Contributors

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**Cara Bergstrom-Lynch** is assistant professor of sociology at Eastern Connecticut State University. Her research and teaching focus on lesbian and gay parenthood and family building. She holds a PhD and MA from the University of Michigan and a BA from Wellesley College. Her work has appeared in *Journal of Comparative Family Studies* and *Early Child Development and Care*.

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**Rachel Dunifon** is an associate professor of policy analysis and management at Cornell University, with a PhD in human development and social

policy from Northwestern University. Much of her research examines family structure and the well-being of children, focusing specifically on race differences in the role of single parenthood, as well as on the role of grandparents in the lives of children. Other research focuses on how welfare reform and other policies have influenced child well-being and parenting behaviors, as well as how the conditions of the low-wage labor market influence children.

**Paula England** is professor of sociology at Stanford University. Her research and teaching focus on gender and class inequality at work and in the family. She is the author of *Comparable Worth* (1992) and *Households*, *Employment, and Gender* (1986, with George Farkas). From 1994 to 1996 she was editor of the *American Sociological Review*. She was the 1999 recipient of the American Sociological Association's Jessie Bernard Award for career contributions to the study of gender.

**David Fein** is a senior associate at Abt Associates. He has led a wide range of research projects focusing on welfare reform, poverty, family formation, and the intersections of these subjects. He currently directs the Innovative Strategies for Increasing Self-Sufficiency (ISIS) demonstration and heads Abt's work on the Supporting Healthy Marriage (SHM) demonstration. He holds a BA in history from Oberlin College, an MA in demography from Georgetown University, and a PhD in sociology and demography from Princeton University.

**Gary J. Gates** is a senior research fellow at the Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law. He coauthored *The Gay and Lesbian Atlas* (2004) and focuses his research on the demographic, geographic, and economic characteristics of the gay and lesbian population. Gates holds a PhD from the Heinz School, Carnegie Mellon University. He also holds a master of divinity degree from St. Vincent Seminary and a bachelor's degree in computer science from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

**Shirley A. Hill** is professor of sociology at the University of Kansas, where she teaches classes on families, medical sociology, social inequality, and qualitative methods. Her research has focused on access to health care and family caregiving (*Managing Sickle Cell Disease in Low-Income Families*, 2003), child socialization (*African American Children: Socialization and Development in Families*, 1999), and how race, class, and gender affect families and intimate relationships (*Black Intimacies: A Gender Perspective on Families and Relationships*, 2005).

**Michael P. Johnson** is associate professor emeritus of sociology, women's studies, and African and African American Studies at Pennsylvania State University. His current research, summarized in *A Typology of Intimate Partner Violence: Intimate Terrorism, Violent Resistance, and Situational Couple Violence* (2008), focuses on the implications of differentiating among types of violence in intimate relationships. Recent papers are available at his Web site at www.personal.psu.edu/mpj.

**Claire M. Kamp Dush** is an assistant professor in human development and family science and a faculty affiliate of the Initiative in Population Research at Ohio State University. She completed her PhD in human development and family studies at Pennsylvania State University in 2005 and was an Institute for the Social Sciences postdoctoral fellow at Cornell University. Her research centers on understanding relationship quality and stability longitudinally, and examining how relationship experiences shape individual development.

**Virginia Knox** codirects the policy area on Family Well-Being and Children's Development at MDRC, overseeing studies examining the effectiveness of economic supports and services for low-income children and families. She is currently the project director and principal investigator for the Supporting Healthy Marriage project. The author of numerous published reports and papers, Knox holds a doctorate in public policy from Harvard University.

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**Bobbi S. Low** is professor of resource ecology in the School of Natural Resources, University of Michigan, and a faculty associate at Institute for Social Research and the Center for Study of Complex Systems. Her research

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**Wendy D. Manning** is professor of sociology, director of the Center for Family and Demographic Research, and codirector of the National Center for Marriage Research at Bowling Green State University. Her research examines how family members define and understand their obligations to each other in an era of increasingly diverse and complex family relationships. Manning has examined the meaning of cohabitation, fertility in cohabiting unions, the stability of cohabiting unions, transitions to marriage, and implications of cohabitation for child well-being.

**Tamara Metz** is assistant professor of political science and humanities at Reed College. Her fields of interests include history of Western political thought, liberalism and its critics, feminist and postmodern theory, and theories of law. Current research concerns families and care in diverse, liberal democracies, and freedom in the age of Prozac.

**Steven Nock** was professor of sociology and psychology at the University of Virginia until his death in 2008. He earned his PhD at the University of Massachusetts–Amherst in 1976. His work focuses on the causes and consequences of change in the American family, investigating issues of privacy, unmarried fatherhood, cohabitation, commitment, divorce, and marriage.

**H. Elizabeth Peters** is professor of policy analysis and management and director of the Cornell Population Program at Cornell University. Her professional career has focused on issues in family economics and family policy, specifically examining the effects of public policies such as divorce laws, taxes, and welfare reform on family formation and dissolution decisions, inter- and intrahousehold transfers, and family investments in children. Her research has been widely published in journals of economics, demography, and sociology.

Adam P. Romero is law clerk to Judge Margaret McKeown of the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and former Peter Cooper Fellow at the Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law. His scholarly research concerns the significance of family in society, especially as related to family failure. He is coeditor of the collection *Feminist and Queer Legal Theory: Intimate Encounters, Uncomfortable Conversations* (2009). He holds a JD from Yale Law School, where he was awarded the Kelley Prize and a Coker Fellowship. He received his AB from Cornell University, graduating summa cum laude.

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**Megan Sweeney** is associate professor of sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her research interests focus on the determinants and consequences of family transitions in the United States, with a particular emphasis on variation over historical time, across subpopulations, and over the life course. Her current work includes an investigation of the emotional, physical, and behavioral well-being of children and adolescents living in stepfamilies.

**Arland Thornton** is professor of sociology and research professor at the Population Studies Center and Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan. His research focuses on marriage, family, and social change in several settings, including Argentina, China, Egypt, Nepal, Taiwan, and the United States. His books include *Reading History Sideways: The Fallacy and Enduring Impact of the Developmental Paradigm on Family Life* (2005), *International Family Change: Ideational Perspectives* (2008), and *Marriage and Cohabitation* (2007).

Tami M. Videon is assistant professor at Rutgers University. She earned her PhD in sociology from Rutgers University. Much of her research investigates the determinants of adolescent well-being. Her work has appeared in *Journal of Adolescent Health, Journal of Family Issues, Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, and *Journal of Marriage and Family*.

**Hongbo Wang** received his PhD in sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Harris

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