## Acknowledgements

In the past ten years my daughters Tessel and Olwen have made me study the practice of child-rearing, and indirectly they inspired me to study children in the past. Florence Koorn has not only shared in this practice, but has also greatly contributed to this book by commenting on earlier drafts. I also thank Arianne Baggerman, Jan Baptist Bedaux, Arie van den Berg, Anna den Boer, Ed Elbers, Hendrik Henrichs, Gert Jan Johannes, Gerry Moran, Lotte van de Pol, Hugo Röling, Herman Roodenburg, Pieter Spierenburg, Johan Verberckmoes and Annemarieke Willemsen for their comments. Jurgen Limonard kindly agreed to include our co-authored article on Alexander van Goltstein from Historia Paedagogica. I am glad that Benjamin Roberts, being a historian of childhood himself, agreed to translate the book. During our cooperation the text became a revised version of the Dutch edition. The Faculteit der Historische en Kunstwetenschappen van de Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam and the Vereniging Trustfonds Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam contributed to the costs of translation. The book is dedicated to my parents, who have stimulated my historical interest during my own childhood by taking me to castles, ruins, giants' graves, and museums. The quotes from egodocuments are taken from the first pages, unless a note is added. Through the index and the list of authors, all quotes can be traced.