## america and the pill elaine tyler may

America and the Pill Elaine Tyler May: Exploring the Social Impact of Birth Control

america and the pill elaine tyler may is a phrase that opens the door to a fascinating exploration of how the introduction of the birth control pill transformed American society. Elaine Tyler May, a renowned historian and scholar, offers profound insights into the cultural, political, and personal ramifications of this revolutionary contraceptive method. Understanding her analysis helps us grasp not only the historical context of the pill but also its ongoing influence on gender roles, family dynamics, and sexual freedom in the United States.

#### The Historical Context of America and the Pill

Before the pill's approval by the FDA in 1960, contraceptive options were limited, often unreliable, and heavily stigmatized. In this era, family planning was shrouded in silence, and women's reproductive choices were largely dictated by societal norms and legal restrictions. Elaine Tyler May's work sheds light on this period, emphasizing how the pill emerged as more than just a medical innovation—it became a symbol of changing social attitudes.

#### The Sexual Revolution and Changing Gender Norms

Elaine Tyler May connects the availability of the pill with the broader sexual revolution of the 1960s and 70s. The pill provided unprecedented control over reproduction, which in turn enabled women to pursue higher education, careers, and lifestyles previously dominated by men. This shift challenged traditional gender roles and opened up conversations about sexual freedom, responsibility, and equality.

## **Legal Battles and Social Resistance**

The journey of the pill wasn't without controversy. May's research highlights the significant legal challenges and societal pushback that accompanied the pill's introduction. Religious institutions, conservative groups, and some political figures opposed birth control on moral grounds, framing it as a threat to family values. These conflicts reveal the deep cultural tensions surrounding reproductive rights in America.

# Elaine Tyler May's Contributions to Understanding the Pill's Impact

Elaine Tyler May's scholarship stands out for its nuanced approach to the intersection of gender, politics, and family life. Her work in books such as "America and the Pill" and related essays explores how the pill influenced not only individual choices but also collective ideas about parenthood,

### **Reframing Family and Motherhood**

One of May's key insights is how the pill shifted perceptions of motherhood from an inevitable life stage to a choice. This empowered women to reconsider the timing and number of children they had, affecting family structures and domestic roles. The pill contributed to the rise of smaller families and delayed childbearing, trends that reshaped American demographics and social expectations.

#### **Intersection with Feminist Movements**

May also details how the pill intersected with the feminist movements of the late 20th century. It was both a tool and a symbol for women's liberation, enabling activism focused on reproductive rights, workplace equality, and bodily autonomy. The pill's introduction galvanized debates about personal freedom and government intervention in private life, themes central to feminist discourse.

### Social and Cultural Ripples: Beyond Individual Choice

The influence of the pill, as May argues, extends beyond the realm of personal decision-making. It played a role in reshaping cultural attitudes toward sexuality, marriage, and responsibility. The pill catalyzed more open discussions about premarital sex, contraception, and sexual health, topics previously taboo in much of American society.

### **Changing Attitudes Toward Sexuality**

With the pill providing reliable contraception, attitudes toward premarital and extramarital sex began to evolve. Elaine Tyler May's analysis shows that the pill helped decouple sex from reproduction, allowing for a more relaxed and experimental approach to sexuality. This cultural shift contributed to the rise of youth culture, new music scenes, and changing social norms.

### Impact on Men's Roles and Expectations

While much focus is on women, May also points out that the pill affected men's roles in relationships and family planning. Men had to adapt to new expectations around contraception responsibility and acknowledge women's increased autonomy. This dynamic initiated conversations about partnership, consent, and shared decision-making in intimate relationships.

# **Contemporary Relevance of America and the Pill Elaine Tyler May Explores**

Though the pill has been available for over six decades, Elaine Tyler May's insights remain relevant today as debates over reproductive rights and healthcare access continue. Her work reminds us that the pill's history is intertwined with ongoing struggles over gender equality, privacy, and bodily autonomy.

#### **Ongoing Debates about Access and Rights**

In recent years, legislative battles over contraception coverage, abortion rights, and sexual education echo the conflicts May describes. Understanding the historical context provided by her research helps contextualize why reproductive health remains a flashpoint in American politics and society.

## **Technological Advances and New Challenges**

May's analysis also serves as a foundation for discussing new contraceptive technologies and how they challenge existing social norms. As innovations emerge, the lessons from the pill's history guide policymakers, educators, and activists in advocating for informed, equitable access to reproductive healthcare.

