

lgbt families nancy j mezey

****Understanding LGBT Families Through the Lens of Nancy J. Mezey****

lgbt families nancy j mezey is a phrase that brings to mind the important work and insights of Nancy J. Mezey, a scholar and advocate who has contributed significantly to the discourse on LGBT families. Her research and writings delve deeply into the social, legal, and emotional landscapes that shape the experiences of LGBT parents and their children. As society continues to evolve in its understanding and acceptance of diverse family structures, exploring the perspectives and findings of experts like Mezey is invaluable.

The Landscape of LGBT Families: A Closer Look

When we talk about LGBT families, we're referring to households where one or more members identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. These families often navigate unique challenges and joys that differ from traditional family models. Nancy J. Mezey's work sheds light on these dynamics, emphasizing the importance of visibility and recognition.

The Diversity Within LGBT Families

It's crucial to recognize that LGBT families are not monolithic. They vary widely in structure and composition, including:

- Same-sex couples raising children biologically related to one or both parents
- Families formed through adoption or foster care
- Blended families where one or more parents have children from previous relationships
- Transgender parents navigating parenthood in unique ways

Nancy J. Mezey's research highlights how these variations influence both family dynamics and societal interactions.

Legal Challenges and Advocacy in LGBT Parenting

One of the central themes in the work of Nancy J. Mezey is the legal landscape surrounding LGBT families. Historically, many LGBT parents faced significant legal hurdles concerning parental rights, custody, and recognition.

The Evolution of Parental Rights

For years, laws in many regions did not adequately protect the rights of non-biological parents in same-sex relationships. Mezey's analysis outlines how legal advocacy has gradually secured more inclusive family laws, such as:

- Recognition of second-parent adoption
- Marriage equality and its impact on parental rights
- Protections against discrimination in adoption and foster care processes

These legal milestones have not only provided security for LGBT families but also contributed to broader societal acceptance.

The Social and Emotional Dimensions Explored by Nancy J. Mezey

Beyond legal frameworks, the emotional well-being and social experiences of LGBT families are areas where Mezey offers valuable perspectives.

Child Development and Family Stability

Contrary to outdated stereotypes, studies, including those referenced by Mezey, consistently show that children raised in LGBT families thrive just as well as those in heterosexual families. Key factors contributing to healthy development include:

- Supportive and loving parenting
- Open communication within the family unit
- Access to inclusive and affirming social environments

Mezey emphasizes that family stability and the quality of relationships matter far more than the sexual orientation or gender identity of the parents.

Addressing Societal Stigma and Building Resilience

LGBT families often confront societal prejudices and misunderstandings. Nancy J. Mezey's work encourages communities to foster environments of acceptance to help families navigate these challenges. Strategies include:

- Educational programs promoting diversity and inclusion
- Support networks for parents and children within LGBT families
- Public policies aimed at reducing discrimination

Building resilience in these families is a collective effort involving schools, healthcare providers, and policymakers.

The Role of Research and Education in Shaping Perceptions

Nancy J. Mezey's contributions extend into academia and public education, where she advocates for informed discourse on LGBT family issues.

Informing Policy Through Evidence-Based Research

Policymakers rely on comprehensive data to craft laws that protect families. Mezey's meticulous studies provide insights into the lived realities of LGBT families, challenging myths and informing legislation.

Educating Future Generations

Incorporating inclusive family representations in educational curricula helps normalize LGBT families for children and adolescents. Mezey supports such initiatives, arguing that representation fosters empathy and reduces stigma from a young age.

Practical Tips for Supporting LGBT Families

Drawing inspiration from the work of Nancy J. Mezey, here are some actionable ways individuals and communities can support LGBT families:

1. **Use Inclusive Language:** Avoid assumptions about family structures and respect chosen names and pronouns.

2. **Create Welcoming Spaces:** Whether in schools, workplaces, or social settings, ensure environments affirm diverse families.
3. **Advocate for Equal Rights:** Support policies that protect the legal and social rights of LGBT parents and their children.
4. **Educate Yourself and Others:** Stay informed about the challenges and successes of LGBT families to combat misinformation.

These steps help build a society where all families can flourish.

Exploring the experiences of LGBT families through the detailed and compassionate lens of Nancy J. Mezey enriches our understanding of what family truly means. Her work invites us to appreciate the resilience, love, and diversity that define these families, reminding us that the heart of family lies not in its form but in its bonds.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Nancy J. Mezey and what is her contribution to the study of LGBT families?

