## Contents

Preface	vii
Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction to 2000 Edition	x
1	
The Way We Wish We Were:	8
Defining the Family Crisis	
2	
"Leave It to Beaver" and "Ozzie and Harriet":	23
American Families in the 1950s	
3	
"My Mother Was a Saint": Individualism,	42
Gender Myths, and the Problem of Love	
4	
We Always Stood on Our Own Two Feet:	68
Self-reliance and the American Family	
5	
Strong Families, the Foundation of a Virtuous Society:	93
Family Values and Civic Responsibility	

0	
A Man's Home Is His Castle:	122
The Family and Outside Intervention	
7 -	
Bra-Burners and Family Bashers:	149
Feminism, Working Women, Consumerism, and the Family	
8	
"First Comes Love, Then Comes Marriage, Then Comes	180
Mary with a Baby Carriage":	
Marriage, Sex, and Reproduction	
9	
Toxic Parents, Supermoms, and Absent Fathers:	207
Putting Parenting in Perspective	
10	
Pregnant Girls, Wilding Boys, Crack Babies, and	232
the Underclass:	
The Myth of Black Family Collapse	
11	
The Crisis Reconsidered	255
Epilogue	283
Inventing a New Tradition	
Notes	289
Select Bibliography	377
Index	381

1