# Lessons from America and the Pill Elaine Tyler May Presents

Reflecting on Elaine Tyler May's work encourages us to appreciate the complexity behind what might seem like a simple medical innovation. The pill was—and is—a catalyst for change, touching on the core of human relationships, societal expectations, and individual freedoms.

- **Empowerment through Choice:** The pill exemplifies how access to reproductive control empowers individuals to shape their lives on their own terms.
- Intersection of Medicine and Society: Medical advances do not occur in a vacuum; they interact deeply with cultural values and norms.
- **Importance of Legal and Political Advocacy:** The pill's history underscores the need for continued vigilance and activism to protect reproductive rights.

Elaine Tyler May's scholarship invites us to view the story of the pill not just as a tale of contraception but as a narrative about freedom, equality, and the ongoing evolution of American society. Her work remains a crucial resource for anyone interested in the intersections of history, gender, and health

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

# Who is Elaine Tyler May and what is her contribution to the study of 'America and the Pill'?

Elaine Tyler May is a historian known for her work on gender, sexuality, and reproductive politics in the United States. She has contributed significant research on the social and political impact of the birth control pill in America.

# What is the main focus of Elaine Tyler May's analysis in 'America and the Pill'?

Elaine Tyler May's analysis focuses on how the introduction of the birth control pill in America transformed social norms, gender roles, and the political landscape surrounding reproductive rights.

# How did the birth control pill influence American society according to Elaine Tyler May?

According to Elaine Tyler May, the birth control pill played a crucial role in advancing women's liberation by providing greater control over reproduction, which in turn affected sexual freedom and gender equality.

# What historical period does Elaine Tyler May's work 'America and the Pill' primarily cover?

Her work primarily covers the mid-20th century, especially the 1950s through the 1970s, a pivotal era for the sexual revolution and the rise of feminist movements in the United States.

# Why is Elaine Tyler May's perspective on the pill considered important in historical studies?

Elaine Tyler May's perspective is important because she connects the medical innovation of the pill to broader social and cultural changes, highlighting its impact beyond just health to include politics, gender relations, and family dynamics.

# What role did politics play in the story of the birth control pill as discussed by Elaine Tyler May?

Elaine Tyler May discusses how politics influenced the development, approval, and distribution of the birth control pill, illustrating the tensions between conservative forces, feminist activists, and government policies during the era.

### **Additional Resources**

America and the Pill: Elaine Tyler May's Insightful Exploration of Contraception and Society

america and the pill elaine tyler may represents a critical intersection of history, gender studies, and social analysis through the lens of Elaine Tyler May's scholarship. May's work, particularly her book \*America and the Pill: A History of Promise, Peril, and Liberation\*, offers a nuanced examination of the cultural, political, and personal ramifications surrounding the introduction and widespread use of the birth control pill in the United States. This article delves into Elaine Tyler May's contributions, exploring how her research sheds light on the complex relationship between contraception, female autonomy, and American social dynamics.

# Understanding the Historical Context of the Pill in America

The birth control pill emerged in the 1960s as a revolutionary pharmaceutical innovation, promising unprecedented control over reproduction for women. Elaine Tyler May's analysis situates the pill not merely as a medical breakthrough but as a transformative agent in American society. Her work investigates the multifaceted effects of the pill, encompassing social liberation, governmental regulation, and the shifting landscape of gender roles.

The introduction of the pill coincided with broader societal changes including the sexual revolution, feminist movements, and evolving family structures. May's historical perspective highlights how these forces converged to redefine concepts of sexuality, marriage, and personal freedom. Importantly, she argues that the pill's promise was double-edged, offering both empowerment and new challenges for women navigating a rapidly changing cultural terrain.

### The Pill as a Symbol of Liberation and Control

Elaine Tyler May's research emphasizes that the pill was embraced by many as a symbol of liberation. It granted women unprecedented control over their reproductive choices, enabling them to pursue education, careers, and personal goals without the immediate threat of unplanned pregnancy. This autonomy fueled feminist activism and reshaped societal expectations of women's roles.

However, May also underlines the complexities inherent in the pill's history. While the pill empowered many, it also became entangled in issues of medical ethics, governmental oversight, and social inequality. For instance, minority women and low-income populations often faced coercive or limited access to contraception, revealing disparities that complicate the narrative of universal liberation.

