Contents

Introduction: Childhood, the Middle Class, and Modern Japan 1

PART I

The Emergence of a Late Meiji Middle Class: Family Reformer, Scientific Expert, Wise Mother, and Little Citizen 21

1 The Moral and the Material: The Family Reformer and the Promotion of a Middle Class 23

2 The Public Professional and the Middle Class: The Scientific Expert’s Quest for Social Influence 65

3 The Wise Mother and the Little Citizen: Building a Middle Class 116

PART II

Remaking the Middle Class in Taishō Japan: Education, Play, and New Visions of Childhood 171

4 The Self-Made Woman and the Superior Student: Transgressive Femininity, Educational Achievement, and Meritocratic Modernity 173

5 The Childlike Child: Play and the Importance of Leisure 248

Epilogue 311
Contents

Reference Matter

Notes 323
Works Cited 373
Index 389