

Perspectives on the Individual, the Family and Social Institutions–Fall 2005

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The vast majority of the readings for this course are chapters from over a dozen books. Given the expense of having you purchase them and the copyright difficulty of getting permission and paying for duplicating all these materials and the limited number of students in the class, I have chosen to place multiple copies of the material on reserve in the library. All are available on 2 hour and overnight reserve.

Your grade will be determined by three components: (1) a paper (50%); (2) class room performance including leading the discussion on specific topics (25%); final exam (25%).

I will lecture on and lead the discussion on the first topic heading below. After that each of you must choose one or more of the topic headings to lead the discussion. All readings listed in **boldface** are the responsibility of everyone to read. All other readings should be read by the presenter(s), and discussed if appropriate.

1. The Law and Economics of Marriage and Divorce

Read either of the first two articles and the third.

Cohen, Marriage: The Long Term Contract

Lloyd Cohen, Marriage, Divorce, and Quasi Rents, 16 J. Legal Stud. 267 (1987)

Cohen, Rhetoric , The Unnatural Family, and Women's Work 81 Va. L. Rev. 2275 (1995)

Martha A. Fineman, Masking Dependency: the Political Role of Family Rhetoric, 81 Va. L. Rev. 2181-2215 (1995) (Do not read unless you wish to learn what I was responding to in the article above.)

2. Sexual Relations

George Gilder, Men and Marriage, 19-28, 79-85, 187-199 (Pelican 1992)

Maggie Gallagher, Enemies of Eros, 3-54, 191-217 (Bonus Books 1989)

Geoff Dench, Transforming Men XI-24 (Transaction 1996)

Maggie Gallagher, The abolition of Marriage Chapters 1, 2, 10, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20 (Regnery 1996)

Linda Waite and Maggie Gallagher, The Case for Marriage, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 8, 13, 14 (Doubleday 2000)

3. Modern Problems of Fatherhood

David Blackenhorn, Fatherless America, 1-65 (Basic Books 1995)

Sanford Braver and Diane O'Connell, Divorced Dads, Chapters 1, 2, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12 (1998 Tarcher-Putnam)

4. Family and Market

Gary Becker and Kevin M. Murphy, The Family and the State, 31 J. Law and Econ. 1 (1988) (Available on electronic reserves see top information)

Victor Fuchs, Women's Quest for Economic Equality 58-74 (Harvard University Press, 1988)

5. Children

Richard McKenzie, The Home, (Basic Books 1996)

Richard McKenzie, Rethinking Orphanages for the 21st Century, 1, 2, 5, 11, 13, 16 (Sage 1999)

Christina Hoff Sommers, The War Against Boys, Preface, Chapters 1, 2, 4, 8, 9 (Simon and Schuster 2000)

Judith Wallerstein, et. al., The Unexpected Legacy of Divorce, Introduction, chapters 21, 22 (Hyperion 2000)

6. Public Choice and Private Institutions. (One week)

Allen Parkman, No-Fault Divorce: What Went Wrong? 53-70 (Westview Press, 1992).

7. Women

Elizabeth Barber, Women's Work: The First 20,000 Years, Introduction, Chapter 1, (Norton 1994).

Wendy Shalit, A Return To Modesty, Introduction, 1, 2, 9, 12, Conclusion (Free Press 1999)

8. Incentives for Investment.

John N. Langbein, The Twentieth-century Revolution in Family Wealth Transmission, 86 Mich. L. Rev. 722 (1988)

Richard A. Epstein, The Varieties of Self-Interest, 8 Social Philosophy & Policy 102 (1990)

James Buchanan, Rent-Seeking, Noncompensated Transfers and the Rights of Succession, 26 J. Law & Econ. 71 (1983)

9. Aging and Old Age

Richard A. Posner, Aging and Old Age, 202-31 (University of Chicago Press, 1996)

10. Human Capital, Sociology, and Evolutionary Changes

Robert Wright, The Moral Animal, Introduction, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 16 (Vintage 1994)

Dugatkin, Cheating Monkeys and Citizen Bees, Introduction (Harvard 1999)

Robert Wright, Nonzero, chapters: Introduction, 1,2, 3, 8, 9, 16, 21, 22 (Vintage 2000)

Matt Ridley, Red Queen, Chapters 1, 6, 7 Epilogue (Macmillan 1994)

David Buss, *The Evolution of Desire* 19-72 (Basic Books 1994)

David Buss, *The Dangerous Passion*, chapters: 1, 3, 7 (Free Press 2000)

Daniel Dennett, *Darwin's Dangerous Idea*, chapters 16, 17 (Touchstone 1996)

Franz de Waal, *Chimpanzee Politics* (Johns Hopkins 1998)

11. Social Structure and Cognitive Power

Herrnstein and Murray, *The Bell Curve* (1994) (1-267)

12. Social Structure and Dignity in the Modern Welfare State

Charles Murray, *Losing Ground* (to be determined)

Charles Murray, *In Pursuit of Happiness* (to be determined)

Theodore Dalrymple, *Life at the Bottom* (introduction, 5-14, 26-47, 68-88, 114-154)

Theodore Dalrymple, *Our Culture: What's Left of It* (to be determined)

Scott Davis, *The World of Patience Gromes*

13. Plural Marriage

Batchelor, Watson, Wilde, *Voices In Harmony*, Chapters 1, 2, 7 (Principle Voices 2000)

14. Genes and Homosexuality

Dean Hamer, *The Science of Desire* 17-38, 180-206 (Simon & Schuster 1994)

15. Eugenics and Dysgenics

Richard Lynn, *Dysgenics* 1-49, 197-210 (Praeger 1996)

16. Race, Genes, and Difference

Rushton, *Race, Evolution and Behavior*, Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11 (Transaction 1995)

17. Formation of Preferences

Margaret F. Brinig and F.H. Buckley, Is the Ugly Duckling a Fairy Tale? The Law and Economics of Child Abuse, 1 J.L. and Family Studies 43 (1998)

18. Social Capital

George A. Akerlof, Janet L. Yellin, J. L., & Michael L. Katz, An Analysis of Out-of-Wedlock Childbearing in the United States, 111 Q. J. Econ. 277 (1996)

Dorothy Roberts, The Genetic Tie, 62 U. Chi. L. Rev. 209 (1995)

19. Comparative and Historical Institutions

Mary Ann Glendon, The New Family and the New Property 1-46 (Butterworth's, 1995)

William J. Goode, World Changes in Divorce Patterns 1-24, 318-45 (Yale University Press, 1993)