### **Political and Cultural Implications of the Pill**

Elaine Tyler May's scholarship extends beyond individual experiences to interrogate the political and cultural ramifications of the pill. The birth control pill became a flashpoint in debates over morality, religion, and public policy. May meticulously documents how conservative groups opposed the pill on

ethical grounds, while progressive advocates championed it as essential to women's rights.

### **Government Regulation and Public Health Policy**

One of May's key contributions is her exploration of how government bodies regulated the pill's distribution and use. The Food and Drug Administration's approval process and subsequent public health policies reflected broader societal anxieties about sexuality and gender norms. Elaine Tyler May traces how these policies both facilitated and restricted access to contraception, influencing public perceptions and health outcomes.

### Media, Morality, and the Sexual Revolution

The media played a crucial role in shaping public discourse around the pill. May's analysis reveals how newspapers, magazines, and television portrayed the pill as both a miracle drug and a source of moral panic. This duality mirrored wider cultural tensions during the 1960s and 1970s, as America grappled with changing attitudes toward sex, marriage, and family.

### The Ongoing Legacy of America and the Pill

Elaine Tyler May's work remains profoundly relevant in contemporary discussions about reproductive rights and healthcare. The historical insights she provides illuminate ongoing debates about access to contraception, women's autonomy, and the politicization of reproductive health.

### **Contemporary Comparisons and Continuing Challenges**

Despite decades of advancement, the issues May identifies persist in various forms. Access to birth control remains uneven, influenced by socioeconomic factors, political legislation, and cultural attitudes. Elaine Tyler May's historical framework helps contextualize these ongoing challenges, demonstrating that the pill's legacy is a complex interplay of progress and resistance.

### **Implications for Gender and Social Policy**

May's analysis underscores the importance of viewing contraception not only as a medical or personal issue but as a deeply political one. Her work encourages policymakers, educators, and healthcare providers to consider the broader societal impacts of reproductive health initiatives, emphasizing equity, informed consent, and respect for individual agency.

• **Empowerment through autonomy:** The pill's role in enabling women's participation in education and the workforce.

- Social disparities: How access to contraception varied across race, class, and geography.
- **Political controversies:** The pill as a catalyst in debates over morality and government regulation.
- **Cultural transformations:** Shifts in sexual norms and family structures linked to contraception.

Elaine Tyler May's \*America and the Pill\* thus provides a comprehensive, balanced examination of a pivotal development in American history. Her scholarly approach uncovers the layered realities behind the pill's promise, capturing the hopes, contradictions, and struggles it engendered. By investigating the intersections of medicine, culture, and politics, May's work offers invaluable insights into how a single medical innovation can ripple through society, shaping identities and influencing public discourse for generations.

### **America And The Pill Elaine Tyler May**

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america and the pill elaine tyler may: America and the Pill Elaine Tyler May, 2011-09-06 In 1960, the FDA approved the contraceptive commonly known as "the pill." Advocates, developers, and manufacturers believed that the convenient new drug would put an end to unwanted pregnancy, ensure happy marriages, and even eradicate poverty. But as renowned historian Elaine Tyler May reveals in America and the Pill, it was women who embraced it and created change. They used the pill to challenge the authority of doctors, pharmaceutical companies, and lawmakers. They demonstrated that the pill was about much more than family planning—it offered women control over their bodies and their lives. From little-known accounts of the early years to personal testimonies from young women today, May illuminates what the pill did and did not achieve during its half century on the market.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: An Analysis of Elaine Tyler May's Homeward Bound Jarrod Homer, 2017-07-05 Elaine Tyler May's 1988 Homeward Bound: American Families in the Cold War Era is a ground-breaking piece of historical and cultural analysis that uses its findings to build a strong argument for its author's view of the course of modern US history. The aim of May's study is to trace the links between Cold War politics and the domestic lives of everyday American families at the time. Historians have long noted the unique domestic trends of 1950s America, with its increased focus on the nuclear family, neatly divided traditional gender roles and aspirational, suburban consumer lifestyles. May's contribution was to analyse the interplay between the domestic scene and the political ideologies of American government, and then to build a carefully-constructed argument that draws attention to the ways in which these seemingly disparate forces are in fact related. May's key achievement was to use her analytical skills to understand the relationships between these different factors. She the traced ways in which domestic life and US foreign policy mirrored one another, showing that the structures and processes they aimed for, while different in scale, were essentially the same. She then carefully brought together different types of historical

data, organizing her study to produce a carefully reasoned argument that the American suburban home was in certain direct ways the product of the 'containment' policies that ruled American foreign policy at the time.

