A Sociology Of Family Life

A Sociology of FAMILY LIFE
Change and Diversity in Intimate Relations
DEBORAH CHAMBERS

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New kinds of intimate relationships such as post-divorce families, co-habiting couples, ‘friends as family’ and same-sex unions are now commonplace. This book explores the growing diversity of family life by presenting a comprehensive assessment of recent research and theory, and foregrounds new thinking about ‘family’, parenting, childhood and personal life. A Sociology of Family Life queries notions of moral decline by revealing a remarkable persistence of commitment and reciprocity across cultures in traditional and new family relations. This insightful and innovative work examines factors such as gender, race, ethnic identity and new sexual lifestyles in relation to cultural customs, government policies and social inequalities. Global dimensions of intimate life are explored, including the impact of population policies on fertility in several nations; ethical dilemmas associated with reproductive technologies among different cultures; interdependencies between rich and poor nations through the globalization of domestic care; and transnational marriage strategies. This book will be indispensable for students across the social sciences interested in change in intimate relations. Selected by Choice as a 2013 Outstanding Academic Title

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages
Publisher: Polity; 1 edition (May 29, 2012)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0745647790
Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches
Shipping Weight: 14.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1 customer review)
Best Sellers Rank: #601,570 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #354 in Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Medicine > Clinical > Mental Health #930 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Marriage & Family #11813 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Mental Health

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