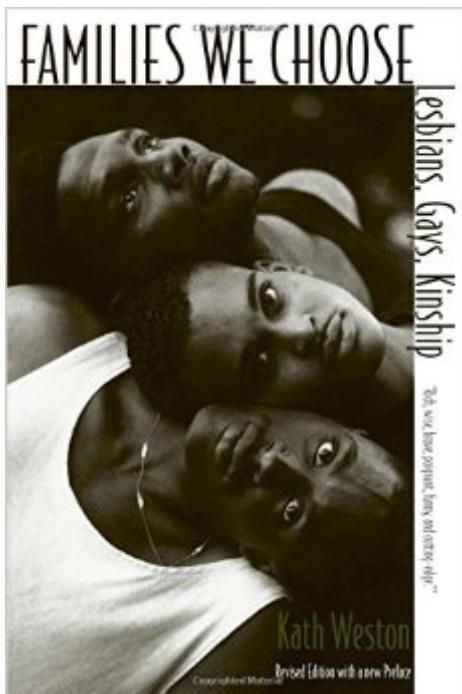


The book was found

# Families We Choose: Lesbians, Gays, Kinship



## Synopsis

This classic text, originally published in 1991 and now revised and updated to include a new preface, draws upon fieldwork and interviews to explore the ways gay men and lesbians are constructing their own notions of kinship by drawing on the symbolism of love, friendship, and biology.

## Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ (5 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I found Kath Westons book "Families We Choose:lesbians, gays, kinship" to be a very interesting and informative book. This book brought many issues to the table regarding the idea of a family. What is a family? family is not solely limited to biology. This book explored the idea of kinship in lesbian and gay relationships and the family that is formed within this community. Also, the difference and the importance of "biological" family vs. chosen family and which becomes or is more important based on acceptance. This book explores issues concerning the lesbian and gay community in regards to raising children and creating families of their own in the nineties incorporating both biological and chosen families. In overview, The idea of kinship is culturally relative and it is susceptible to change. The word kinship and the meaning of family is constantly being challenged and changed to incorporate and include those previously unseen.

I read this book in my Anthropology class as part of my final ethnography report paper, and I was blown away. If you are interested in LGBT history/studies, I highly recommend it. Intricately

researched, with a diverse pool of subjects, it gives insight into the concept of what a "family" is and what it entails to the LGBT community, who all too often struggle with acceptance from their own biological families, and therefore explore forming their own, be it in conventional fashion or not.

As a gay man, the cover photo on this revised edition (by Chantel Regnault) spoke volumes to me, and I knew I had to take a look at this book! It was enjoyable and well worth the effort, as Weston takes us on a scholarly tour of several articles and issues gay and lesbians and minority cultures often face. She proposed that the meaning of "kinship" is culturally defined, and indeed is a "power", a force, a technique that gays and lesbians can and do use to create their own "families" that are likewise culturally and contextually defined, whether or not there is a common "bloodline".  
Essential reading for the intelligent citizen of any race, gender or sexual orientation!

This book is very informative. I got it quickly. I recommended many people buy it.

A L-I-T-T-L-E too academic for me! However, I admire the effort and would like to read more about queer families.

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Recreating Africa: Culture, Kinship, and Religion in the African-Portuguese World, 1441-1770  
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The Lavender Vote: Lesbians, Gay Men, and Bisexuals in American Electoral Politics  
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