**america and the pill elaine tyler may:** The Battle to Control Female Fertility in Modern Ireland Mary E. Daly, 2023-05-25 The battle for legal contraception challenged key tenets of Irish identity: Catholicism, large families, traditional gender roles, and sexual puritanism. It is a story of gender, religion, social change, and failing efforts to reaffirm Irish moral exceptionalism.

**america and the pill elaine tyler may:** The Social History of the American Family Marilyn J. Coleman, Lawrence H. Ganong, 2014-09-02 The American family has come a long way from the days of the idealized family portrayed in iconic television shows of the 1950s and 1960s. The four volumes of The Social History of the American Family explore the vital role of the family as the fundamental social unit across the span of American history. Experiences of family life shape so much of an individual's development and identity, yet the patterns of family structure, family life, and family transition vary across time, space, and socioeconomic contexts. Both the definition of who or what counts as family and representations of the "ideal" family have changed over time to reflect changing mores, changing living standards and lifestyles, and increased levels of social heterogeneity. Available in both digital and print formats, this carefully balanced academic work chronicles the social, cultural, economic, and political aspects of American families from the colonial period to the present. Key themes include families and culture (including mass media), families and religion, families and the economy, families and social issues, families and social stratification and conflict, family structures (including marriage and divorce, gender roles, parenting and children, and mixed and non-modal family forms), and family law and policy. Features: Approximately 600 articles, richly illustrated with historical photographs and color photos in the digital edition, provide historical context for students. A collection of primary source documents demonstrate themes across time. The signed articles, with cross references and Further Readings, are accompanied by a Reader's Guide, Chronology of American Families, Resource Guide, Glossary, and thorough index. The Social History of the American Family is an ideal reference for students and researchers who want to explore political and social debates about the importance of the family and its evolving constructions.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: The ^AAll-Consuming Nation Mark H. Lytle, 2021-10-05 The All-Consuming Nation examines how planners during World War II laid the foundation for a massconsumption economy. High wages, full employment, new technologies, and a rapid growth in population known as the Baby Boom ushered in a golden age of economic growth. By the end of the twentieth century, consumerism triumphed over communism, socialism, and all other isms seeking to win hearts and minds around the world. Mark Lytle investigates the environmental and sociocultural costs of the consumer capitalism framework set in place in the twentieth century, shedding light on both the catalysts and consequences of a national identity forged through mass consumption.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: »Wenn die Chemie stimmt ..." Lutz Niethammer, Silke Satjukow, 2016-12-05 Die »Pille und ihre globalen Auswirkungen. Die »Pille veränderte die Welt. Im Osten wie im Westen entwickelte sie sich zum zentralen Symbol einer »sexuellen Revolution, stellte die überkommenen Normengefüge in Frage und die Machtverhältnisse der Geschlechter auf den Kopf - mit weitreichenden Folgen. Ihre Markteinführung Anfang der sechziger Jahre geriet zu einer fundamentalen Herausforderung: nicht nur für die Frauen und Männer auf allen Kontinenten, für ihr Sexualleben und für ihre Familienplanung. Herausgefordert fühlten sich auch die Hüter traditioneller Werte in Politik, Religion und Kultur. Manche Gesellschaften hießen das Pharmazeutikum der Moderne willkommen, andere verweigerten sich strikt.

**america and the pill elaine tyler may:** *Narcocapitalism* Laurent de Sutter, 2018-03-16 What do the invention of anaesthetics in the middle of the nineteenth century, the Nazis' use of cocaine, and the development of Prozac have in common? The answer is that they're all products of the same logic that defines our contemporary era: 'the age of anaesthesia'. Laurent de Sutter shows how large

