



Fatal Years

Child Mortality in Late Nineteenth-Century America

Samuel H. Preston and Michael R. Haines

Fatal Years is the first systematic study of child mortality in the United States in the late nineteenth century. Exploiting newly discovered data from the 1900 Census of Population, Samuel Preston and Michael Haines present their findings in a volume that is not only a pioneering work of demography but also an accessible and moving historical narrative.

Despite having a rich, well-fed, and highly literate population, the United States had exceptionally high child-mortality levels during this period: nearly one out of every five children died before the age of five. In exploring the causes of mortality, the authors look at a wide range of topics, including urban versus rural life, differences among various immigrant groups, and the impact of public health measures.

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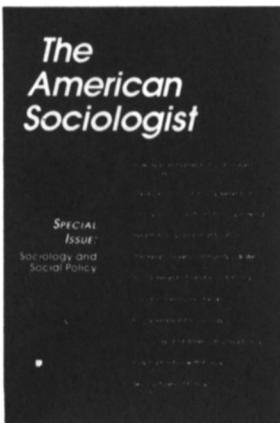
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