Nancy J. Mezey is a scholar known for her work in social work and family studies, particularly focusing on LGBT families, exploring their dynamics, challenges, and social implications.

What are the main themes addressed by Nancy J. Mezey in her research on LGBT families?

Nancy J. Mezey's research often addresses themes such as family diversity, social acceptance, legal challenges, parenting in LGBT families, and the intersection of identity and family structure.

How does Nancy J. Mezey define LGBT families in her work?

Nancy J. Mezey defines LGBT families as family units that include individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender, emphasizing the diversity of family forms beyond traditional definitions.

What challenges faced by LGBT families does Nancy J. Mezey highlight?

She highlights challenges including social stigma, legal barriers to marriage and adoption, discrimination, and the need for inclusive social policies and supportive services.

Has Nancy J. Mezey proposed any policy recommendations for

supporting LGBT families?

Yes, Nancy J. Mezey advocates for inclusive family policies, anti-discrimination laws, access to healthcare and social services, and legal recognition of diverse family structures to support LGBT families.

In what ways does Nancy J. Mezey suggest social workers can better support LGBT families?

She suggests that social workers should receive specialized training on LGBT issues, practice cultural competence, advocate for clients' rights, and create affirming environments for LGBT families.

What impact has Nancy J. Mezey's work had on the understanding of LGBT family dynamics?

Her work has expanded awareness of the varied experiences of LGBT families, challenged stereotypes, and promoted more inclusive definitions and practices within social work and family studies.

Are there any notable publications by Nancy J. Mezey focusing on LGBT families?

Nancy J. Mezey has authored several articles and book chapters addressing LGBT family issues, contributing to academic discourse on family diversity and social justice.

How does Nancy J. Mezey address the intersectionality within LGBT families?

She emphasizes the importance of considering intersecting identities such as race, class, gender, and sexual orientation to understand the unique experiences of LGBT families fully.

What role does Nancy J. Mezey believe education plays in improving the lives of LGBT families?

Nancy J. Mezey believes education is crucial for reducing stigma, promoting acceptance, and equipping professionals to support LGBT families effectively through informed policies and practices.

Additional Resources

****Exploring the Dynamics of LGBT Families: Insights from Nancy J. Mezey****

lgbt families nancy j mezey represents a critical nexus in the study of family sociology, gender studies, and social policy. Nancy J. Mezey, a prominent scholar and advocate, has contributed significantly to the understanding of LGBT family structures, their challenges, and societal perceptions. Her work provides a nuanced exploration of how these families form, function, and navigate a landscape often marked by legal and cultural hurdles.

As societies around the world evolve, the configuration of families is becoming increasingly diverse. LGBT families—comprising lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals—challenge traditional notions of kinship, parenting, and household dynamics. Mezey's research sheds light on these transformations, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity and recognition in both social and legal frameworks.

The Sociological Landscape of LGBT Families

Nancy J. Mezey's analysis situates LGBT families within a broader sociological context, where family is not solely defined by biological ties but by emotional bonds and social commitments. Her work emphasizes that LGBT families often face unique challenges compared to heterosexual families, including discrimination, lack of legal recognition, and social stigma.

Defining Family Beyond Tradition

A key theme in Mezey's scholarship is the redefinition of family. She argues that family should be understood through the lens of care, support, and mutual responsibility rather than merely biological or marital connections. This inclusive definition opens the door for recognizing same-sex couples, transgender parents, and chosen families—a term often used within the LGBT community to describe networks of support beyond blood relations.

Legal and Policy Challenges

Mezey critically examines the legal obstacles confronting LGBT families. Despite progress in many jurisdictions, such as the legalization of same-sex marriage and adoption rights, disparities remain. For example, parental rights for transgender individuals can be inconsistent and complex to navigate. Mezey's research highlights the need for comprehensive policies that protect the rights of all family members, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Parenting and Child Development in LGBT Families

One of the most scrutinized aspects of LGBT families is parenting. Mezey's work contributes to a growing body of evidence demonstrating that children raised in LGBT households fare just as well as those in heterosexual families. Her studies address common misconceptions and provide empirical data to support the positive outcomes seen in these families.