aspects of our lives are now characterised by the management of our emotions through drugs, ranging from the everyday use of sleeping pills to hard narcotics. Chemistry has become so much a part of us that we can't even see how much it has changed us. In this era, being a subject doesn't simply mean being subjected to powers that decide our lives: it means that our very emotions have been outsourced to chemical stimulation. Yet we don't understand why the drugs that we take are unable to free us from fatigue and depression, and from the absence of desire that now characterizes our psychopolitical condition. We have forgotten what it means to be excited because our only excitement has become drug-induced. We have to abandon the narcotic stimulation that we've come to rely on and find a way back to the collective excitement that is narcocapitalism's greatest fear.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: Human Rights, the Family, and Internationalism Since the Nineteenth Century Julia Moses, 2025-07-17 This book examines one of the key issues shaping global considerations of human rights today: the idea of the family as a protected category. Bringing together historians, political scientists, legal scholars, and historical sociologists, the book investigates how ideas about the family and sexuality intersected with thinking about human rights, for example, through new international law and international institutions; social movements targeting issues related to religion, gender, and sexuality; historical developments such as war and the collapse of empires; and, developments in the social sciences. It features case studies on regions around the globe, as well as on relevant international organisations and individuals who have been influential in this area. In doing so, the contributors to this collection interrogate the relationship between human rights related to the family, and broader debates about rights related to gender and sexuality.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: <a href="Intimate Matters">Intimate Matters</a> John D'Emilio, Estelle B. Freedman, 2012-12-03 "Fascinating . . . chart[s] a gradual but decisive shift in the way Americans have understood sex and its meaning in their lives." —New York Times Book Review The first full length study of the history of sexuality in America, Intimate Matters offers trenchant insights into the sexual behavior of Americans, from colonial times to today. D'Emilio and Freedman give us a deeper understanding of how sexuality has dramatically influenced politics and culture throughout our history. "Intimate Matters was cited by Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy when, writing for a majority of court on July 26, he and his colleagues struck down a Texas law criminalizing sodomy. The decision was widely hailed as a victory for gay rights. . . . The justice mentioned Intimate Matters specifically in the court's decision." —Chicago Tribune "With comprehensiveness and care . . . D'Emilio and Freedman have surveyed the sexual patterns for an entire nation across four centuries." —Nation "Comprehensive, meticulous and intelligent." —Washington Post Book World "This book is remarkable . . . [Intimate Matters] is bound to become the definitive survey of American sexual history for years to come." —Roy Porter, Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences

america and the pill elaine tyler may: The Prime of Life Steven Mintz, 2015-04-07 "By drawing on 400 years of social and economic history . . . [the book] presents a thoughtful and thorough guide through the life stages." (Library Journal) Adulthood today is undergoing profound transformations. Men and women wait until their thirties to marry, have children, and establish full-time careers, occupying a prolonged period in which they are no longer adolescents but still lack the traditional emblems of adult identity. People at midlife struggle to sustain relationships with friends and partners, to achieve fulfilling careers, to raise their children successfully, and to age gracefully. The Prime of Life puts today's challenges into new perspective by exploring how past generations navigated the passage to maturity. Whereas adulthood once meant culturally-prescribed roles and relationships, the social and economic convulsions of the last sixty years have transformed it fundamentally, tearing up these shared scripts and leaving adults to fashion meaning and coherence in an increasingly individualistic culture. Emphasizing adulthood's joys and fulfillments as well as its frustrations and regrets, Mintz shows how cultural and historical circumstances have consistently reshaped what it means to be a grown up in contemporary society. "A triumph of

historical writing." —The Spectator "[Mintz's] message—that there are many ways to wear the mantle of responsible adulthood and that the 1950s model is a mere blip on history's radar—is deeply necessary and long overdue." —New York Times Book Review "Describing the cultural, economic, and social changes from the Colonial era to today's world . . . Mintz argues that neither religious nor secular middle-class values are adequate responses to the new generation's problems." —Choice "A thoughtful and strangely encouraging tour of an often difficult life stage." —Kirkus Reviews

