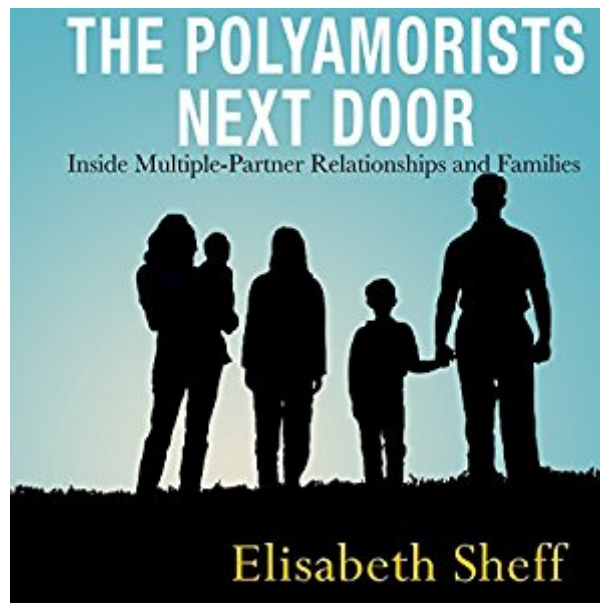




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The Polyamorists Next Door: Inside Multiple-Partner Relationships And Families



Synopsis

Marriage and monogamy are not what they used to be, and today many couples are opting to start families before getting married, or deciding not to get married at all. At the same time, gay couples in states that recognize same-sex marriage are getting married in droves. Some people prefer non-monogamy and have relationships that include swinging and polyamory. The landscape of American marriage and relationships is changing, and a variety of family systems are developing and becoming more common. The Polyamorists Next Door introduces polyamorous families, in which people are free to pursue emotional, romantic, and sexual relationships with multiple people at the same time. They do it openly and with support from their partners, sometimes forming multi-partner relationships or other arrangements that allow for emotional and sexual freedom within the family system. In colorful and moving details, this audiobook explores how polyamorous relationships come to be, how they grow and change, how they manage the ins and outs of daily family life, and how they cope with the challenges they face both within their families and from society. Using polyamorists own words, Dr. Elisabeth Sheff examines polyamorous households and reveals their advantages, disadvantages, and the daily lives of those living in them. While polyamorous families are increasingly common, fairly little is known about them outside of their own social circles or of the occasional media sensationalism. This book provides information that will be useful for professionals with polyamorous clients, educators who wish to understand or teach polyamory, and especially people who wish to better understand polyamory themselves or explain it to their potential partners, adult children, or in-laws.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The width, breadth, and depth of human sexuality is formidable. This book looks, admittedly clinically, at multiple partner relationships in an ethical and consensual framework. Time will tell if this approach will be successful in our ever changing world. Excellent read.

It's a great book, but a little too scholarly in places. It almost read like somebody's masters thesis. I really liked the descriptions of polyamorous family life.

Bought this as required reading for a class. Good book. Very informative.

Dr. Elisabeth Sheff is one of the only academics publishing on the subject of polyamory, children, and family. It was a pleasure to read a full-length book by her and I highly recommend it to anyone wanting to learn more about the reality, rather than the sensationalized version, of polyamory.

This is a great resource for anyone looking for stats on poly families, stories, or information. I highly recommend it.

This book has been very helpful with my research and with my own personal journey in the poly world. If you are interested in the polyamorous lifestyle, I highly recommend it.

Having read many of Dr. Sheff's online articles, I was expecting the style to be light and conversational. This is not such a critter; it's a scholarly work, compiled over a number of years, full of references to methodology and qualifications and quantifications. That's not a bad thing. But chatty and humorous bits like this: "Tacit Campo reiterated this point with tongue planted firmly in cheek when he said, 'Poly newcomers tend to make the same mistakes, and IÃfÂçÃ â ÑÃ â,,çd like to think that at this point in life, IÃfÂçÃ â ÑÃ â,,çm ready to explore the exciting world of advanced, sophisticated relationship mistakes that waits beyond that field.'" are few and far between, if delightful, when they pop up. It's still well worth a read, if you identify as polyamorous, or love someone who is.

In writing *The Polyamorists Next Door: Inside Multiple-Partner Relationships and Families*, Elisabeth

Sheff tackles a tough topic with objectivity, sensitivity, and grace. Sheff shows that polyamory is a positive family model. With personal experience and fifteen years of research, Sheff presents all aspects of polyamory through a deeply informed lens. I like how Sheff addresses the more positive aspects as well as the less positive. It is incredibly important to understand fully any chosen way of life; whether that way of life is a religion, a diet, or a family model. Sheff discusses the difficulties of defining polyamory, and who practices polyamory. She writes about how adults view polyamory, how children within polyamorous families view polyamory, and how neighbors, schools, and Child Protective Services view polyamory. I especially appreciate her insight into her own experiences with polyamory. It is not easy to transition into or out of a polyamorous relationship, and Sheff opens her life for the reader. This adds validity to her research. Without the personal stories, this would be little more than a long (well written) scholarly review journal article. The personal stories show me that this information is not just a theory rather, a true representation of the lifestyle. While no book can be the definitive presentation (i.e.: the one to read while ignoring all others), I believe anyone researching polyamory should pick up this one. I find it true to life, authentic, and comprehensive.

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