Child Well-being and Emotional Health

Research cited by Mezey consistently shows that children of LGBT parents exhibit similar levels of emotional well-being, social competence, and academic success as their peers. This challenges outdated stereotypes suggesting that non-traditional family structures negatively impact child

development. Instead, factors such as parental support, stability, and love prove to be the crucial determinants of child outcomes.

Parenting Styles and Adaptability

LGBT parents often develop unique parenting styles that emphasize open communication and resilience. Mezey notes that many LGBT families intentionally foster environments of inclusivity and adaptability, partly as a response to societal challenges. This flexibility can translate into stronger family bonds and a greater emphasis on empathy and understanding within the household.

Social Perceptions and Cultural Implications

Nancy J. Mezey's contributions extend beyond empirical data to explore how cultural attitudes shape the experiences of LGBT families. Societal acceptance varies widely, influencing both internal family dynamics and external interactions.

Stigma and Social Support

Mezey identifies stigma as a persistent barrier for many LGBT families. Discrimination in schools, workplaces, and healthcare settings can affect family members' mental health and access to resources. However, she also highlights the resilience found in LGBT communities, where social support networks often compensate for broader societal exclusion.

Media Representation and Visibility

The portrayal of LGBT families in media plays a significant role in shaping public perceptions. Mezey's analysis points to a gradual increase in positive representation, which contributes to greater visibility and normalization of diverse family forms. Yet, she cautions against tokenism and stresses the importance of authentic, varied depictions reflecting the full spectrum of LGBT family experiences.

Comparative Perspectives and Future Directions

In comparing LGBT families across different cultures and legal systems, Mezey's work reveals stark disparities and opportunities for progress. Countries with inclusive policies tend to report better outcomes for these families, underscoring the impact of legal recognition on social acceptance.

Global Variations in LGBT Family Recognition

While some nations have embraced marriage equality and adoption rights, others maintain restrictive

laws that criminalize same-sex relationships or deny parental recognition. Mezey advocates for international human rights frameworks to ensure that LGBT families receive equal protection and support worldwide.

Research Gaps and Emerging Issues

Mezey also identifies areas requiring further exploration, such as the experiences of bisexual and transgender parents, intersectionality involving race and class, and the impact of emerging reproductive technologies. Addressing these gaps will deepen understanding and inform policies that reflect the diversity within LGBT family communities.

- Recognition of chosen families and non-biological kinship ties
- Addressing mental health disparities linked to societal stigma
- Enhancing legal frameworks for parental rights and family security
- Promoting inclusive education that reflects diverse family structures

The work of Nancy J. Mezey in the realm of LGBT families continues to influence academic discourse, social policy, and advocacy efforts. By foregrounding the lived realities of these families, her scholarship challenges conventional paradigms and promotes a more inclusive understanding of what family means in the modern world. The evolving recognition of LGBT families not only reflects broader social change but also paves the way for more equitable and supportive environments for all families, regardless of their composition.

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to the society in which they exist? Here is what author Nancy Mezey had to say in a recent interview: ? LGBT people are creating families in a society that simultaneously demonizes and embraces them. With a desire to understand and perhaps deconstruct this rocky terrain, I decided to write *LGBT Families*, a comprehensive overview based on solid research so that readers can form their own opinions. This book stands in solidarity with all diverse family forms – families that developed out of particular social and economic contexts, and that contribute to the society around them, despite the hardships that some in society may level at them.

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lgbt families nancy j mezey: *Shifting the Center* Susan J. Ferguson, 2022-11-21 *Shifting the Center: Understanding Contemporary Families*, Sixth Edition is a popular anthology of readings used in Sociology of Family and of Marriages/Families/Intimate Relationship courses. Editor Susan J. Ferguson brings together carefully selected pieces written by leading family researchers and drawn from a variety of scholarly sources, including articles from the leading family journals and excerpts from several classic book-length studies. She also provides background and context to help students connect the topics in the readings to the broader themes in the study of family sociology. The table of contents follows the same scope and sequence as the leading family survey texts.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: *LGBT-Parent Families* Abbie E. Goldberg, Katherine R. Allen, 2012-10-11 *LGBT-Parent Families* is the first handbook to provide a comprehensive examination of this underserved area. Reflecting the nature of this issue, the volume is notably interdisciplinary, with contributions from scholars in psychology, sociology, human development, family studies, gender studies, sexuality studies, legal studies, social work, and anthropology. Additionally, scholarship from regions beyond the U.S. including England, Australia, Canada, and South Africa is presented. In addition to gender and sexuality, all contributors address issues of social class, race, and ethnicity in their chapters.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: *Sociology of Sexualities* Kathleen J. Fitzgerald, Kandice L. Grossman, 2020-07-16 *Sociology of Sexualities* is regarded as the most comprehensive text to approach the study of sexuality from a sociological perspective. Drawing on the most up-to-date social scientific research on sexuality, it discusses fundamental concepts in the field and helps students integrate knowledge about sexuality into their larger understanding of society--