america and the pill elaine tyler may: Classroom Wars Natalia Mehlman Petrzela, 2015 Considering two of the 1960s and 70s' most innovative educational programs--Spanish-bilingual and sex education-- Natalia Mehlman Petrzela charts how during a time of extraordinary social change, Americans fused values about family, personal, and civic morality in their children's public school education.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: Children by Choice? Ann-Katrin Gembries, Theresia Theuke, Isabel Heinemann, 2018-05-22 During the 20th century, medico-technical advances such as the invention of the latex condom (1930), the arrival of the contraceptive pill on the free market (1960/61) and the birth of the first child conceived by in vitro fertilization (1978) contributed to the fact that in Europe and the USA, the planning, conceiving and making of children was increasingly perceived as a matter of individual and collective decision-making. Especially since mid-century, these societies underwent profound political, economic and cultural evolutions. In the realm of human reproduction the relationship between the possible, the desirable, and the permitted had to be continually renegotiated. This volume examines in nine chapters how thinking, speaking and acting changed with regards to reproduction and family planning throughout the modern and post-modern period. Applying an international comparative perspective, the study specifically focuses on the role of value changes underlying these transformation processes.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: Modern Motherhood Jodi Vandenberg-Daves, 2014-05-26 How did mothers transform from parents of secondary importance in the colonies to having their multiple and complex roles connected to the well-being of the nation? In the first comprehensive history of motherhood in the United States, Jodi Vandenberg-Daves explores how tensions over the maternal role have been part and parcel of the development of American society. Modern Motherhood travels through redefinitions of motherhood over time, as mothers encountered a growing cadre of medical and psychological experts, increased their labor force participation, gained the right to vote, agitated for more resources to perform their maternal duties, and demonstrated their vast resourcefulness in providing for and nurturing their families. Navigating rigid gender role prescriptions and a crescendo of mother-blame by the middle of the twentieth century, mothers continued to innovate new ways to combine labor force participation and domestic responsibilities. By the 1960s, they were poised to challenge male expertise, in areas ranging from welfare and abortion rights to childbirth practices and the confinement of women to maternal roles. In the twenty-first century, Americans continue to struggle with maternal contradictions, as we pit an idealized role for mothers in children's development against the social and economic realities of privatized caregiving, a paltry public policy structure, and mothers' extensive employment outside the home. Building on decades of scholarship and spanning a wide range of topics, Vandenberg-Daves tells an inclusive tale of African American, Native American, Asian American, working class, rural, and other hitherto ignored families, exploring sources ranging from sermons, medical advice, diaries and letters to the speeches of impassioned maternal activists. Chapter topics include: inventing a new role for mothers; contradictions of moral motherhood; medicalizing the maternal body; science, expertise, and advice to mothers; uplifting and controlling mothers; modern reproduction; mothers' resilience and adaptation; the middle-class wife and mother; mother power and mother angst; and mothers' changing lives and continuous caregiving. While the discussion has been part of all eras of American history, the discussion of the meaning of modern motherhood is far from over.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: Abortion after Roe Johanna Schoen, 2015-09-28

Abortion is — and always has been — an arena for contesting power relations between women and men. When in 1973 the Supreme Court made the procedure legal throughout the United States, it seemed that women were at last able to make decisions about their own bodies. In the four decades that followed, however, abortion became ever more politicized and stigmatized. Abortion after Roe chronicles and analyzes what the new legal status and changing political environment have meant for abortion providers and their patients. Johanna Schoen sheds light on the little-studied experience of performing and receiving abortion care from the 1970s — a period of optimism — to the rise of the antiabortion movement and the escalation of antiabortion tactics in the 1980s to the 1990s and beyond, when violent attacks on clinics and abortion providers led to a new articulation of abortion care as moral work. As Schoen demonstrates, more than four decades after the legalization of abortion, the abortion provider community has powerfully asserted that abortion care is a moral good.

**america and the pill elaine tyler may:** <u>All the Facts</u> James W. Cortada, 2016-03-16 This is the first national history of the role of information in the United States, from the 1870s to the present. It explores the use of information in the private and public sectors, and in the private lives of Americans. It argues that this role of information was as important in shaping the United States as the settling of the West, the creation of a nation out of immigrants, and its democracy.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: Same-Sex Marriage and Children Carlos A. Ball, 2016 Same-Sex Marriage and Children is the first book to bring together historical, social science, and legal considerations to comprehensively respond to the objections to same-sex marriage that are based on the need to promote so-called responsible procreation and child welfare. Carlos A. Ball places the current marriage debates within a broader historical context by exploring how the procreative and child welfare claims used to try to deny same-sex couples the opportunity to marry are similar to earlier arguments used to defend interracial marriage bans, laws prohibiting disabled individuals from marrying, and the differential treatment of children born out of wedlock. Ball also draws a link between welfare reform and same-sex marriage bans by explaining how conservative proponents have defended both based on the need for the government to promote responsible procreation among heterosexuals. In addition, Ball examines the social science studies relied on by opponents of same-sex marriage and explains in a highly engaging and accessible way why they do not support the contention that biological status and parental gender matter when it comes to parenting. He also explores the relevance of the social science studies on the children of lesbians and gay men to the question of whether same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry. In doing so, the book looks closely at the gay marriage cases that reached the Supreme Court and explains why the constitutionality of same-sex marriage bans could not be defended on the basis that maintaining marriage as an exclusively heterosexual institution promoted the best interests of children. Same-Sex Marriage and Children will help lawyers, law professors, judges, legislators, social and political scientists, historians, and child welfare officials-as well as general readers interested in matters related to marriage and families-understand the empirical and legal issues behind the intersection of same-sex marriage and children's welfare.

