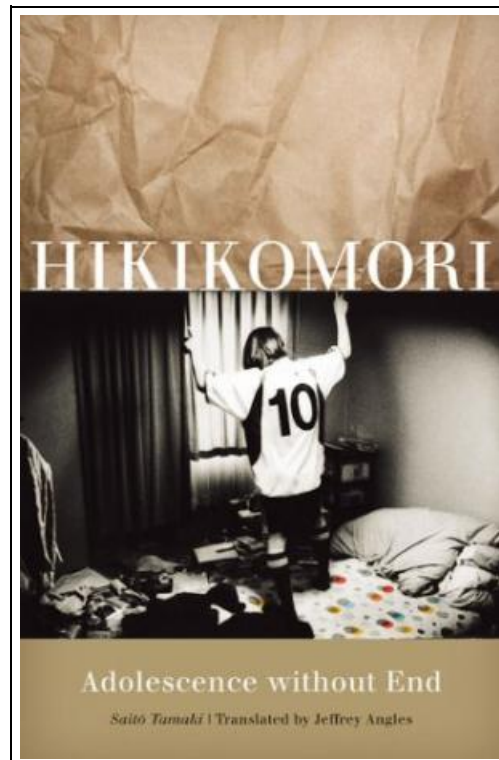


## Hikikomori: Adolescence Without End



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### **Reviews**

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## HIKIKOMORI: ADOLESCENCE WITHOUT END



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Univ Of Minnesota Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 208 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.5in. x 0.8in. This is the first English translation of a controversial Japanese best seller that made the public aware of the social problem of hikikomori, or withdrawal phenomenon estimated by the author to involve as many as one million Japanese adolescents and young adults who have withdrawn from society, retreating to their rooms for months or years and severing almost all ties to the outside world. Sait Tamakis work of popular psychology provoked a national debate about the causes and extent of the condition. Since Hikikomori was published in Japan in 1998, the problem of social withdrawal has increasingly been recognized as an international one, and this translation promises to bring much-needed attention to the issue in the English-speaking world. According to the New York Times, As a hikikomori ages, the odds that he'll re-enter the world decline. Indeed, some experts predict that most hikikomori who are withdrawn for a year or more may never fully recover. That means that even if they emerge from their rooms, they either won't get a full-time job or won't be involved in a long-term relationship. And some will never leave home. In many cases, their parents are now approaching retirement, and once they die, the fate of the shut-ins whose social and work skills, if they ever existed, will have atrophied is an open question. Drawing on his own clinical experience with hikikomori patients, Sait creates a working definition of social withdrawal and explains its development. He argues that hikikomori sufferers manifest a specific, interconnected series of symptoms that do not fit neatly with any single, easily identifiable mental condition, such as depression. Rejecting the tendency to moralize or pathologize, Sait sensitively describes how families and caregivers can support individuals in withdrawal and...



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