lgbt families nancy j mezey: *Introduction to Teaching* Gene E. Hall, Linda F. Quinn, Donna M. Gollnick, 2019-01-02 An ideal introductory text for aspiring teachers, *Introduction to Teaching: Making a Difference in Student Learning* is grounded in the realities and complexities found in today's schools. Acclaimed authors Gene E. Hall, Linda F. Quinn, and Donna M. Gollnick thoroughly prepare students to make a difference as teachers, presenting firsthand stories and evidence-based practices while offering a student-centered approach to learning. The authors focus on how to address one of the biggest challenges facing many of today's schools—ensuring that all students are learning—and help teachers prioritize student learning as their primary focus. From true-to-life challenges that future teachers will face, such as high-stakes testing, reduced funding, low retention, and Common Core State Standards, to the inspiration and joy they will experience throughout their teaching careers, the Third Edition paints an importantly authentic picture of the real life of a teacher. This title is accompanied by a complete teaching and learning package.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: *Reproductive Losses* Christa Craven, 2019-05-30 Although there are far more opportunities for LGBTQ people to become parents than there were before the 1990s, attention to the reproductive challenges LGBTQ families face has not kept pace. *Reproductive Losses* considers LGBTQ people's experiences with miscarriage, stillbirth, failed adoptions, infertility, and sterility. Drawing on Craven's training as a feminist anthropologist and her experiences as a queer parent who has experienced loss, *Reproductive Losses* includes detailed

stories drawn from over fifty interviews with LGBTQ people (including those who carried pregnancies, non-gestational and adoptive parents, and families from a broad range of racial/ethnic, socio-economic, and religious backgrounds) to consider how they experience loss, grief, and mourning. The book includes productive suggestions and personal narratives of resiliency, commemorative strategies, and communal support, while also acknowledging the adversity many LGBTQ people face as they attempt to form families and the heteronormativity of support resources for those who have experienced reproductive loss. This is essential reading for scholars and professionals interested in LGBTQ health and family, and for individuals in LGBTQ communities who have experienced loss and those who support them. See additional material on the companion website: www.lgbtqreproductiveloss.org/

lgbt families nancy j mezey: The Sage Encyclopedia of LGBTQ+ Studies, 2nd Edition

Abbie E. Goldberg, 2023-01-05 The SAGE Encyclopedia of LGBTQ Studies, 2nd Edition will be a broad, interdisciplinary product aimed at students and educators interested in an interdisciplinary perspective on LGBTQ issues. This far-reaching and contemporary set of volumes is meant to examine and provide understandings of the lives and experiences of LGBTQ individuals, with attention to the contexts and forces that shape their world. The volume will address questions such as: What are the key theories used to understand variations in sexual orientation and gender identity? How do LGBTQ+ people experience the transition to parenthood? How does sexual orientation intersect with other key social locations (e.g., race) to shape experience and identity? What does LGBTQ+ affirmative therapy look like? How have anti-LGBTQ ballot measures affected LGBTQ people? What are LGBTQ+ people's experiences during COVID-19? How were LGBTQ+ people impacted by the Trump administration? What is life like for LGBTQ+ people living outside the United States? This encyclopedia will be a unique product on the market: a reference work that looks at LGBTQ issues and identity primarily through the lenses of psychology, human development, and sociology, and emphasizing queer, feminist, and ecological perspectives on this topic. Entries will be written by top researchers and clinicians across multiple fields - psychology, human development, gender/queer studies, sexuality studies, social work, nursing, cultural studies, education, family studies, medicine, public health, and sociology - contributing to approximately 450-500 signed entries. All entries will include cross-references and Further Readings.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: Ministry Among God's Queer Folk, Second Edition