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how to get involved and make a difference in your community to protect your rights and preserve democracy.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: Toxic Shock Sharra L. Vostral, 2018-11-27 A history of Toxic Shock Syndrome In 1978, doctors in Denver, Colorado observed several healthy children who suddenly and mysteriously developed a serious, life-threatening illness with no visible source. Their condition, which doctors dubbed 'toxic shock syndrome' (TSS) was rare, but observed with increasing frequency over the next few years in young women, and was soon learned to be associated with a bacterium and the use of high-absorbency tampons that had only recently gone on the market. In 1980, the Centers for Disease Control identified Rely tampons, produced by Procter & Gamble, as having the greatest association with TSS over every other tampon, and the company withdrew them from the market. To this day, however, women are frequently warned about contracting TSS through tampon use, even though very few cases are diagnosed each year. Historian Sharra Vostral's Toxic Shock is the first and definitive history of TSS. Vostral shows how commercial interests negatively affected women's health outcomes; the insufficient testing of the first super-absorbency tampon; how TSS became a 'women's disease,' for which women must constantly monitor their own bodies. Further, Vostral discusses the awkward, veiled and vague ways public health officials and the media discussed the risks of contracting TSS through tampon use because of social taboos around discussing menstruation, and how this has hampered regulatory actions and health communication around TSS, tampon use, and product safety. A study at the intersection of public health and social history, Toxic Shock brings to light the complexities behind a stigmatized and under-discussed issue in women's reproductive health. Importantly, Vostral warns that as we move forward with more and more joint replacements, implants, and internal medical devices, we must understand the relationship of technology to bacteria and recognize that both can be active agents within the human body. In other words, unexpected consequences and risks of bacteria and technology interacting with each other remain.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: Hipbillies Jared M. Phillips, 2019-04-15 Counterculture flourished nationwide in the 1960s and 1970s, and while the hippies of Haight-Ashbury occupied the public eye, a faction of back to the landers were quietly creating their own haven off the beaten path in the Arkansas Ozarks. In Hipbillies, Jared Phillips combines oral histories and archival resources to weave the story of the Ozarks and its population of country beatniks into the national narrative, showing how the back to the landers engaged in "deep revolution" by sharing their ideas on rural development, small farm economy, and education with the locals—and how they became a fascinating part of a traditional region's coming to terms with the modern world in the process.

america and the pill elaine tyler may: What to Expect When No One's Expecting Jonathan V. Last, 2014-06-10 Look around you and think for a minute: Is America too crowded? For years, we have been warned about the looming danger of overpopulation: people jostling for space on a planet that's busting at the seams and running out of oil and food and land and everything else. It's all bunk. The "population bomb" never exploded. Instead, statistics from around the world make clear that since the 1970s, we've been facing exactly the opposite problem: people are having too few babies. Population growth has been slowing for two generations. The world's population will peak, and then begin shrinking, within the next fifty years. In some countries, it's already started. Japan, for instance, will be half its current size by the end of the century. In Italy, there are already more deaths than births every year. China's One-Child Policy has left that country without enough women to marry its men, not enough young people to support the country's elderly, and an impending population contraction that has the ruling class terrified. And all of this is coming to America, too. In fact, it's already here. Middle-class Americans have their own, informal one-child policy these days. And an alarming number of upscale professionals don't even go that far—they have dogs, not kids. In fact, if it weren't for the wave of immigration we experienced over the last thirty years, the United States would be on the verge of shrinking, too. What happened? Everything about modern life—from Bugaboo strollers to insane college tuition to government regulations—has pushed Americans in a

single direction, making it harder to have children. And making the people who do still want to have children feel like second-class citizens. What to Expect When No One's Expecting explains why the population implosion happened and how it is remaking culture, the economy, and politics both at home and around the world. Because if America wants to continue to lead the world, we need to have more babies.

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