

# EdKids: the Children of International Educators

By Ettie Zilber

Book reviewers have honored me by recognizing and celebrating my book, *Third Culture Kids: Children of International School Educators*. However, my greatest pleasure comes from the continuous comments and letters of gratitude—from international school educators, administrators and EdKids themselves; these have truly made the effort worthwhile.

Indeed, this was the prime reason for the research and the writing: to answer the questions in my own head and heart, and to help others who share(d) the pleasures and pitfalls of this unique person-

al/professional and family/work paradigm. From the comments and workshops, I realized I had touched on a sensitive topic.

The responses were emotional, with complete strangers expressing their personal experiences and their thanks for addressing so many of their own issues. In workshops, participants indicated that they had never before received guidelines in any forum at their schools.

Interestingly, I also met adult EdKids at conferences, who were now educators themselves, who offered the child's perspective as well as the adult's. The research as well as the personal commentar-

ies point to a powerfully positive experience with many advantages, albeit with a few caveats.

For me, another reason for writing was to augment the potential educator/administrator candidate pool for the ever-increasing number of international schools to introduce the idea to educators who might have dreams of an international career but are concerned about their family.

Similarly, to single or recently partnered international educators who believe they should "go home" or "settle down" I say this: you are outstanding, skilled, and experienced international school educators! We need you. ●

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