

# The Sandbox Investment

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DAVID L. KIRP

## THE SANDBOX INVESTMENT

*The Preschool Movement  
and Kids-First Politics*



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The rich have always valued early education, and for the past forty years, millions of poor kids have had Head Start. Now, more and more middle class parents have realized that a good preschool is the smartest investment they can make in their children's future in a competitive world. As *The Sandbox Investment* shows, their needs are key to the growing call for universal preschool.

Writing with the verve of a magazine journalist and the authority of a scholar, David L. Kirp makes the ideal guide to this quiet movement. He crouches in classrooms where committed teachers engage lively four-year-olds, and reveals the findings of an extraordinary longitudinal study that shows the life-changing impact of preschool. He talks with cutting-edge researchers from neuroscience and genetics to economics, whose findings increasingly show how powerfully early childhood shapes the arc of children's lives.

Kids-first politics is smart economics: paying for preschool now can help save us from paying for unemployment, crime, and emergency rooms later. As Kirp reports from the inside, activists and political leaders have turned this potent idea into campaigns and policies in red and blue states alike.

*The Sandbox Investment* is the first full story of a campaign that asks Americans to endorse a vision of society that does well by doing good. For anyone who is interested in politics or the social uses of research--for anyone who's interested in the children's futures--it's a compelling read.

### 作者介绍:

David L. Kirp, is a professor at the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley,[1] former member of the Barack Obama Presidential Transition Team and author. His research has explored a wide range of social policy domains, including primary and higher education, race and gender equality, affordable housing, and the AIDS crisis. His work has attracted scholarly, policy activist, and popular audiences. He has written some sixteen books, as well as many articles that have appeared in leading policy-focused social science journals and law reviews. His research has been translated into numerous foreign languages, including Chinese (classical and simplified), Japanese and Ukrainian. Some of books include *Gender Justice* (University of Chicago Press 1986),[2] *Kids First: Five Big Ideas for Transforming Children's Lives* (Public Affairs 2011), *The Sandbox Investment: The Preschool Movement and Kids-First Politics* (Harvard 2007), and *Shakespeare, Einstein, and the Bottom Line: The Marketing of Higher Education* (Harvard 2003).

A former newspaper editor and syndicated columnist, David Kirp contributes to leading national print media outlets, including *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, the *American Prospect* and *The Nation*, and appears as a policy expert on nationally broadcast radio and television programs. He has delivered lectures and keynote speeches around the world, at universities including Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Yale, Glasgow, Taipei, Melbourne, Trento, Monterey, and Ben Gurion. He is a recipient of Berkeley's 1982 Distinguished Teaching Award.[4]

David Kirp founded the Harvard Center on Law and Education, a national law reform organization that promotes equality of educational opportunity. He has served on numerous nonprofit boards, including Experience Corps, Friends of the Children, the Coro Leadership Center of San Francisco and the ACLU of Northern California. In 2008 he served on the Presidential Transition Team, working on education policy issues. He

has consulted with many nonprofit groups and public agencies in the United States and abroad.

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