Middle classes are by definition ambiguous, raising all sorts of paradoxical questions, perceived and real, about their power and place relative to those above and below them in a class-structured society. Focusing on families of the new middle class in Istanbul, the authors of this study address questions about the social construction of middle-class reality in the context of the rapid changes that have come about through
recent economic growth in global markets and the global diffusion of information
technology. After 1980, Turkey saw a structural transformation from state-owned and
managed industry, banking, and media and communications to privatization and open
markets. The idea of being middle class and the reality of middle-class practices
became open for negotiation and interpretation. This study therefore offers a
particularly interesting case study of an emergent global phenomenon known as the
transnational middle class, characterized by their location of work in globalizing
cities, development of transnational social networks, sumptuary consumption habits,
and residences in gated communities. As the authors show, this new middle class
associates quality education, followed by property and lifestyle issues, with the
concept of a comfortable life.

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匆匆翻过，90年代的伊斯坦布尔中产阶级的教育焦虑和现在的中国也太像了。所以 neoliberalization/globalization的确让转型国家逐渐形成的global middle class非常有共性。

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