

Biographical Notes

Dr. Seuss

- author of children's books
- 1904 – 1991
- published “Cat in the Hat” in 1957
- published “Cat in the Hat Comes Back” in 1958
- opposed fascism
- opposed McCarthyism/House Committee on Un-American Activities
- opposed Atomic and Nuclear weapons development

Dr. Spock

- pediatrician
- 1903 – 1998
- published “Baby and Child Care” in 1946
- His views on parenting precipitated, among other things, a revolutionary change in the way children and mothers were viewed within the family. He questioned the prevailing paternalistic view, which was best reflected by the phrase (and 1954 T.V. show), “Father Knows Best”, and he challenged the belief that parents should be strict, authoritarian, emotionally-distant disciplinarians. He advocated respecting and encouraging each child's unique personality. This ran counter to the accepted practice of the times, which held that children were “meant to be seen, not heard” and “should not speak unless spoken to”.