips Exeter Academy*. Lewiston, N.Y., USA: E. Mellen Press, 1990. Levy examines the "corporate culture"

of Exeter and the way in which a surreal relationship of genuine and illegitimate standards stymies intellectual development among faculty, and hence, among students. It also deals with the way students' problems with drugs, depression, sexuality, and suicide are either mishandled or ignored.

Pugh, Gillian, ed. *Thirty Years of Change for Children*. London: National Children's Bureau, 1993. A look at child care issues in England over the past 30 years.

Rowbotham, Sheila. *A Century of Women: The History of Women in Britain and the United States*. London: Viking, 1997. This book offers a selective survey of women's lives in both Britain and the United States. Decade by decade, Rowbotham draws from an impressive collection of sources to examine the social history of women throughout one hundred years.

Singer, Bennett. *42 Up: "Give Me the Child Until He Is Seven, and I Will Show You the Man"*. New York, NY: New Press, 1998. Transcripts from many of the episodes and interviews with the show's participants.

Thompson, F. M. L. *Gentrification and the Enterprise Culture: Britain, 1780-1980*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001. In this book F. M. L. Thompson makes an incisive contribution to the longstanding debate over gentrification and entrepreneurialism in Britain. He provides an expert analysis of the links between economic performance and the penetration of industrial wealth into landed society.

Wadsworth, Michael E. J. *The Imprint of Time: Childhood, History, and Adult Life*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1991. Wadsworth looks at a large number of children born in 1946 and follows their progress, growth and movement into the Baby Boomer generation.

ADULT FICTION

Amis, Kingsley. *Memoirs*. London: Hutchinson, 1991. Amis looks back on his family, school life, Oxford and career.

Binchy, Maeve. *Silver Wedding*. New York, N.Y.: Delacorte Press, 1989. The children, friends, and relatives of Desmond and Deirdre Doyle gather in a small London suburb to honor the couple on the occasion of their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary.

Brooke-Rose, Christine. *Next*. Manchester: Carcanet Press, 1998. *Next* is a murder mystery story set in the world of the London homeless. The story passes from character to character without a break, the reader sensing the transitions by way of inflection changes.

McEwan, Ian. *On Chesil Beach*. London: Jonathan Cape Ltd, 2007. McEwan delves into the complex issues of British social classes through the different perspectives of the novel's two main characters, Edward and Florence. The social gap between them highlighted by their family's occupations and lifestyle however, the story centers around their ill-fated attempt at intimacy on their wedding night.

Sillitoe, Alan. *The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner*. New York: Vintage Books, 2010. Originally published in 1959 as a short story, a teenager held in an English reformatory turns out to be a champion runner with a chance to win the trophy for his team, but as he trains, he plans a perfect way to defy those in power.

FICTION FOR YOUNG ADULT READERS

Dahl, Roald. *Boy*. New York: HarperCollins, 2000. Dahl's memories of his childhood, including his time spent in boarding school.



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Green, John. *Looking for Alaska: A Novel*. New York: Dutton Children's Books, 2005. Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash.

FICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Greenberg, Keith E, and Carol Halebian. *Erik Is Homeless*. Minneapolis: Lerner Publications, 1992. A photographic essay about a nine-year-old boy who is homeless in New York City.

Jackson, Isaac, and David Soman. *Somebody's New Pajamas*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1996. When two boys from different backgrounds become friends and sleep over at each other's homes, they exchange ideas about sleepwear as well as about family life.

