



**HELLENIC LINK–MIDWEST**  
A SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL LINK WITH GREECE  
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ  
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## **Growing Up in Nineteenth Century Greece: Family, Community, and the Lives of Children after Greek Independence**

On Sunday, February 26, 2017, Hellenic Link–Midwest presents Prof. Theodore G. Zervas in a lecture titled: “Growing Up in Nineteenth Century Greece: Family, Community, and the Lives of Children after Greek Independence.” Admission is free. The event will take place at 3:00 pm at the **Elmhurst Hospital (1st floor, main entrance at south side, Wildflower Room 3) 155 East Brush Hill Road, Elmhurst Illinois** (Northwest corner of Roosevelt Rd and York Road).

*Please enter through the Main Hospital entrance at the South side of the hospital which faces Roosevelt Road. Turn right and then left towards the Wildflower Cafe. At the end of the corridor is the entrance to the lecture rooms. Proceed to Wildflower Room 3.*

Prof. Zervas’s lecture explores the Greek family, community, and childhood after the Greek Revolution. During this time, the family was considered a fundamental unit where values and customs were transmitted to children. Social-structural differences between rural and urban communities however were vast. In rural communities, the family and other members of the community directed much of the learning for children. In cities like Athens and Thessaloniki this varied depending on social class and economic status. Wealthier children for example typically had more access to manufactured or mass produced toys and books, while rural poor children often relied on what was available to them in their homes and communities. In both settings, nonetheless, women formed the primary caregivers, informal teachers, and socializers of children. Were social groups mostly endogamous or could one move up the social strata through marriage or by any other means? What was the division of educational labor in the family in rural and urban areas of Greece? What was the importance of literacy and leisure among members of the family? Some of these questions are addressed in Professor Zervas’ lecture.

*Dr. Zervas* is associate professor of education at North Park University in Chicago. He holds a bachelor’s and master’s degree in history from DePaul University, a master’s degree in Education and Social Policy from Northwestern University, and a Ph.D. in Cultural and Educational Policy studies from Loyola University Chicago. He is a board member for the Illinois Humanities Council and serves as a peer editor for the *American Educational History Journal*.

Much of Professor Zervas’s research focuses on the history of education in both Greece and the United States. He has published academic articles on schooling and National Identity in Greece, the uses of the Arvanitic Language in late nineteenth and early twentieth century Greece, and the teaching of history both in Greece and Europe.

His has published a book on *The Making of a Modern Greek Identity: Education, Nationalism, and the Teaching of a Greek National Past*, and he is currently working on a second book *Formal and Informal Education during the Rise of Greek Nationalism: Learning to be Greek*.

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