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Questioning Family Relationships

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This book examines the many ways of being a parent today.

Marriages, divorces, civil partnerships, free unions, singleparent families, same-sex families, blended families... The never-ending evolution of procreation and sociocultural norms has expanded the horizons of the traditional family model. A whole new vocabulary has emerged to account for these developments. "Parenting" (the art of parenting) and the notion of "parenting plans" have come into force. The concept of "co-parenting" suggests that, regardless of the avatars of married life, children must be able to rely on both parents. What's more, the "parenting profession" requires emotional, educational, and economic skills and responsibilities. There's also the question of different kinds of parents: The proliferation of court cases in which judges must decide between biological, domestic or genealogical parentage is edifying. In the new family tribes, there are all sorts: stepfathers, stepmothers, halfsisters, half-brothers, adoptive parents, and sometimes even biological!