Bernard Schlager, David Kundtz, 2019-01-21 This practical pastoral care handbook, written by two self-described queer people of faith, covers the basic skills that religious caregivers and ministry students need in order to be effective, enlightened, and supportive pastoral care providers to LGBTQ persons in congregational and other community settings. Authors Schlager and Kundtz distinguish pastoral care from pastoral counseling: while the latter is reserved for those with special training in the practice of therapy, the former can be developed by ministers and lay people with sufficient education and practice. This book requires of the reader no previous experience with LGBTQ communities and treats the following topics: the definition and functions of pastoral care; effective care in challenging times; coming out of the closet; creating communities of care; and caring for a wide variety of LGBTQ relationships. The authors provide case studies throughout the book to ground and illustrate their theology of pastoral care.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: Lesbians, Gays, and Bisexuals Becoming Parents or Remaining

Childfree Cara Bergstrom-Lynch, 2015-12-03 This book recognizes that intense public battles are being waged in the U.S. over the rights of LGB people to form legally and culturally recognized families. Their families are under a kind of sociopolitical scrutiny at this historical moment that compels us all to take stock of our strategies of family-building and, more broadly, the meaning of family in the U.S. today. Through in-depth, open-ended, qualitative interviews with 61 self-identified lesbian, gay, and bisexual people regarding how they came to have children or remain childless/childfree, this book reveals the challenges posed by homophobia and discrimination and showcases the creative strategies, resilience, and resourcefulness of lesbians, bisexuals, and gays as they build families (with or without children) after coming out. From descriptions of how the early

process of coming out affected the desire to parent or remain childfree, to stories about the impact of homophobia and discrimination on the decision-making process, to the dynamics within couples that lead to becoming parents or remaining childfree, to examining how cultural notions of the strength of biology are employed when having children, to accounts of how the closet can be used strategically when bringing children into a family, their voices form the heart of this book. In a sociopolitical context in which gay, lesbian, and bisexual people often have to struggle to access the array of rights and opportunities that are afforded to most heterosexual people without question, addressing the questions raised in this book is an urgent and necessary endeavor.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: *ABC Family to Freeform TV* Emily L. Newman, Emily Witsell, 2018-03-02 Launched in 1977 by the Christian Broadcasting Service (originally associated with Pat Robertson), the ABC Family/Freeform network has gone through a number of changes in name and ownership. Over the past decade, the network--now owned by Disney--has redefined family programming for its targeted 14- to 34-year-old demographic, addressing topics like lesbian and gay parenting, postfeminism and changing perceptions of women, the issue of race in the U.S., and the status of disability in American culture. This collection of new essays examines the network from a variety of perspectives, with a focus on inclusive programming that has created a space for underrepresented communities like transgender youth, overweight teens, and the deaf.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: *Steeped in Blood* Frances J. Latchford, 2019-08-15 What personal truths reside in biological ties that are absent in adoptive ties? And why do we think adoptive and biological ties are essentially different when it comes to understanding who we are? At a time when interest in DNA and ancestry is exploding, Frances Latchford questions the idea that knowing one's bio-genealogy is integral to personal identity or a sense of family and belonging. Upending our established values and beliefs about what makes a family, *Steeped in Blood* examines the social and political devaluation of adoptive ties. It takes readers on an intellectual journey through accepted wisdom about adoption, twins, kinship, and incest, and challenges our naturalistic and individualistic assumptions about identity and the biological ties that bind us, sometimes violently, to our families. Latchford exposes how our desire for bio-genealogical knowledge, understood as it is by family and adoption experts, pathologizes adoptees by posing the biological tie as a necessary condition for normal identity formation. Rejecting the idea that a love of the self-same is fundamental to family bonds, her book is a reaction to the wounds families suffer whenever they dare to revel in their difference. A rejoinder to rhetoric that defines adoptees, adoptive kin, and their family intimacies as inferior and inauthentic, *Steeped in Blood's* view through the lens of critical adoption studies decentres our cultural obsession with the biological family imaginary and makes real the possibility of being family in the absence of blood.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: *Investigating Social Problems* A. Javier Trevino, 2024-10-30 *Investigating Social Problems*, Fourth Edition offers a unique collaborative approach to examining timely social issues. Drawing from the insights of over two dozen sociology experts, this thorough and updated guide affords students a multi-faceted exploration of society's most pressing problems.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: *New Choices, New Families* Nancy J. Mezey, 2008-07-28 Society continues to debate the changing American family, especially nontraditional families. In addition, this debate engages the controversy surrounding the parental rights of same-sex couples and their families. In *New Choices*, the author asks why lesbians are forming families at this particular historical moment and wonders how race, class, sexual identity, and family history factor into the decision-making process. Drawing heavily from personal interviews, her analysis gives voice to groups long underrepresented in similar studies, such as black, Latina, working class, and childfree lesbians.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: *A House Divided* Geoffrey W. Sutton, 2016-03-29 *A House Divided* helps answer the question, how do Christians form moral judgments about sex-linked issues? After analyzing key differences between conservative and progressive Christians on such divisive issues as abortion, sex education, and same-sex marriage, readers will learn how a combination of four factors can lead to principled Christian morality. First, a review of diverse

