BOOKS

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Families: A New Generation

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In theory, there is nothing more natural than reproduction. It is supposedly a mark of our biological existence, it should be almost instinctive, impulsive, perhaps even an end in itself. Yet, behind this false simplicity, reproduction is the subject of intense political and social attention.

A multitude of agents are involved in defining and framing the way we make a family today. Social workers, doctors, biologists, lawyers, ethicists, psychologists... so many experts whose knowledge and actions delineate family possibilities, define the relative acceptability of plans to start a family and then set the conditions for carrying out those plans. Such interventions are also manifest in the trend for personal development. Institutions encourage individuals to transform their desires, reform their expectations or rethink their lives. Families, A New Generation gives insights into these processes and the political issues they raise, while proposing a far-reaching critical reflection on how life is governed today.