

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910814508603321
Autore	Katz Vikki S.
Titolo	Kids in the middle : how children of immigrants negotiate community interactions for their families // Vikki S. Katz
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Brunswick, New Jersey : , : Rutgers University Press, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	0-8135-6220-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (198 p.)
Collana	Rutgers Series in Childhood Studies
Disciplina	305.9/069120973
Soggetti	Children of immigrants - United States Immigrants - United States Communities - United States Families - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- List of Tables -- Acknowledgments -- 1. Children, Family, and Community -- 2. Settling in Greater Crenshaw -- 3. Child Brokers and Their Families -- 4. Community Begins at Home -- 5. Gateways to Family Wellbeing -- 6. Shortchanging the Immigrant Bargain? -- 7. Brokering and Its Consequences -- Appendix: Challenges of Departure -- Notes -- References -- Index -- About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	Complicating the common view that immigrant incorporation is a top-down process, determined largely by parents, Vikki Katz explores how children actively broker connections that enable their families to become woven into the fabric of American life. Children's immersion in the U.S. school system and contact with mainstream popular culture enables them more quickly to become fluent in English and familiar with the conventions of everyday life in the United States. These skills become an important factor in how families interact with their local environments. Kids in the Middle explores children's contributions to the family strategies that improve communication between their parents and U.S. schools, healthcare facilities, and social services, from the perspectives of children, parents, and the English-speaking service

providers that interact with these families via children's assistance. Katz also considers how children's brokering affects their developmental trajectories. While their help is critical to addressing short-term family needs, children's responsibilities can constrain their access to educational resources and have consequences for their long-term goals. *Kids in the Middle* explores the complicated interweaving of family responsibility and individual attainment in these immigrant families. Through a unique interdisciplinary approach that combines elements of sociology and communication approaches, Katz investigates not only how immigrant children connect their families with local institutional networks, but also how they engage different media forms to bridge gaps between their homes and mainstream American culture. Drawing from extensive firsthand research, Katz takes us inside an urban community in Southern California and the experiences of a specific community of Latino immigrant families there. In addition to documenting the often-overlooked contributions that children of immigrants make to their families' community encounters, the book provides a critical set of recommendations for how service providers and local institutions might better assist these children in fulfilling their family responsibilities. The story told in *Kids in the Middle* reveals an essential part of the immigrant experience that transcends both geographic and ethnic boundaries.