interpretive comments on relevant Scriptures can help identify a foundation for agreement as well as sharpen differences. Second, a review of psychological factors can help identify prejudices, personality traits, and powerful emotions that intensify and color public debate. Third, new research on moral psychology will add six dimensions of analysis to appreciating the reasons conservatives and progressives draw upon when forming moral judgments. And finally, knowledge about sexual attraction, sexual orientation, conception, and sexual health is vital to thinking ethically about the specific issues addressed in this book.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: Childfree by Choice Dr. Amy Blackstone, 2019-06-11 From Dr. Amy Blackstone, childfree woman, co-creator of the blog we're {not} having a baby, and nationally recognized expert on the childfree choice, comes a definitive investigation into the history and current growing movement of adults choosing to forgo parenthood: what it means for our society, economy, environment, perceived gender roles, and legacies, and how understanding and supporting all types of families can lead to positive outcomes for parents, non-parents, and children alike. As a childfree woman, Dr. Amy Blackstone is no stranger to a wide range of negative responses when she informs people she doesn't have--nor does she want--kids: confused looks, patronizing quips, thinly veiled pity, even outright scorn and condemnation. But she is not alone in opting out when it comes to children. More people than ever are choosing to forgo parenthood, and openly discussing a choice that's still often perceived as taboo. Yet this choice, and its effects personally and culturally, are still often misunderstood. Amy Blackstone, a professor of sociology, has been studying the childfree choice since 2008, a choice she and her husband had already confidently and happily made. Using her own and others' research as well as her personal experience, Blackstone delves into the childfree movement from its conception to today, exploring gender, race, sexual orientation, politics, environmentalism, and feminism, as she strips away the misconceptions surrounding non-parents and reveals the still radical notion that support of the childfree can lead to better lives and societies for all.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: The Truth About M(O)therhood: Choosing to be Childfree Helene A. Cummins, Helene A. Cummins Cummins, Julie Anne Rodgers, Judith Dunkelberger Wouk, Julie Anne Rodgers Rodgers, 2021-01-29 In a world full of messages about the joys of motherhood, ticking biological clocks, pronatalist ideologies, and socio-cultural imperatives for women to mother, what does the alternative look like? That is, what is the experience of women who choose, or find themselves without progeny, when they are deemed other, instead of being a mother? This anthology of interdisciplinary work links to sociology, anthropology, psychology, demography, religion, language, literature, popular media, medicine and child and family studies. Are women that choose to be childfree always narcissistic, self-obsessed, and lonely? Or can they be free, mobile, and successful? Do all women who choose to be childfree do it in the same way or have the same motivation? What is the role of age, partnership status, trauma, or poverty in this decision? Using techniques such as literature review, ethnographic interviews, autoethnography, and textual analysis and reframing, these sixteen authors from around the globe unpack largely pronatalist, racist, sexist, and heteronormative views and assumptions about childfree women.

lgbt families nancy j mezey: The SAGE Encyclopedia of LGBTQ Studies Abbie E. Goldberg, 2016-05-10 This far-reaching and contemporary new Encyclopedia examines and explores the lives and experiences of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) individuals, focusing on the contexts and forces that shape their lives. The work focuses on LGBTQ issues and identity primarily through the lenses of psychology, human development and sociology, emphasizing queer, feminist and ecological perspectives on the topic, and addresses questions such as: · What are the key theories used to understand variations in sexual orientation and gender identity? · How do Gay-Straight Alliances (GSA) affect LGBTQ youth? · How do LGBTQ people experience the transition to parenthood? · How does sexual orientation intersect with other key social locations, such as race, to shape experience and identity? · What are the effects of marriage equality on sexual minority individuals and couples? Top researchers and clinicians contribute to the 400 signed entries, from fields such as: · Psychology · Human Development · Gender/Queer Studies · Sexuality Studies ·

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