About the Authors

David Blau is associate professor of economics and fellow of the Carolina Population Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has devoted considerable time and effort to studying economic aspects of child care in the past five years, and together with Philip Robins is the author of one of the first studies to document the effect of child care costs on the labor force participation rate of women. He is also coeditor of a special issue of the Journal of Human Resources on child care.

Rachel Connelly is assistant professor of economics at Bowdoin College, and recently completed a one-year Census Research Fellowship at the Census Bureau. She has published articles on the impact of cohort size on earnings and on occupational choice under uncertainty. Professor Connelly has authored several papers on economic aspects of child care and has been an active participant in the public policy debate on child care, appearing as a panelist at the Family Impact Seminar on Capitol Hill in a session on the market for child care.

Sandra Hofferth is senior research associate at the Urban Institute, where she is currently project director of the National Child Care Survey and co-principal investigator of the Profile of Child Care Settings Study. Dr. Hofferth has published widely on child care and related issues such as family structure, children’s living arrangements, and adolescent pregnancy and childbearing. She testified before two Congressional Committees in 1989 on her child care research.
Ellen Eliason Kisker is a researcher at Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. (MPR), where she has done extensive research on child care issues. She is currently directing the Profile of Child Care Settings Study for the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Kisker has been integrally involved in the design and conduct of a study of before-and-after school programs and is a member of the advisory panel for a national study of child care demand for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. As a senior researcher for the Teenage Parent Demonstration Evaluation, Dr. Kisker has also conducted a study of the child care markets in the areas served by the demonstration and assessed the early impacts of this mandatory work/welfare program on child care choices and use.

Rebecca Maynard is vice president of Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. (MPR). Dr. Maynard directs the research activities in MPR’s Princeton office and specializes in research in welfare, employment, child care, and other social service policies. She is currently directing a major six-year demonstration sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to test alternative program models to promote self-sufficiency among welfare-dependent teenage parents and is working with the U.S. Department of Labor on the design of employer-sponsored child care initiatives. She served on the National Academy of Sciences Panel on Child Care Policy, is currently serving on an advisory committee for the President’s Commission on Children, and recently directed a major survey of child care needs and options available in low-income areas.

Deborah Phillips is assistant professor of psychology at the University of Virginia and was recently a mid-career fellow at the Bush Center in Child Development and Social Policy at Yale University. Her recent research has focused on the effects of child care on children’s social and emotional development and on the role of child care staff in influencing the quality of child care. She has written extensively on public policy issues in the area of child care and has testified numerous times before Congress.

William Prosser has worked in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, since 1973. He has conducted research and developed legislation on issues such as child care, Head Start,
foster care, teen pregnancy, and other family issues. In the mid-1970s he directed the Congressionally mandated study of the Appropriateness of Federal Interagency Day Care Regulations. More recently, he has been involved in designing evaluations of JOBS and Transition Benefits provisions of the Family Support Act of 1988.

Philip Robins is professor of economics and chairman of the economics department at the University of Miami and is a research affiliate of the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is an expert on the economics of public transfer programs and is currently studying child support enforcement policies. Professor Robins has been studying child care issues for more than fifteen years, and is currently conducting (with David Blau) a comprehensive study of the interrelationships among fertility, employment, and child care use.

James Walker is assistant professor of economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is also affiliated with the Institute for Research on Poverty and the Economics Research Center at NORC. His current research focuses on the effects of social programs on life cycle behavior, especially the decision making of women. In addition to his work on child care in the United States, Dr. Walker is engaged in a long-term project evaluating the effects of social programs in Sweden.