



**Critical Acclaim For
'56 UP'**

By Michael Apted

"It is a mystery, this business of life. I can't think of any [other] cinematic undertaking that allows us to realize that more deeply."

—Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun-Times*

"This unique enterprise, which began as a documentary experiment almost a half century ago, has grown into an inspiring testimonial to the unpredictability of the human spirit."

—Joe Morganstern, *The Wall Street Journal*

"In *56 Up*, the latest installment in Michael Apted's remarkable documentary project . . . entire lifetimes race by. . . One minute, a boy is merrily bobbing along. . . In a lot of documentaries you might not care that much about this boy and what became of him. But . . . you will care, and deeply."

—Manohla Dargis, *The New York Times*

"To see *56 Up* is to be reunited with an old friend. Make that 13 old friends, together again for a documentary project the likes of which the world has never seen."

—Kenneth Turan, *Los Angeles Times*

"Compelling. . . The series has won worldwide acclaim . . . for its affecting insights into the human condition and the influence of the British class system. . . Over five decades, the *Seven Up* series has explored this in a way no home movie, family photograph or academic treatise could ever convey."

—Maria Puente, *USA Today*

"Mesmerizing."

—CBS News *Sunday Morning*

"Engrossing."

—Sarah Rodman, *The Boston Globe*

"How this extraordinary series chronicles, every seven years, the living of ordinary lives is mesmerizing."

—Joe Neumaier, *New York Daily News*

"Watching *56 Up* gives you the wonderful feeling of seeing a sociological experiment blossom into something novelistically rich and humane."

—Colin Covert, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*

"Michael Apted has many fine directing credits . . . but the project I bet his showbiz peers covet most is the awesome *Up* series. Conceived as a one-time look at the British class system through the eyes of children, it's become a film record of true-life, whole-life stories."

—Dave Walker, *The Times-Picayune*

"*56 Up* is as good a point as any to get hooked on the magnificent half-century series of documentaries."

—Kyle Smith, *New York Post*

“If you want to start thinking about your own life, just watch Michael Apted’s *56 Up*, the latest installment of perhaps the most fascinating documentary project ever.”

—**John Powers, *Vogue.com***

“There is honestly nothing else like this documentary series that has revisited a group of Brits every seven years since 1964. . . . A moving, heartfelt and an amazing piece of work.”

—**Doug Knoop, *The Seattle Times***

“Of interest to faithful followers and easily accessible to newcomers.”

—**Ronnie Scheib, *Variety***

“The latest installment in filmmaker Michael Apted’s remarkable *Up* documentary series. . . . Warning: Watching these films can become habit-forming.”

—**Kevin McDonough, *United Feature Syndicate***

“We see how these people have evolved over the years and, in a way, they’re like old friends. Looking at them we see ourselves but are reminded that even from bitter failure—which does erupt in all lives—people grow and learn and survive.”

—**John Doyle, *The Globe and Mail***

“Perhaps the boldest and probably longest running sociological experiment on film.”

—**James Verniere, *Boston Herald***

“Remarkable.”

—**Kristi Turnquist, *The Oregonian***

“If an undercurrent of bitterness about the economy runs through many of the interviews, there’s also an optimism that not even Apted expected to find.”

—**Ellen Gray, *Philadelphia Daily News***

“*56 Up* isn’t concerned so much with opening up individual lives as it is with showing us how the journey of an ordinary life—or over a dozen ordinary lives—can offer insights into our own, and into society. The effect is often profoundly moving.”

—**Bilge Ebiri, *New York Magazine***

“Like a fine wine, this monumental documentary series improves with age.”

—**Chris Ball, *The Plain Dealer***

“A powerful testimonial to the human spirit and how life moves in mysterious, unexpected ways. . . . The remarkable achievement of *56 Up* is that it shows, both directly and indirectly, how ever-changing winds of fortune and misfortune shape who we become.”

—**Alex Strachan, *National Post***

“Apted once wanted to give us ‘glimpses into Britain’s future’. . . . With this installment, he’s delivered an intimate portrait of settling down and finally making peace with one’s well-publicized past.”

—**David Fear, *Time Out New York***

“A completely unique and remarkable documentary project.”

—**Kelly Vance, *East Bay Express***

“Seven Up to 56 Up is all about one's POV.”

—Mike Hughes, *Lansing State Journal*

“Truly revolutionary. . . . Taken as a whole, the *Up* series is one of the most warmly humanistic documents about the way we live our lives now, only updated regularly. Watching the latest installment of the series is the cinematic equivalent of catching up with old friends you haven't seen in a few years.”

—Budd Wilkins, *Slant Magazine*

“What makes *56 Up*, like the *Up* films before it, so remarkable is how it puts these stories together, giving us an ensemble of characters as interesting as any in a scripted drama.”

—Bill Goodykoontz, *Arizona Republic*

“56 Up feels like the most hopeful film of them all—amusing, entertaining, and touching.”

—Roger Moore, *Movie Nation*