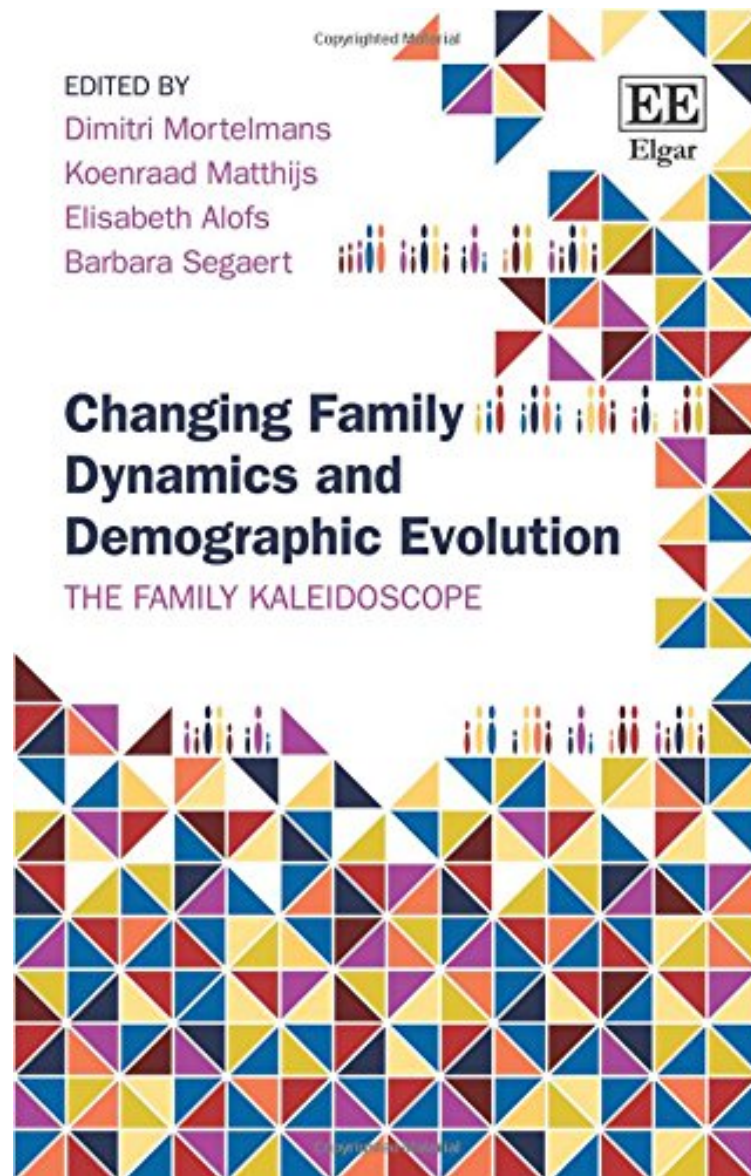


Changing Family Dynamics and Demographic Evolution: The Family Kaleidoscope

Dimitri Mortelmans, Koenraad Matthijs, Elisabeth Alofs, Barbara Segaert
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Dimitri Mortelmans, Koenraad Matthijs, Elisabeth Alofs, Barbara Segaert : Changing Family Dynamics and Demographic Evolution: The Family Kaleidoscope before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Changing Family Dynamics and Demographic Evolution: The Family Kaleidoscope:

Whether considered from an American or a European perspective, the past four decades have seen family life become increasingly complex. *Changing Family Dynamics and Demographic Evolution* examines the various stages of change through the image of a kaleidoscope, providing new insights into the field of family dynamics and diversity. Contributions from both eminent and contemporary scholars provide a comprehensive and multidisciplinary perspective encompassing over five decades and two continents. This is the kaleidoscope, showing the diversity and complexity of contemporary families. Each chapter is a new turn with the built-in mirrors reflecting new insights into the colored glass and beads. Through this analogy, this book explores family transitions in the US and Europe, gender dimensions of family transitions, children in new families, intersectional approaches of demographic processes and policy perspectives as well as offering thoughts on a future outlook. Unique and accessible, this book will appeal to students and researchers in a variety of fields including demography, the sociology of the family, gender studies and family law. It will also be of value to policy makers for children and families as well as those involved in family social care. Contributors include: E. Alofs, T. Brouckaert, C. Defever, D. De Wachter, K. Featherstone, F.F. Furstenberg Jr., T. Kil, K. Matthijs, P. Meier, D. Mortelmans, L. Murink, K. Neels, J. Scott, B. Segaert, W. Sigle, I. Szalma, L. Toulemon, J. Vergauwen, J. Wood

'Very elegantly, the editors use the image of a kaleidoscope to portray the necessity for new research perspectives to enhance understanding of the field of family dynamics in a time of change and increased family diversity - which is exactly what this book contributes. In bringing together a variety of interdisciplinary perspectives, quantitative and qualitative methods, international comparative studies as well as in-depth case studies, this book offers new and sobering insights to family studies.' --Trude Lappegard, Statistics Norway, Oslo, Norway

'Gender issues and the position of the child in the family are conventional issues reflected through the prism of unconventionality: this is a strength of this book. Gender issues; genetic risk, motherhood and fatherhood are diversely explored through an international comparative analysis, intersectionality, and ethnography, utilising reviews of recent changes in American and European family dynamics. Challenges to theory and policies are the end points in the book but starting points for further multifaceted research.' --Dimitri Philipov, Vienna Institute of Demography, Austria

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